

**Stainton, Hilton and Brookfield**  
**parishes**  
**8th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY -**  
**2 August 20**

**WELCOME-** The readings and Collect on this sheet will also be used at our service of Holy Communion.

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**  
**God feeds all who come to him hungry for soul food and we as the Church are expected to share in that work.**

**COLLECT**

Lord of all power and might,  
the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

*Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians in 587BC , the Temple was destroyed, the land laid waste and most of the people were taken into exile. Only a remnant was left to serve as poor farmers and vine dressers. 70 years would pass before their return from captivity and the rebuilding of Jerusalem . This reading from Isaiah 55 was probably written between 545 and 539 BC to remind the exiles of their heritage and the surety of God's wonderful promises to his people.*

**The prophecy of Isaiah.Ch 55.1-5**

The LORD says this:  
Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

**PSALM 145.8-9, 15-22**

***You open wide your hand, O Lord, and satisfy the needs of every creature.***

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.  
9 The Lord is loving to everyone and his compassion is over all his works.  
15 The Lord upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.  
16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

17 You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature  
18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.  
19 The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.  
20 He fulfils the desire of those who fear him, he hears their cry and helps them,  
21 The Lord preserves all those who love him, but he destroys all the wicked.  
22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

*In last week's reading Paul told his Roman readers that all who come to God by faith in Christ will be loved by God forever, in fact nothing in all of creation will be able to separate them from God's love.*

*In today's reading he is thinking of his own people Israel. Some of them had come to faith in Christ, but the vast majority had rejected Jesus as the promised Messiah. They had even tried to kill Paul to prevent him from preaching the good news . Paul is heartbroken for his Jewish brothers and sisters.*

**Paul's letter to the Romans. Ch 9.1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ.  
I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.  
I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory,

the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

**The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.**

Ch 14.13-21

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you, O Christ**

**LET US PRAY**

God is just and merciful – he invites us to pour out our concerns for the Church and for the world. Let us join with the endless prayers of Christians throughout the world.

Give thanks for the appointment of Claire Todd to be our Priest in Charge. Pray for her over the next few months as she prepares to leave Marton to join us here.

Pray for church leaders, for Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Paul, Archdeacon Amanda, for all who serve Christ in their various ministries.

Pray for those whose lives have been changed by illness or isolation. Thank God for all who offer their lives and work for the wellbeing of others.

Ask his comfort and healing for all who are suffering the effects of war, poverty, homelessness, hunger or the lack of medical care.

Remember all who have died and who now see their lives as they really are in the light of God's glory. Give thanks for for all that they mean to us still.

Heavenly Father we offer you our thankful praise for your steadfast and unchanging love which sustains and directs us. You open wide your hand, O Lord, and satisfy the needs of every creature. Help us to learn to look with your vision and act with your wideness of compassion.

LET US SAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

God has not  
called me to be successful,  
He has called me to be faithful.  
*Mother Theresa*

*Kindness has  
converted more sinners  
than zeal, eloquence or learning*  
*F.W. Faber*

**From 'Dear Lord'**  
*a Mother's Union book of prayer*

*May the calming peace of Jesus  
gently wash your fears away.  
May the power of God's Spirit  
fill your life with love.  
And God's healing grace pour over you  
with blessings from above.*

**STANTON CHURCH IS OPEN for Individual  
private prayer each Wednesday 2.30 – 3.30pm**

**And for SUNDAY SERVICES AT 11.00am**

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