

**Stainton, Hilton and Brookfield
parishes**
11th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY -
Sunday 23rd August 20

WELCOME- The readings and Collect on this sheet will also be used at our service of Holy Communion at 11am .

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

As Christians we should see ourselves as members or organs of a living working body. No empire building, no false humility or boasting , but a loving harmony of people with a commonly held life an purpose.

COLLECT (the special prayer for Trinity 11)
O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

For the past few weeks our readings from Isaiah have come from a time of exile when the people of Israel were having to think through the seriousness of their situation and the meaning of it all. Speaking through the prophet, God reminds them to look back to their roots and take heart from the great faith of Abraham which marked the beginning of their identity as the chosen people.

The book of the prophet Isaiah
ch51.1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

PSALM 138

O Lord, your love endures for ever

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.
2 I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness; 3 For you

have glorified your name and your word above all things.

4 When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Paul begins to conclude his letter to the Church in Rome and as he usually does in his letters to friends he offers practical advice. 'take your body, take the tasks you have to do every day, take the ordinary work and offer all of them as an act of worship to God"

The letter of Paul to the Romans.
Ch 12.1-8A

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God –what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone

among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.ch 16.13–20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly

ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Glory to you, O Christ

The disciples had grasped that Jesus was God's Messiah but they still expected a warrior king. Wild talk could provoke an uprising, so they were commanded to keep silent until Jesus had taught them that his way was one of peace that would lead to a cross.

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, may your words of truth take root in our hearts. May we hear your word and act upon it. May we your church nurture and care for one another in faith. May your word reach all who are ready to receive it and when they come to us let them find a welcome

Pray for church leaders, for Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Paul, Archdeacon Amanda, Clay as he prepares to take up the role of Area Dean and for Claire who will come soon to lead us in these parishes
Pray for Christian communities -
Father help us not to lose heart in these strange times but to grow in faith, considerate and careful in all we do together living lives worthy of you.

Pray for all whose lives have been changed by illness or isolation during the present crisis. Any who are

struggling financially, worried about job losses or facing strain on family relationships.

Pray for young people who may be disappointed, upset, challenged by the chaos of education results. For younger ones preparing to return to school after so long a break

Pray for all who are making the journey through physical death; as they put down earthly things to wake up in God's presence. Remember those we have loved who are now at rest. ..

Heavenly Father we offer you our bodies and our spirits in thankful praise rejoicing in the comfort of your promise to be with us always.

LET US FINISH WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

And for SUNDAY SERVICES AT
11.00am

CHURCH WARDENS AT STAINTON

Vernon Clare 01642 592186

Colin Mason Tel: 01642 591667

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Barbara Sowerby 01642 591532

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