

**Stainton, Hilton and Brookfield**  
**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY -**  
**26<sup>TH</sup> JULY 20**

**WELCOME** It is good that we can join in worship with Christians around the world. If not in person then in prayer

**Thought for the day**

The gift of wise discernment is desperately needed by all with decision making authority in the world today.

**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.

**The first book of Kings. ch 3:5-12**

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

**PSALM 119.129-136**

Lord, how I love your law. Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart. When your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. I open my mouth and pant; I long for your commandments. Turn to me in mercy, as you always do to those who love your name. Steady my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me. Rescue me from those who

oppress me, and I will keep your commandments. Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes. My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.

**The letter of Paul to the Romans.**  
**8: 26-39**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

**It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. 13.31-33, 44-52**

**Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'**

**He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'**

**The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.**

**Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.**

**Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'**

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

**Prayers**

**\*Today, thank God for all who have helped us to understand something of His great love and power.**

**\*For all who teach and minister in His name.**

**\* Thank Him for the beauty and diversity of the created world .**

**Ask for wisdom to tend it carefully and willingness to share its resources.**

**\*Thank Him for the joy of family and friends; for all with whom we share our daily lives.**

**\* Thank Him for the advances in medical knowledge and the hope of new treatments and vaccines.**

**\* Thank Him for Doctors, Nurses Carers, and all who serve our communities in so many ways. Pray especially for those known to you.**

**\* Remember those who are disadvantaged by illness, poverty, frailty, asking for God's comfort and reassurance, healing, and wholeness**

**\* Call to mind those we have known and loved who are now in God's keeping. Ask that they may all know His mercy and the everlasting peace and joy of heaven.**

**\*Thank Him for His understanding and generosity and praise Him for giving us all we need.**

**LET US SAY THE LORD'S PRAYER TOGETHER**

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**If you need a priest urgently please phone the Area Dean, Revd Canon John Ford 01642 964664**