

Today's Readings
15th October 2023
19th Sunday after
Trinity

THE COLLECT

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never
ceases and whose mercies
never come to an end: grant
us the grace to trust you and
to receive the gifts of your
love, new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25.1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will
exalt you, I will praise your
name; for you have done
wonderful things, plans formed
of old, faithful and sure. ² For
you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin; the
palace of aliens is a city no
more, it will never be rebuilt.
³ Therefore strong peoples will
glorify you; cities of ruthless
nations will fear you. ⁴ For you
have been a refuge to the
poor, a refuge to the needy in
their distress, a shelter from
the rainstorm and a shade from
the heat. When the blast of the
ruthless was like a winter
rainstorm, the noise of aliens
like heat in a dry place, you
subdued the heat with the
shade of clouds; the song of the
ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On this mountain the Lord of
hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of
well-matured wines, of rich
food filled with marrow, of well-
matured wines strained clear.
⁷ And he will destroy on this
mountain the shroud that is
cast over all peoples, the sheet
that is spread over all nations;
⁸ he will swallow up death for
ever. Then the Lord God will
wipe away the tears from all
faces, and the disgrace of his
people he will take away from
all the earth, for the Lord has
spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that
day, Lo, this is our God; we
have waited for him, so that he
might save us. This is the Lord
for whom we have waited; let
us be glad and rejoice in his
salvation.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4.1-9

Therefore, my brothers and
sisters, whom I love and long
for, my joy and crown, stand
firm in the Lord in this way, my
beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I
urge Syntyche to be of the
same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes,
and I ask you also, my loyal
companion, help these women,
for they have struggled beside
me in the work of the gospel,
together with Clement and the
rest of my co-workers, whose
names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let
your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶
Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made
known to God. ⁷ And the peace
of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your
hearts and your minds in Christ
Jesus. ⁸ Finally, beloved,
whatever is true, whatever is
honourable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is
pleasing, whatever is
commendable, if there is any
excellence and if there is
anything worthy of praise, think
about these things. ⁹ Keep on
doing the things that you have
learned and received and
heard and seen in me, and the
God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 22.1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to
them in parables, saying: ² 'The
kingdom of heaven may be
compared to a king who gave a
wedding banquet for his son. ³
He sent his slaves to call those
who had been invited to the
wedding banquet, but they
would not come. ⁴ Again he
sent other slaves, saying, "Tell
those who have been invited:
Look, I have prepared my

dinner, my oxen and my fat
calves have been slaughtered,
and everything is ready; come
to the wedding banquet." ⁵ But
they made light of it and went
away, one to his farm, another
to his business, ⁶ while the rest
seized his slaves, maltreated
them, and killed them. ⁷ The
king was enraged. He sent his
troops, destroyed those
murderers, and burned their
city. ⁸ Then he said to his
slaves, "The wedding is ready,
but those invited were not
worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the
main streets, and invite
everyone you find to the
wedding banquet." ¹⁰ Those
slaves went out into the streets
and gathered all whom they
found, both good and bad; so
the wedding hall was filled with
guests. ¹¹ 'But when the king
came in to see the guests, he
noticed a man there who was
not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²
and he said to him, "Friend,
how did you get in here without
a wedding robe?" And he was
speechless. ¹³ Then the king
said to the attendants, "Bind
him hand and foot, and throw
him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping
and gnashing of teeth." ¹⁴ For
many are called, but few are
chosen.'

POST COMMUNION
PRAYER

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body
and blood of your Son and
filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the
service of Jesus Christ our
Lord.

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I
shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in
green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
³ he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through
the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before
me
in the presence of my
enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and
mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house
of the Lord
my whole life long.