



Proverbs 25:5

Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness. (KJV)



BE NOT
FORGETFUL
TO ENTERTAIN
STRANGERS
FOR THEREBY
SOME HAVE
ENTERTAINED
ANGELS
UNAWARES



~ 31st August 2025 ~
~ (11th Sunday after Trinity) ~
~ Collect (s) ~

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. Amen

or

God of glory,
the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

~ Readings ~

Proverbs 25. 6 - 7	OTP 660
Hebrews 13. 1 - 8, 15 - 16	NT p 1211
Luke 14. 1, 7 - 14	NT p 1047

(NIV used in sermon preparation)

~ Post Communion Prayer ~

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Last week, as we celebrated St Bartholomew, we were reminded about the disciples vying for place at table as the seating denoted the individuals importance. Their behaviour did not impress Jesus who taught them that they should all be equal sharing gifts and experience to become a balanced whole. No ladder to climb ~ no promotion. Once we accept the invitation of faith we become children of God and the growth we make is about our wholeness and not about whether we are as good or better than the next person, (faithful or not).

This week that theme is continued and widened. We do not have to boast or show off in front of the Lord (King), He knows us inside out already so we do not need to risk humiliation!

As we learn how to love one another we are commanded to include strangers, regardless of who they are. Those strangers might well be angels. We are asked to consider prisoners. Think about who is imprisoned and how? Obviously there are the criminals locked up but what about those trapped in mental health issues? What about those in the poverty trap? What about the asylum seeker and refugee? We are commended to treat each one as if we were in the same position as them ~ treat them as we would hope to be treated.

We are told to be content with what we have ~ we are provided for even if we have very little. The grass is rarely, if ever, greener on the other side of the fence!

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

We should aim to remain constant in our love for one another and make a special effort if it is a 'hard ask'.

When we entertain or show hospitality we should not select family, friends or neighbours because we can almost guarantee our generosity will be reciprocated ~ we should not expect a return or reward for our giving.

Reflect this week on how easy or hard it is to give without expecting to receive and who we are prepared to give to? Then consider why there are people we would not consider giving to or treat as we would expect to be treated? What are we going to do

to change our attitude and bring it in line with Jesus teaching?

Then just for a change ~ try the word search. My Dad knew he was promised a seat at the great banquet and my Nan told me she was going to the best party ever and one day, many years ahead, I would be able to join her! ~ Are you as convinced as they were of that promise? It was made to all of us!

THE GREAT BANQUET

V	D	C	R	Z	V	J	X	U	J	G	C	A	N	W	I	W
P	A	I	O	T	B	A	N	Q	U	E	T	E	F	B	Y	G
N	S	J	O	U	A	Y	O	V	Y	A	X	P	K	C	D	E
L	W	E	P	L	Q	Y	I	V	I	O	M	X	U	W	A	F
D	H	I	S	A	N	H	C	R	F	N	C	S	Y	E	E	X
C	M	R	J	U	A	M	S	V	Q	M	V	P	A	Q	R	V
O	R	S	Y	H	C	R	W	R	R	X	D	I	I	T	H	W
K	J	I	K	H	W	X	G	U	E	S	T	S	T	O	E	O
L	S	A	P	J	N	Q	E	N	C	J	X	C	T	E	D	R
E	E	B	G	P	Z	Z	M	A	R	R	I	E	D	J	D	M
M	R	F	H	N	L	I	F	D	E	S	S	E	L	B	V	F
E	V	R	E	C	H	E	C	Y	H	W	L	Y	K	Q	T	L
P	A	A	H	Q	W	D	D	K	Q	Y	R	V	F	P	O	M
U	N	X	O	X	W	G	I	W	W	G	S	B	A	U	Y	Q
U	T	Q	R	E	T	S	A	M	N	A	Q	B	L	I	N	D
U	H	O	L	A	M	E	U	A	I	Y	A	J	J	Y	Y	P
C	U	D	Y	J	Q	A	A	K	P	R	A	R	U	P	M	E

CRIPPLED	MARRIED	EXCUSES	SERVANT
INVITED	BLESSED	BANQUET	MASTER
GUESTS	BLIND	ANGRY	READY
LAME	POOR	OXEN	