

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O 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.

²For 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.

³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For 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,
⁵the 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.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make
for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged
wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged
wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

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.

⁹It 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.

Psalm 23**SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9**

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long
for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in
this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of
the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, 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.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say,
Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about
anything, but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding, will guard
your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is
honorable, 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. ⁹Keep
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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

¹Once 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. ³He sent his slaves to call those who
had been invited to the wedding banquet, but
they would not come. ⁴Again 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.' ⁵But they made light of it and went
away, one to his farm, another to his
business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves,
mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was
enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those
murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said
to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those
invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the
main streets, and invite everyone you find to the
wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those 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, ¹²and he said to him,
'Friend, how did you get in here without a
wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then
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.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are
chosen."