

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.

²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners 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 foreigners 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 covering 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,
“See, 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

[not printed]

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables,
saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be com-
pared 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 invit-
ed: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen
and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and
everything is ready; come to the wedding ban-
quet.’ 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 wed-
ding 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 wed-
ding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the
king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand
and foot, and throw him into the outer dark-
ness, where there will be weeping and gnash-
ing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are
chosen.”

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22.

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