

A Few Words on the Readings 11-10-2020

Isaiah 25.1-9 The Prophet Isaiah praises God for his wonderful works. He points to God's protection of the weak and his deliverance of his people from their enemies. He evokes a new world where there will be feasting and happiness instead of sadness. In words that are often quoted to help those who mourn, Isaiah assures his people that the *Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces.*

Philippians 4.1-9 Paul speaks of the joy that comes from unity and implores two members of the church in Philippi *to be of the same mind in the Lord.* He asks this community to rejoice *for the Lord is near* and he commends prayer both supplication and thanksgiving. Paul's desire for peace in the community finds its expression in words that are often used as a preface to a blessing given in church. ***The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*** May this be our prayer!

Matthew 22.1-14 Jesus tells a parable of the kingdom. God invites us to enter his kingdom, but we must be prepared to change our lives and to accept his salvation. It is never too late to accept that invitation which is open to everyone. We must simply be ready. Jesus' parable echoes the words of Isaiah in today's Old Testament reading: *The Lord of Hosts will make for all his people a feast of rich food.*