

## Twenty-eighth Sunday | Year A

October 15, 2023 (Is 25:6-10a | Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 | Matthew 22:1-14)

Isaiah calls on the Israelites to behold the Lord God, for he will wipe away the tears from every face; and sadness will be turned into joy. Let us turn to God with our prayers.

1/ Because God is our comfort, we are called to live in his house all the days of our lives. For all spiritual leaders of God's peoples. We pray that Pope Francis and pastors always shepherd God's peoples in verdant pastures and flourishing pastoral ministries. Let us pray.

2/ Paul says that he has learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. It is because he puts all his trust in God and the Lord Jesus. For those who have lost faith in God and are wandering aimlessly. We pray that they heed Paul's voice and put their faith in the living God. Let us pray.

3/ Our trust in God must be above all suffering. For the victims of war in Israel and Palestine these days. We pray that God care for the dead and give solace to their families. Let us pray.

4/ Jesus reinterprets Isaiah's story about God's mountain. In his parable, the kingdom of heaven is like the wedding banquet that consists of all peoples—righteous and sinful—who put on the garment of faith. For every group of people on earth. We pray that they take off their former ways of lives and put on the garment of faith in God. Let us pray.

5/ Though many come to the wedding banquet, some will be turned away because of the lack of the garment of faith in God and Jesus. For our sisters and brothers who have gone before us. We pray that God remember their Christian identity and grant them admittance to heaven. Today we remember [at 4:30 PM] Betty Hardesty, Melvin Lawson, LaRoy Benham, and Alfred Edward Wissman; [at 10:00 AM] Frank Argabright, LaRoy Benham, and Alfred Edward Wissman. Let us pray.

God and Father in heaven, the hand of your loving kindness powerfully yet gently guides all the moments of our day. Go before us in our pilgrimage of life and prevent our failing. Send your Spirit to dispel all hatred in this world, so that we all may be united in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.