



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

Pentecost 11 - 16th August 2020

*watch Songs of Praise together on the ABC
and then set the table for our shared meal.*



- ***Setting our table for our Sunday lunch service.***

Sometimes we eat, in front of the TV either together or alone; we eat on the run; we eat out in in restaurants or even in our car; but today we sit at a table that we have set for our Sunday lunch meal. It is our everyday altar of life-giving food. As we celebrate together let us define the occasion by adding things on our table that bring us joy and which we can share with others in our community.

- ***Prayerful and intentional preparation for a meal***

Let us set our meal for this day. Give some thought to the presentation of our meal as a meditation on the importance of the time we are setting aside for worship.



What if someone had done something to you that deeply wounded you? Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers and he suffered humiliation for many years. What if a situation came along where you had a chance to bring retribution against those who had wronged you? Would you expose them for their wrongs, or could you forgive them? Joseph had the perfect chance to pay back his brothers for the wrong they did to him. But he saw things differently. Sometimes only hindsight can show us a better purpose. In slavery and in goal all

he could do was stay faithful to God. If he had blamed God, would he have ended up being a leader in Egypt? If he did not forgive His brothers, who would have become the future Kingdom of Israel? would we know God's love for us today?

opening prayer — consciously drawing together in our mind our Parish community around our table.

Be still and silent. Visualise in your mind, those whom you invited to share with you. Pray:



**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Here, and throughout the world,
We adore you O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen**

**Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.
Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen, In Jesus' name we
pray. Amen**

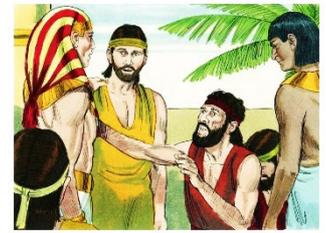
- ***Let us read and reflect on our cycle of readings***



**A reading from the Book of Genesis,
Chapter 45 beginning at Verse 1**

¹Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you



who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

[NRSV Genesis 45:1-15]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 133

- 1 Behold how good and how lovely it is:
when families live together in unity.
- 2 It is fragrant as oil upon the head,
that runs down over the beard:
fragrant as oil upon the beard of Aaron,
that ran down over the collar of his robe.
- 3 It is like a dew of Hermon:
like the dew that falls upon the hill of Zion.
- 4 For there the Lord has commanded his blessing:
which is life for evermore.



How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!

(Psalms133:1 NIV)

A reading from the Romans,
Chapter 11 beginning at Verse 13

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry ¹⁴ in order to make my own people jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead! ¹⁶ If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy.



¹⁷ But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the rich root of the olive tree, ¹⁸ do not boast over the branches. If you do boast, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. ¹⁹ You will say, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” ²⁰ That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. ²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, perhaps he will not spare you. ²² Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God’s kindness toward you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be

cut off. ²³ And even those of Israel, if they do not persist in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. ²⁴ For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree.

²⁵ So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, "Out of Zion will come the Deliverer; he will banish ungodliness from Jacob." ²⁷ "And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

²⁸ As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. [NRSV Romans 11:13-32]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew,
*Chapter 15 beginning at verse 21 **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. [NRSV Matthew 15:21-28]



This is the Gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

Sentence

Thus says the Lord, 'Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.'

- ***eating reflectively and responding to the passage***

Let us now engage in some quiet reflection, or conversation and sharing, responding to the Gospel passage. We may like to write down some key thoughts for further reflection.

Reflect on these words, our hearts and Forgiveness



Jesus says to the pharisees, what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart. Joseph chose to speak forgiveness because His heart was faithful to the righteous things of God. Jesus first rebuked the Canaanite woman seeking deliverance for her daughter; but there was a reason behind this. He was not addressing her; he was addressing the pharisees own conceitedness, for out of their conceitedness they called foreigners dogs. Let us not forget that Jesus had preached to the Samaritan town of Sychar, a people whom the Pharisees regarded as pigs. Because Jesus spoke to a woman at a well, many in the town of Sychar came to believe that Jesus was the Saviour of the 'world'. In attending to the Canaanite woman, He showed the Pharisees that his grace was open to all who have faith in Him.

• **prayer-time**

Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; for those affected by coronavirus; for family; for members of the parish and wider community, for the life and ministry of the Church, for encouragement in our journey of faith.



Please pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer ; Ron & Ann ; Les ; Tristan; Kathy; Mitchell; David ; Pat ;Izabelle ; Peta ; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Nicholas B; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Brenda; Pat; Brendon, Fr Peter, Fr Percy & Betty, Bp David, Jill, Bill, David H, Petra, Miriam & family, Marjorie; Joyce; Diane; Jean; Mitchell and family; Kathy; Carolyn; Allison; Angela; Susie; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Margaret, Lyn; Irene; Linda; Jenny P’s mother; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz; Trish S; Carole and family, Peter (husband of the late Joanne) & children Lainie and Nicholas; John Carroll, Jac Bishop; Joan; Joanie: Andrew; Kerrie; Mary, Margaret’s mum, Kate, Lynn *and any others we wish to say either silently or aloud.* We give you thanks for the life work and witness of Dr Tom Atherton and Frank Cheeseman and Fr David Keay. We remember their family and friends and ask for your peace and comfort for them as they mourn the loss of a loved one. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Amen.

Let us say the Lord’s Prayer Together. Our Father

Prayer of the Day

God of freedom,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that all people may know the glorious liberty
of the children of God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Conclude the meal with the following prayer together.

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be amongst us and remain with us always.
Amen.**

Intentional connection beyond your home

After our Table Service, make contact via phone, email, letter, Messenger, Skype, Zoom, etc with a person who is on your heart and mind at this time. It might be one of the people you invited to your meal, or a member of your family, or someone who doesn’t have family, or a friend, Let God guide you to the person or people with whom you connect. Contact the person.

Start a conversation: ‘I was thinking of you.....’ Or
What did you think of..... in songs of praise etc.

