



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

27th September 2020

Let us 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.**

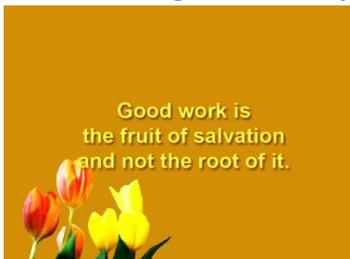
Sometimes we eat, in front of the TV either together or alone; we eat on the run; we eat out in restaurants or even in our car; but today we sit at a table that we have set for our Sunday lunch meal. It is our everyday altar of life-giving food. As we celebrate together let us define the occasion by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



Jesus was teaching in the temple and the chief priest and Elders struggle to understand Jesus. They want to know how it is that Jesus can do and teach the things he does. What Jesus does is beyond their understanding. They teach that to be in God's good favour you have to live as perfectly as possible, yet in their self-righteousness judged others. They are like the son who says yes but failed to do what the father has asked because of unbelief. Jesus points to the Tax collectors and prostitutes and says they will be in God's Kingdom. They are like the son who said no, but later did what the father asked. They changed and believed what John the Baptist taught, repented and allow God to cleans them from the inside out. Over and over again Jesus teaches that it is about obeying and loving him from the heart, more than trying to earn God's approval by good works.



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 Exodus, Chapter 17 beginning at Verse 1 1

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" 3 But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" 4 So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone



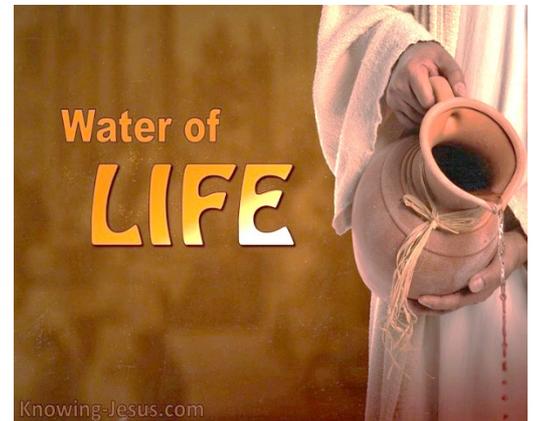
me.” 5 The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.

6 I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?” [NRSV Exodus 17:1-7]

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

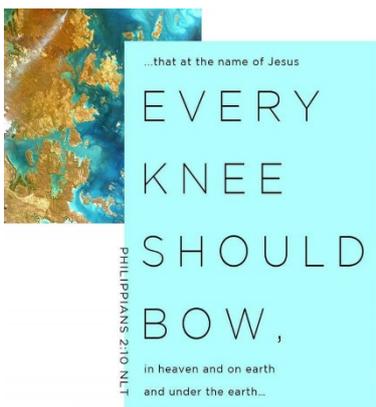
Psalm 78:1-4, 11-16

1 Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
2 For I will open my mouth in a parable:
and expound the mysteries of former times.
3 What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,
4 We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come:
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.
11 For he did marvellous things in the sight of their ancestors:
in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan. 1
2 He divided the sea and let them pass through:
he made the waters stand up in a heap.
13 In the daytime he led them with a cloud:
and all night long with the light of fire.
14 He cleft rocks in the wilderness: a
nd gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.
15 He brought streams out of the rock:
and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.
16 But for all this they sinned yet more against him:
and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.



A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians, Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 1 1

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient



to the point of death - even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

[NRSV Philippians 2:1-13] Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 21 beginning at verse 23
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

23When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. 31Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him. [NRSV Matthew 21:23-32]



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

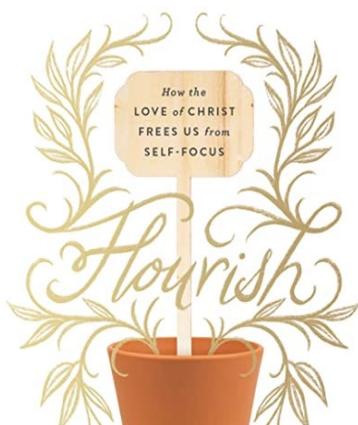
Sentence Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him

- ***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.

Think of these things –

God who is at work in you and Let the same mind be in you that was in Jesus.



If we read this text from Matthews Gospel first then the Philipians reading, what Jesus teaches makes sense. It is why he makes a point of difference between the Priests and the Prostitutes. It is about the mind of our soul and not what we do that makes the difference. V5, Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. This is the foundation of His love, and in V13 it sums up by who's authority we too can do all these things. For it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. The temple Priests got this all backward, it is only because of God's love within us that then motivates us to do the things we do..

• **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 We give thanks for the recovery from surgery of Allison and Cathy and pray for continued healing and freedom from pain. Allison, David, Ron & Ann; Les;; Kathy; 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; Bill; David H; Marjorie; Diane; Jean; Mitchell and family; Kathy; Carolyn; Allison; Angela; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Margaret, Lyn; Ted & Joyce; Irene; Linda; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz; Tristan & Trish S; Carole and family; Lainie and Nicholas; John Carroll; Jac Bishop, Joan; Joanie; Andrew; Kerrie; Mary, Margaret’s mum, Kate, Lynn, Colin, *and any others we wish to say either silently or aloud.*

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

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Prayer of the Day

Grant, O merciful God,
that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus,
who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant,
and in humility became obedient even to death.
For you have highly exalted him and bestowed on him
the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. Amen.

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.

