



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

11th October 2020

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

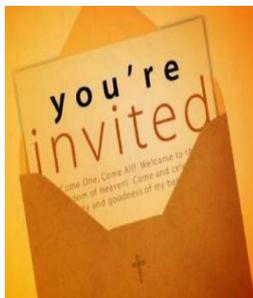


- **Setting our table for our Sunday lunch service.**

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 gives an example of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. This parable is not an easy one to hear. Guests are suppose to be the Hosts friends or at least His chosen people. Those people who turned their back on Him died. We must remember we are talking about the Kingdom of heaven. The King is our Father God and His honoured guests became those who were poor, meaning they knew their needs and did not take it for granted like the others. Accepting the king they enter into his house and are given wedding cloths, and in the kingdom these are our robes of righteousness we did not earn them, poor of spirit we accepted his invite and he

freely gave us the honour of His righteousness. The invitation is Christ Himself and the marriage is our unity with Him as our Lord.

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**



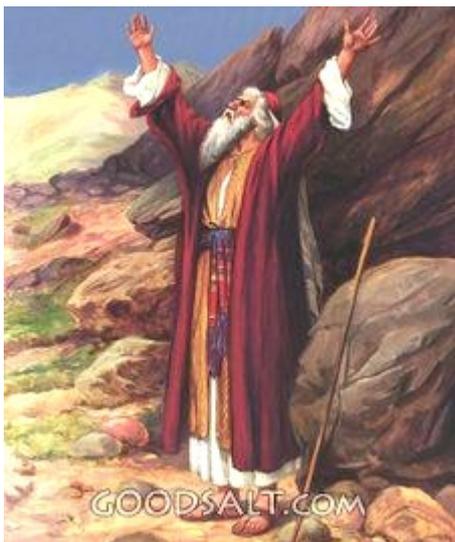
**Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.
Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

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

A reading from the Book of Exodus, Chapter 32 beginning at Verse 1

¹When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ²Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵When Aaron saw this, he built an

altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." ⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. ⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped



it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." ¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall

inherit it forever.'" ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people. [NRSV Exodus 32:1-14] Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm 106:1-6, 20-24

1 Praise the Lord.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord:
or fully voice his praise?

3 Blessed are those who act according to justice:
who at all times do the right.

4 Remember me, O Lord,
when you visit your people with your favour:
and come to me also with your salvation,

5 That I may see the prosperity of your chosen:
that I may rejoice with the rejoicing of your people,
and exult with those who are your own.

6 We have sinned like our ancestors:
we have acted perversely and done wrong.

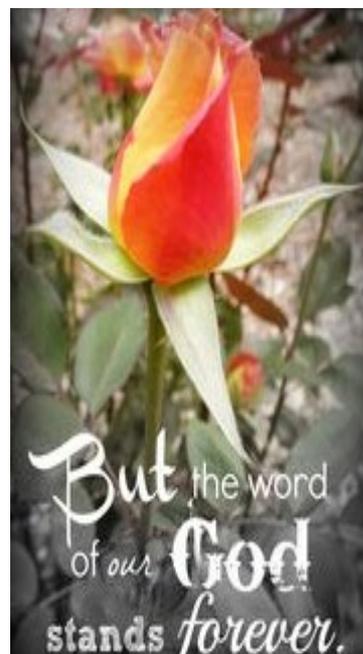
20 At Horeb they made themselves a calf:
and bowed down in worship to an image.

21 And so they exchanged the glory of God:
for the likeness of an ox that eats hay.

22 They forgot God who was their saviour:
that had done such great things in Egypt,

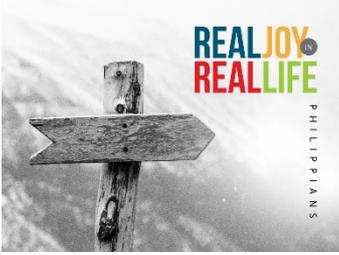
23 Who had worked his wonders in the land of Ham:
and his terrible deeds at the Red Sea.

24 Therefore he thought to destroy them:
had not Moses his servant stood before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath from destroying them.



A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians, Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 1 ¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you

also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.



⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

[NRSV Philippians 4:1-9] Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 22 beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those 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, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.” [NRSV Matthew 22:1-14] This is the Gospel of the Lord, praise **to you Lord Jesus Christ**



Sentence

This is our God for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

- **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, few are chosen, stand firm in the Lord and his way.

And what is it like to have unity with Christ, to be of the same mind of the Lord. Can we truly think like Jesus. Paul thinks so. We also see that there were women who strived in the work of the Gospel. We are all equal in Christ, no one is any more important when it comes to ministering or receiving the gospel.



The rest of Philippians talks about the evidence of the Gospel in our lives. Joy, gentleness, peace, then the things of virtue are foremost on my minds. Betrothed to Christ we serve him with a similar passion as his bride to be. This is what distinguishes us as people who make Jesus King over their lives and live in His Kingdom.

• **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 that Cathy is now home, and that Allison is in respite at Hove and for Carole recovering from a stroke. We pray for Les that God's grace will surround him and for freedom from pain. Pray for continued healing and freedom from pain. We also remember David, Ron & Ann; 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; 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

Prayer of the Day

Saving and healing God, you have promised that those who have died with Christ shall live with him: grant us grace to be continually thankful for all you have done for us, and in that thankfulness to be eager to serve and live for others, so that we and all your children may rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.

