

SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

24th January 2021

**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.

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

As we worship at home today let us define the occasion by adding something special to our table. Give some thought to the presentation of our meal as a meditation on the importance of the time we are setting aside for worship.



When Jesus said follow me, the fishing nets that the fishermen dropped were their lively hood. The nets stood for everything they were and everything they had. Simon and Andrew, James and John chose to follow Jesus, and for what? Jesus as a man was simply a carpenter from a rural town in Galilee. He did not promise them riches or fame, simply that they would be like Him, fishers of men. Did they know what that even meant? There must have been something else that captivated these men, something in Jesus that captivated their souls and gave them a new hope. Andrew told Peter and Philip told Nathaniel and Nathanael put into words what they all knew in their hearts. You are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel. They all knew that Jesus the Messiah was not simply human but divine; sent by God for humanities salvation as the scriptures had foretold. Now is not that worth giving up everything for?



- **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***



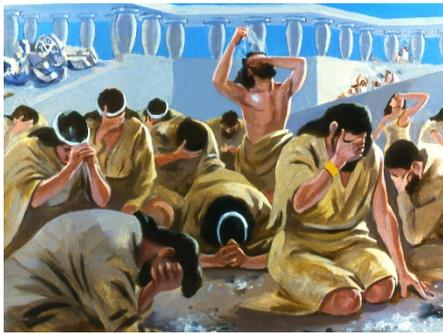
***Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.
Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen,
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen***

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



A reading from Jonah, Chapter 3 beginning at Verse 1.

¹ The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ² "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ⁶ When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷ Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸ Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish." ¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. [NRSV Jonah 3:1-10]



Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

Psalm 62:5-12

⁵ Nevertheless, my soul, wait in silence for God:
for from him comes my hope.
⁶ He only in my rock and my salvation:
my strong tower, so that I shall not be moved.
⁷ In God is my deliverance and my glory:
God is my strong rock and my shelter.
⁸ Trust in him at all times, O my people:
pour out our hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
⁹ The children of Adam are but breath,
the children of earth are a lie:
place them in the scales and they fly upward,
they are as light as air.
¹⁰ Put no trust in extortion,
do not grow worthless by robbery:
if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.
¹¹ God has spoken once, twice have I heard him say:
that power belongs to God,
¹² That to the Lord belongs a constant goodness:
for you reward each one of us according to our works.



A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, Chapter 7 beginning at Verse 29

²⁹ I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰ and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no



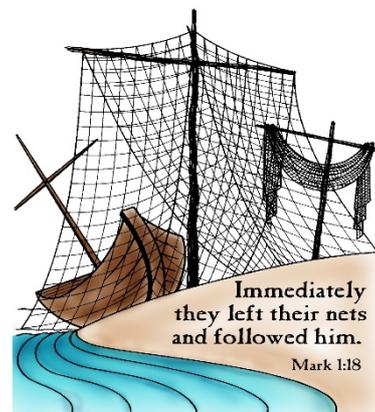
possessions,³¹ and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. [NRSV 1 Corinthians 7:29-31]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter 1 beginning at Verse 14.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." ¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. [NRSV Mark 1:14-20]



This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.

• 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.

They left their nets and followed Him.

For my hope is in Him

Today God calls us to follow him, but how do we hear his voice in this incredible noisy world where a thousand prophets call us to believe and to follow them. What makes Jesus and His way any different? King David in Psalm 62 says, For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him, ... trust him at all times. How can we know that God will be our strength, our salvation, and our



fortress, if at first, we do not trust Him; And what is trust if we do not put down our confidence in everything around us and follow Jesus alone. It is Jesus that shows us what David knew; that the steadfast love of God is our sustenance. We are not excluded from trouble and trials but as we walk trusting in our Father, so He grows our trust. Look at who David says is the one who gives us our faith. David knew that our own strength or things we have were and are futile, that is why he says, "for my hope is from 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.



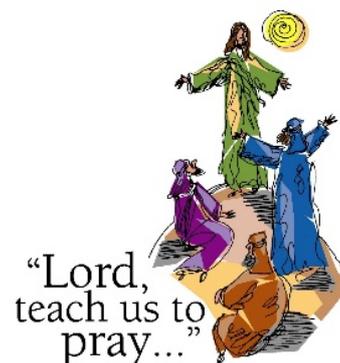
Please pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer. We give thanks for the life work and witness of Father Peter Carlsson, may he rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen. We continue to pray with, Lynn, David, Ron & Ann; Kathy's Family; Pat ;Izabelle; Peta ; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Nicholas B; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Brenda; Pat; Brendon; Fr Percy & Betty; Bp David; Bill; David H; Marjorie; Diane; Jean; Mitchell and family; Carolyn; 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, Kate, Colin, Cathy, Carol, Allison, Ann, Jean and Betty *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

Bountiful God,
 through your Son you have called us to repent of our sin,
 to believe the good news,
 and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom:
 teach us, like Christ's first apostles,
 to hear the call to discipleship,
 and, forsaking old ways,
 to proclaim the gospel of new life to a broken world;
 through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
 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 with others who may be alone and would welcome a call or message from you. Use the time to catch up with your family and friends who are interstate or overseas. Use email or face time or SMS to keep in contact and share with others the promise of a brighter and better future in 2021.

