



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

12th September 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.



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. If you are celebrating this meal without people physically present, please be aware that **God Is With You.**

TO SEE AS JESUS SEES Mark 8: 27-38

Have you ever met someone and immediately knew in your heart that there was something good about them? Jesus asked, who do you say that I am? Peter simply said, You are the Messiah. In Mathews version of this account, Jesus says that his Father in heaven has revealed this to him. This means that Peter knew that Jesus was more than just a man; that he was sent from God, by God and was of God himself. Then Peter says something dumb, and Jesus seems to be quite harsh with him. The reality of this incident is that Jesus is trying to teach his disciples to see with their hearts the things of God and not try and work him out in their heads. The message in this situation extends to us.



- **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 Proverbs, Chapter 1 beginning at Verse 20

²⁰ Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.

²¹ At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

²² "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?

²³ Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you;

I will make my words known to you.

²⁴ Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

²⁵ and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,
²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you,
²⁷ when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
²⁸ Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,

WHOEVER
LISTENS TO
ME WILL DWELL

SECURELY



³⁰ would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof,

³¹ therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices.

³² For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them;

³³ but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

[NRSV Proverbs 1.20–33] Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 19 [Page 239 APBA]

1 The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;

2 One day tells it to another: and night to night communicates knowledge.

3 There is no speech or language: nor are their voices heard;

4 Yet their sound has gone out through all the world: and their words to the ends of the earth.

5 There he has pitched a tent for the sun: which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.

6 Its rising is at one end of the heavens, and its circuit to their farthest bound: and nothing is hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul: the command of the Lord is true, and makes wise the simple.

8 The precepts of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart:

the commandment of the Lord is pure, and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever: the judgements of the Lord are unchanging, and righteous every one.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold: sweeter also than honey, than the honey that drips from the comb.

11 Moreover, by them is your servant taught: and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can know their own unwitting sins?: O cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the mastery over me: so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.

14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight: O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

*The Word of
the Lord is
more precious
than gold &
sweeter than
honey.*

A reading from the letter of James

Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 18

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? ²¹ Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to



completion by the works.²³ Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God.²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road?²⁶ For just as the

body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead. [NRSV James 2.18–26] Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

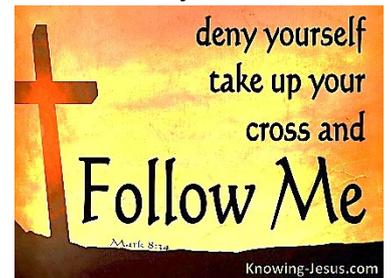
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter 8 beginning at verse 27

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."^[a] ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." [NRSV Mark 8.27–38]



This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for the sake of the gospel will save it.

.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.

You are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

"A state of mind that sees God in everything is evidence of growth in grace and a thankful heart."

The key to following Jesus is that we focus on the things that are from God; Thy kingdom come thy will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven. He asks us to look deeper into the things around us and find the Divine in the ordinary. To see ourselves as God sees us and to see others as God sees others, to look beyond the frailties and

weaknesses and see that soul that God sees too. This means to put away our reason that naturally looks at surface things, and to see his divine grace in humanity and in all the world. When Peter

said "you are the Messiah" he was actually saying you are the saviour of all creation. Let us always pray, 'let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable unto you, oh Lord, my rock and my redeemer.'

- **prayer-time** Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; remembering especially the peoples of Afghanistan; all who seek refuge in far off places; all who suffer from the result of war; for those affected by coronavirus, especially those in NSW and Victoria 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 continue to pray alongside, Sylvia's family, Joannie, Miriam, Matthew, Kym and Bob, Howard, Izabelle; Peta; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Pat; Brendon; Bill; David H; Diane; Jean; Carolyn; Allison; Brenda, Angela; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Margaret, Lyn; Irene; Linda; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz; Tristan & Trish S; Carole and family; Peter, Eleni and Nicholas; Jac Bishop, Joanie; Andrew; Kerrie;. David J; Claire; Jean; Dan Thomas; Trish; Claire; Fr Graham & Catherine; & Blair; Aileen; Ann; Leslie Rogan; Marion McCall and family; Stephen, Bill, Eileen Cook; Tessa; Demetri; Yvonne Scrutton; Gabrielle *and any others we wish to remember.*



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

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy,
help us to forgive as you have forgiven us,
to trust you, even when hope is failing,
and to take up our cross daily
and follow you in your redeeming work;
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 spend some time reaching out to others, a member of your family, or someone who does not have family, or a friend, someone in your community 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, Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you should connect. Contact them. Start a conversation: How have you been keeping, What about this cold weather or I was thinking of you and decided to call...

