



## SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

10<sup>th</sup> October 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**.

### Who Does God See as His Privileged Ones.

What is easiest to do? Follow Jesus when all you have is taken away, or follow Jesus when life is comfortable and money is very accessible. The divide between the rich and the poor in Jesus' day was very obvious. The rich held places of honour and privilege, they held important places in the synagogues. They earned these rights because people looked at their wealth and valued them on their status. Jesus is saying God looks at the heart that longs follow him rich or poor. How difficult is it for wealthy people, if others only see their faith through their money. How tempting is it for the wealthy to take privileged places, because people only see their status. So, what is Jesus looking for in this young man in Mark's story.



- **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 Job,**

### A reading from the book of Job,

Chapter 23 beginning at Verse 1

**23** Then Job answered: <sup>2</sup> "Today also my complaint is bitter his hand is heavy despite my groaning. <sup>3</sup> Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling!

<sup>4</sup> I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments.



<sup>5</sup> I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me.  
<sup>6</sup> Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me.  
<sup>7</sup> There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.  
<sup>8</sup> "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him;  
<sup>9</sup> on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.  
 16 God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me;  
 17 If only I could vanish in darkness and thick darkness would cover my face!

[NRSV Job 23.1–9, 16–17] Hear the word of the Lord,

**thanks be to God**

**Psalm 22** 1-15 [Page 241 APBA]

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me: why are you so far from helping me  
 and from the words of my groaning?  
 2 My God, I cry to you by day, but you do not answer: and by night also I take no rest.  
 3 But you continue holy: you that are the praise of Israel.  
 4 In you our forebears trusted: they trusted, and you delivered them;  
 5 To you they cried and they were saved: they put their trust in you and  
 were not confounded.  
 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man: the scorn of all and despised  
 by the people.  
 7 Those that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out their lips at me  
 and wag their heads, saying,  
 8 'He trusted in the Lord—let him deliver him:  
 let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'  
 9 But you are he that took me out of the womb:  
 that brought me to lie at peace on my mother's breast.  
 10 On you have I been cast since my birth: you are my God, even from my mother's womb.  
 11 O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand: and there is none to help.  
 12 Many oxen surround me: fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.  
 13 They gape wide their mouths at me: like lions that roar and rend.  
 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint:  
 my heart within my breast is like melting wax.  
 15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd: and my tongue clings to my gums.



**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 12**

<sup>12</sup> Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

<sup>14</sup> Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested<sup>[a]</sup> as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

[NRSV Hebrews 4.12–16]

Hear the word of the Lord,

**thanks be to God.**



## The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter 10 beginning at verse 17

### **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>17</sup> As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup> Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>20</sup> He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." <sup>21</sup> Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

<sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

[NRSV Mark 10.17–31] This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



### **Sentence**

***There is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for Jesus' sake, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.***

*.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.*

**Who can be saved?" Jesus said, "For mortals it is impossible, .... for God all things are possible."**

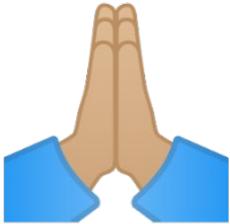
**All are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one we must render account.**



In the Hebrews reading, it says the word of God is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. This is the challenge for us all; if our hearts are open to follow Christ, especially when we feel we have nothing to offer him. He reads our hearts and knows the desires of our souls. He does not recognise those who try to be important in the house of God. Wealth can be a stumbling block if our hearts do not put self-importance aside to following Him. He sees those with nothing that are behind the scenes doing what they can for God. The wealthy who buy their privilege are last in God's sight and the poor that give what they can for the love they have for Christ are his privileged ones; they are the ones who abide in God's Kingdom hear on earth as it is in heaven.

**prayer-time** Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; remembering especially the all those suffering from the effects of natural disasters and victims of violence; 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, Miriam and her family, Sylvia's family, Ruth recovering from surgery, Lynn Hann, Joannie, 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**

Merciful God,  
in your Son you call not the righteous  
but sinners to repentance:  
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction, and guide  
us into paths that lead to life abundant,  
that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will,  
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour;  
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 lovely spring weather or hope you are keeping safe and well or I was just thinking of you and decided to call...

