



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

17th 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.**

Serving on God's Right and Left Hand

There is a TV show called "Undercover Boss," the CEO takes on the roles of some of his lowest employees. This way, they see just what it is like to work in the conditions set before them. It is only then that the CEO could understand how difficult things could be for their workers. If only James and John truly realised that what Jesus asked of them was to lay down their lives for others, not literally at first. They were wrong about having positions of authority. What is important to God is not importance, but being able to show compassion and understanding for the ones that others may even look down on. When as Christians, we can be like this, this is what God values most highly.

- **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 38 beginning at Verse 1

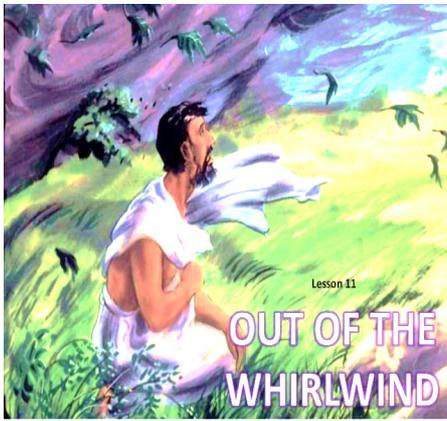
Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: ² "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³ Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me. ⁴ "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone

⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings^[a] shouted for joy?



- (³⁴ "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,
so that a flood of waters may cover you?
³⁵ Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go
and say to you, 'Here we are'?
³⁶ Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,^[a]
or given understanding to the mind?^[b]
³⁷ Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,
³⁸ when the dust runs into a mass
and the clods cling together?

- ³⁹ "Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?
⁴¹ Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God,
and wander about for lack of food?)

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 104 1-10, 26 [Page 330 APBA]

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul:
O Lord my God, how great you are!
- 2 Clothed with majesty and honour:
wrapped in light as in a garment.
- 3 You have stretched out the heavens like a tent-cloth:
and laid the beams of your dwelling upon their waters;
- 4 You make the clouds your chariot:
and ride upon the wings of the wind;
- 5 You make the winds your messengers:
and flames of fire your ministers;
- 6 You have set the earth on its foundations:
so that it shall never be moved.
- 7 The deep covered it as with a mantle:
the waters stood above the hills.
- 8 At your rebuke they fled:
at the voice of your thunder they hurried away;
- 9 They went up to the mountains,
they went down by the valleys:
to the place which you had appointed for them.
- 10 You fixed a limit which they may not pass:
they shall not return again to cover the earth.
- 26 Lord, how various are your works:
in wisdom you have made them all,
and the earth is full of your creatures.



A reading from the letter to the Hebrews Chapter 5 beginning at Verse 1

5 Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. **2** He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; **3** and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. **4** And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was. **5** So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶ as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."



⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus^[a] offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰ having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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 32

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.



(³² They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.") ³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came

forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

.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.

He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness - One does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God

Some people believe that because they have earned human prominence they are intitled to dictate terms. Like Job, we cannot demand anything from God as if we have earned some kind of importance to do so. Job was wise, but before God his words were like nothing at all. Who are we to say, I have earned my place in



heaven, only God says, welcome, good and faithful servant. Our lives are called to serve in every way, because then we are blessing, encouraging, building up, supporting, and imparting the gifts of God to those who need them, then the whole body of Christ, His Church becomes healthy. Then God's Kingdom is being realised here 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.



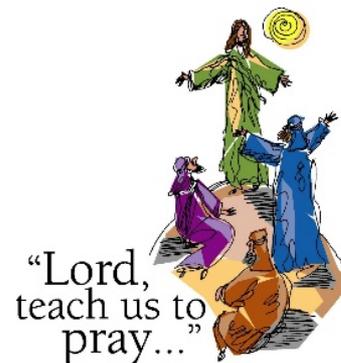
Please pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer. We continue to pray alongside, Miriam and her family, Sylvia's family, Ruth recovering from surgery, Lynn Hann, Joannie, Matthew, Kym and Bob, Howard, Izabelle; Peta; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Pat; Brendon; 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

God of unchangeable power,
when the heaven and earth were made,
the morning stars sang together
and the host of heaven shouted for joy:
open our eyes to the wonders of creation
and teach us to use all things for good,
to the honour of your glorious name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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. 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