



- **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.



Let us prepare our table with thanksgiving and prayer as we begin the Lenten Season, 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.**

### LIVING FOR GOD

Have you ever felt that having a recognised position was important? To assist in serving or be the sides person added value to your life?. But what if there was someone in the congregation you knew could do your job better? Would you invite them to take your position? Jesus came as God incarnate, He had the authority to do what He liked over the world and the Devil was reminding Him of this. Would Jesus choose to control the world by worldly means or would He give the world freedom to choose to live for God? We are called to trust in God's provision and be part of His kingdom here on earth.



- **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 Deuteronomy, Chapter 26 beginning at Verse 1

26 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the

DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

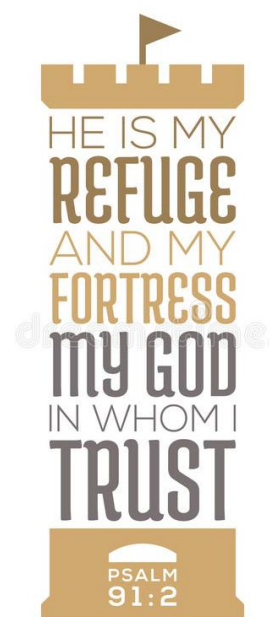


land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. [NRSV Deuteronomy 26.1–11] Hear the word of the Lord,

**thanks be to God**

**Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16**

1 Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High:  
 who abide under the shadow of the Almighty,  
 2 They will say to the Lord 'You are my refuge and my stronghold:  
 my God in whom I trust.'  
 9 The Lord himself is your refuge:  
 you have made the Most High your stronghold.  
 10 Therefore no harm will befall you:  
 nor will any scourge come near your tent.  
 11 For he will command his angels: to keep you in all your ways.  
 12 They will bear you up in their hands:  
 lest you dash your foot against a stone.  
 13 You will tread on the lion and the adder: the young lion and the serpent  
 you will trample under foot.  
 14 'You have set your love upon me,' says the Lord, 'and therefore I will  
 deliver you: I will lift you out of danger, because you have known my name.  
 15 'When you call upon me I will answer you: I will be with you in trouble,  
 I will rescue you and bring you to honour.  
 16 'With long life I will satisfy you: and fill you with my salvation.'



**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans, Chapter 10 beginning at Verse 4**

4 For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. 5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" [NRSV Romans 10.4–13]



Hear the word of the Lord,

**thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 1  
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

[NRSV Luke 4.1–15]

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



**Sentence**

Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.

*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.*

**The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.  
One does not live by bread alone.**

Temptation is really about trusting in our own ways. Jesus knew the reason why he came; And He came to reunite the world with God, this was God's mission. This is what we call salvation through all that Jesus did. He knew that if people chose to live by God's attributes, they would find a freedom in Him and be a blessing over the world. Being a blessing doesn't mean having authority but a giving of oneself so that God's grace can flow freely. This is living by the word, whereby we confess Jesus as our Lord, As Jesus confessed that He worshiped the Lord His God and served only Him.



**prayer-time**

Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; especially the people of Ukraine who need your support and comfort, those now refugees from their country separated from family who need your compassion, those who have lost loved ones in conflict or violence who need your peace. All those affected by Natural Disasters, especially the people in Queensland and New South Wales following the recent floods with loss of life, livelihoods, and places of safety.



We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer. Catherine Cooling and family, Kym, Melissa and Sam, Ted & Joyce and Miriam; Ann W, Ruth , Lynn, Joannie, Matthew, Bob, Izabelle; Peta; Mariette; Joanne; Peter G, Peter C; Samantha; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Pat; Brendon; Bill; David H; Diane; Jean; Carolyn; Allison; Angela; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Margaret, Lyn; Irene; Linda; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz; Tristan & Trish S; Carole; Peter, Eleni and Nicholas; Jac Bishop, Joanie; Andrew; Kerrie; David Jones; Claire; Jean; Dan Thomas; Trish; Claire; Ann; Tom & Nick; Stephen, Bill, Eileen ; Tessa; Yvonne; Sylvia; Gabrielle, Brenda; Judith: and *any others we wish to remember.*

***Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together.***

***Our Father .....***

***Prayer for Transfiguration***

O saving God,  
who led your people through the wilderness  
and brought them to the promised land:  
so guide us that, following our Saviour,  
we may walk through the wilderness of this world  
and be brought to the glory of the world which is to come;  
through your Son, 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, take the time to contact other people you know, especially those on their own or separated from family and friends. 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 changing weather or hope you are keeping well, or I was just thinking of you and decided to call. ....

