

Sunday 28th August 2022 TABLE SERVICE

Let us sit and watch Songs of Praise together on the ABC and then set the table for our Parish meal.



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



WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT



Have you ever been given something you did not expect, or were you recognised for something you did, that you thought was insignificant? The world is full of people that fight for recognition, to have recognition is what they believe justifies who they are. What makes us who we are is not our authority or work status or even honour that may be given. All this can pass away in a day. Who we are is the person God designed us to be. This is why Jesus says that we are in Him, by the testimony of our lives, and this all that counts.

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:

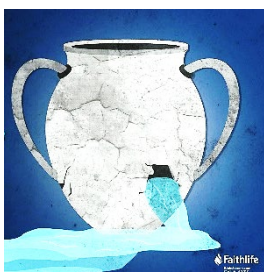
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

First Reading Jeremiah Chapter. 2:4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has



ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water. Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

1 O sing joyfully to God our strength:
shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

10 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt:
open wide your mouth, and I will fill it.

11 'But my people would not listen to my voice:
and Israel would have none of me.

12 'So I left them to the stubbornness of their hearts:
to walk according to their own designs.

13 'If only my people would listen:
if Israel would but walk in my ways,

14 'I would soon put down their enemies:
and turn my hand against their adversaries.

15 'Those that hate the Lord would cringe before him:
and their punishment would last for ever.

16 'But Israel I would feed with the finest wheat:
and satisfy you with honey from the rocks.'



Second Reading from the letter to the Hebrews. Chapter 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never



leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Chapter 14 verses 7-14a
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."



The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Sentence Let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Hebrews 13.15

Let us now engage in some quiet reflection, or conversation and sharing, responding to the passages of scripture. We may like to write down some key thoughts for further reflection.

They went after worthless things and became worthless themselves.

Those who humble themselves will be exalted.



Have you ever heard a nurse or a social worker say how rewarding their work is. Yet often they are right in the mess of humanity. In Hebrews it tells us, the nature of God gives us the ability to empathise with those who are suffering. Jesus wants us to be ourselves so that out of our roughhewn vessels God's love and compassion can flow. Reaching out to those who are suffering often means reaching into

places where others choose not to go. Mother Teresa never looked for accolades and even when they came, she used these to help others. In the end Her expectant joy was to hear those words from our Father in Heaven, "well done, good and faithful servant, ... come and share the Master's happiness"

prayer-time Now let us continue to offer our prayers and thanksgiving.

We pray for healing of the world; Lord we ask for peace for those who need peace, reconciliation for those who need reconciliation and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring, we pray for all those in any form of distress because of the natural disasters around the world due to floods, fire and storm.



We continue to pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer: Miriam, Takoohi, Susan and Frank, Mary and Margaret, Malcolm N, Jean N, Jo and John Mc, Father Ted and Joyce, Betty, Joy, David Mitchell family, Pat, Carolyn, Allison, Angela, Carol, Lucy Ann, Jean, Nathan, Peter, Alex, Kym and Bob. Jac Bishop: Eileen Cook; Yvonne Scrutton; Brenda, and any others we wish to remember.....

Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together.

Our Father

Prayer for Pentecost 12

O God,
you invite the humble and the sinful to take their place
in the festive assembly of the new covenant:
teach your Church always to honour the presence of the Lord
in the poor and the outcast,
so that we may learn to recognise each other
as brothers and sisters gathered together around your table.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
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



**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 think about other people you know, especially those on their own, in ill health, grieving or missing family and friends. You can do this in prayer or by contacting them and starting a conversation: How have you been keeping?, what about this changing weather?, hope you are keeping warm and well or, I was as just thinking of you and decided to call.
Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you need to connect with.

