



Sunday 4th September 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.**



What's It Going To Take.



.When you borrowed to build or buy your first house, did you not consider the cost and make a plan to repay the loan? The cost was not just in dollars, but in the commitment you made to earn a wage, and in the many years it would take to own your home outright. That commitment became part of your life, something that meant everything to you. The cost to be a follower of Christ means putting Him above anything else in our lives, a life time commitment.

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.

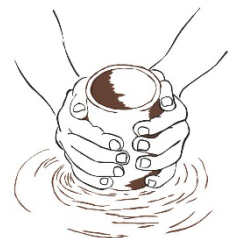
Here, and throughout the world, We adore you O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen

Bless this food, both physical and spiritual. Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 18 1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of

Father,
 You are the potter,
 I am the clay.
 Remold me
 by your Spirit
 for Jesus' sake.
 Amen.



the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build

and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

Psalm 139 1-5 and 12-18

1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

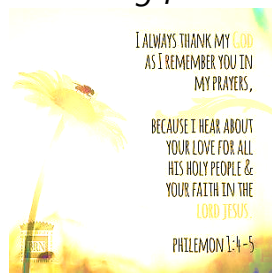
16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.



A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon v 1-25



Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of

your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated

from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a be-loved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you any-thing, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. One thing more—prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you. Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Hear the word of the Lord. **thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Chapter 14 beginning at verse 25-35
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see



whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions. "Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

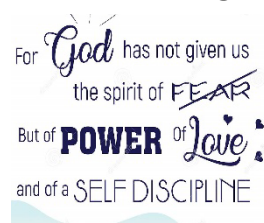
For the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sentence

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Jesus cannot be his disciple. Luke 14:27
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.

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account



Jesus knows that to follow him, will cost us. This cost is a kingdom cost. Yes we like to talk about God's love, peace and joy, but these are the benefits of walking Christ's way. Can we forgive as we have been forgiven? Can we love our neighbour when our neighbour is abusive? Would you give your coat to a man when he first stole your shirt? Would you pray for someone who falsely accuses you? These things are the true signs that we are salted with the Spirit of Christ. They show all that our love for God is greater than anything else in our lives.

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: 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.

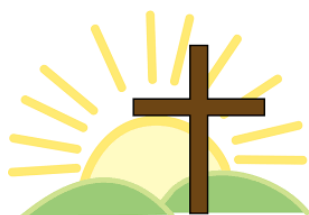
Our Father

Prayer for Pentecost 13

God of ages,
you call the Church to keep watch in the world
and to discern the signs of the times:
grant us the wisdom that your Spirit bestows,
so that with courage we may proclaim your
prophetic word, and complete the work you have set before us;
through your Son, 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.

