



SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

11th February 2024

*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.

- **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.



They saw his glory



It's a false assumption that we can make God happen at our whim. The fact is, He makes Himself known in our lives when we choose to follow Him.

There is a church on Mt Tabor in Israel called the church of Transfiguration built by the Franciscan order. In the original story Peter offers to build three dwelling places to honour where God's presence came over Jesus, Elijah and Moses. Jesus shone with the glory of God. In the Old Testament God's presence came as a cloud over both Elijah and Moses. Moses met God in the tent of meeting and then he brought God's message to the people. Perhaps this was what Peter

hoped for. That Jesus would be God's new Moses.

- **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 second book of Kings, Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 1

¹ Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know;

keep silent.”

⁴ Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.



⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰ He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

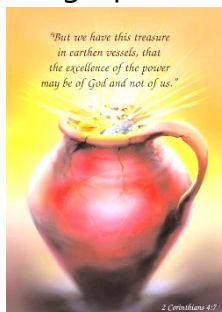
Psalm 50:1-6

- ¹ The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken:
and summoned the earth,
from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.
- ² From Zion, perfect in beauty:
God has shone out in glory.
- ³ Our God is coming, he will not keep silent:
before him is devouring fire,
and tempest whirls about him.
- ⁴ He calls to the heavens above:
and to the earth, so he may judge his people.
- ⁵ ‘Gather to me my faithful ones:
those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.’
- ⁶ The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness:
for God himself is judge.



A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians, Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 3

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶ For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



⁷ But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the

death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹ For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you. Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter 9 beginning at Verse 2

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.



² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, ⁶ one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to

tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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.

**From the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"
For it is God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness."**

Today we know that the new tent of meeting is within our souls. Through Jesus, God made us all His dwelling place. Dwelling places on Mt Tabor were not necessary. As Paul said in the Corinthians reading, that God has made the light of Christ Jesus shine in our hearts. We are invited then to be transfigured with God's glorious light within our souls. This light is the nature of Jesus. There are many ways of being kind and good and nice. There is only one way to shine with the goodness of God. That is when we invite Him to be this light in our lives. Only by this light can others see the sacredness of God in what we say and do



prayer-time

Now let us continue to offer our prayers and thanksgiving. We pray for healing of the world; Lord, we ask for peace in these nations and throughout the world. Protect all those who are vulnerable to the effects of war and displacement from their homes. Give those in authority the patience, humility, wisdom and endurance to persevere in bringing about positive solutions for their nations. Amen.

We pray 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.

We continue to pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Kathryn and Keiran, Ruth, Jean N, Brendas family Colin, Allison, Pat Foord, , Georgia (Sunaras Mum). Pat V David, Brenda, Joanie, Jo Jan, Joy I, Leanne, Daniella, Joyce and Ted, Mary R, Jac Bishop; Eileen Cook; Yvonne S; Ursula Pridham; Trish McD; Barbara Webber; Tom Arnold; Nicholas & Ben; Sue & Frank Thomas; Gordon Russell; Emily and her family; Trish Simon; Christina and any others we wish to remember, either silently or aloud.

Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together. Our Father

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Prayer of the Day

Lord God, heavenly Father,
you glorified your Son from the heavens.
Give us faith to perceive his glory
and willingly follow him.
Bring us, through his suffering and death,
to the glory of the resurrection.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

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, make contact with others 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. Use your phone or email or face time or SMS, write letters or notes - keep in contact. Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you should connect. Contact them. Start a conversation and share with others the Joy of knowing Jesus and his promise of a brighter and better future if we follow Him. Emmanuel - God is with us.

