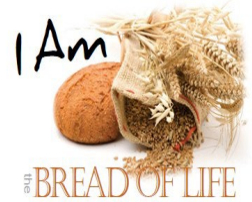




## SUNDAY TABLE SERVICE

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

*Let us sit and watch Songs of Praise  
together on the ABC*



### ***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 celebrate 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.**



After feeding 5000, Jesus then compared himself as everlasting bread that feeds us. Meaning His word and living His life is our sustenance. He explains, its value is more worthwhile than baked bread. Then he takes the terms flesh and blood and connects these with sacrifice. The Israelites hearing this, would have understood the connection with their sacrificial lamb and that Jesus was talking about his own flesh and blood as the next sacrifice which would give us life. If you think that was too much to stomach, your not alone. Many of Jesus followers left him at this stage.

### ***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 first book of Kings Chapter 8 v 22-30 41-43

Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you,

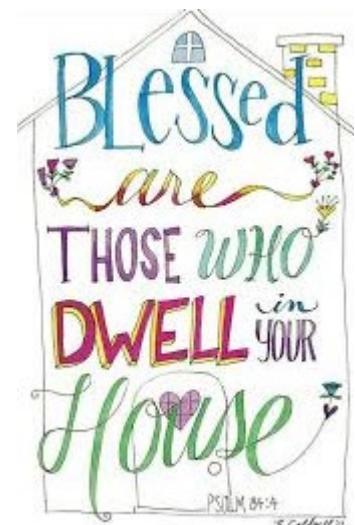


much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive. "Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name — for they shall hear of your great name, your

mighty hand, and your outstretched arm — when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built. Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 84

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling-place: O Lord God of hosts!
- 2 My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 The sparrow has found her a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even your altar, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house: they will always be praising you.
- 5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you: in whose heart are the highways to Zion;
- 6 Who going through the valley of dryness find there a spring from which to drink: till the autumn rain shall clothe it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength: they appear, every one of them, before the God of gods in Zion.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God, him who reigns over us: and look upon the face of your anointed.
- 10 One day in your courts is better than a thousand: I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 11 For the Lord God is a light and a shield, the Lord gives favour and honour: and no good thing will he withhold from those who walk in innocence.
- 12 O Lord God of hosts: blessed are those who put their trust in you.



### A reading from the letter to the Ephesians Chapter 6 v 10-20



Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and



**prayer-time** Now let us continue to offer our prayers for those in need, those looking for peace and reconciliation. Lord, we ask for peace in all nations throughout the world .  
May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil and the power of love to overcome hatred. We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe in a world emancipated from violence, a new world where fear shall no longer lead persons to commit injustice, nor selfishness ,make them bring suffering to others.. Please pour out your blessings on all who are in need And help us all to find your peace that passes Understanding. 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,. Jean, Nicole, David, Takoohi , Glenda, Deryn, Margaret, Wendy, Gweneth, Jo and Ginne ,Joyce and Ted Matthew, Ann , Kathryn and Keiran, Ruth, Jean N, Brendas family, Colin, Pat Foord, , Georgia (Sunaras Mum). Pat V David, Brenda, Joanie, Jo Jan, Joy I, Leanne, Daniella, Mary R, Jac Bishop; Eileen Cook; Yvonne S; Ursula Pridham; 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 .....**



**Prayer of the Day**

Everliving God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people,  
that in the ministry to which you have called them  
each may serve you in holiness and truth;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
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 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: 'I was thinking of you.....' Or What did you think of.....

