



Sixth Sunday of Easter 25th May 2025

TABLE SERVICE

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



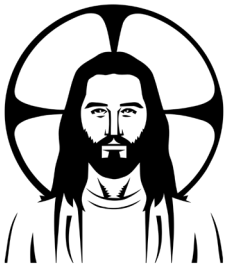
**Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Prayerful and intentional preparation for a meal

As we celebrate our the Resurrection of Jesus, let us define the occasion by decorating our table with a variety of bright flowers or other symbols of new life, Give some thought to the presentation of your meal as a meditation on the importance of the time you are setting aside for worship. Make it pleasing to your eye.



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



It seems in this reading there is a complicated riddle that must be unravelled for us to understand. **But not so!** What Jesus is saying is, do these things and these other things will happen. Love Jesus and obey His word, then you will know that the presence of Jesus and God is real in our lives. AND ... the Holy Spirit will teach and remind us of the very words Jesus taught. By this, our hearts have His assurance of peace. It is why the Holy Spirit is regarded as our advocate and comforter.

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 Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 16 beginning at Verse 9

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women



who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us [NRSV Acts 16.9–15]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 67

- 1 Let God be gracious to us and bless us:
and make his face shine upon us,
- 2 That your ways may be known on earth:
your liberating power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing:
for you judge the peoples with integrity,
and govern the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:
and God, our God, will bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us:
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.



A reading from the Book of Revelation, Chapter 21 beginning at Verse 10

¹⁰ And in the spirit^[a] he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; ¹³ on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.



²² Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants^[c] will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name

will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

[NRSV Revelation 21.10–14, 22–22.5] Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Chapter 14 beginning at verse 23

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus answered him (Judas (not Iscariot)), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Sentence

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' John 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.

John 14:23 We will come to them and make our home with them.

Revelation 22:2, On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.



Too often we make it so hard for ourselves, thinking we have to achieve certain things to please God. Not so ! Jesus simply says love and obey me and my Father, and you will know the full 'triune God' (The Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit) present in your life. What an awesome deal; God Himself makes Himself known if we but follow Him.

Thus, knowing Him leads us to want to love and obey Him more. It is then that we realise, that we come to understand God's ways for us beyond humanities struggle for peace and justice. This is what we call salvation.

prayer-time

Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; As we give blessings for the recent rains finally falling on SA, let us remember all those in NSW . We pray for all threatened by floodwaters in city, coastal & rural areas, we ask for safety for the thousands of residents under evacuation orders, and For Gods love comfort and peace on those families who mourn the loss of loved ones. Lord we pray for your peace and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring, we pray for a ceasefire and for peace in all areas of conflict and war.

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 pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Madeleine, Ken, Lynn H, Jo, Fr Ted and family, Heather C, Neville B, Jo, Mary and family, Lisa W, Jan Y, Michael, Andrew, Colin C, Cathy M, Pratibha K, Jeanette B, Barbara A, Jo M,

Sue Mc, Griselda, Patrusca, Lorraine, Rachel, Steve, Ebony, Jean T, Nicole, David, Takoohi , Glenda, Margaret, Wendy, Gweneth, Jo and Ginne , Matthew, Ann , Kathryn and Keiran, Ruth, Jean N, Georgia, Pat V, Brenda, Joanie, Jan, Joy I, Jac B; Eileen, Ursula P, Tom A, Nicholas & Ben; Sue & Frank G, Emily and her family; Trish S, Christina and any others we wish to remember, either silently or aloud. ...

Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together.

Our Father

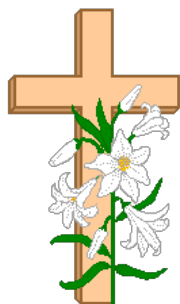
Prayer for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Great and loving God,
your will for us in your Son Jesus
is the peace which the world cannot give,
your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised.
Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear,
and keep us steadfast in love
and faithful to your word.
Grant this through Jesus Christ,
the firstborn from the dead,
who lives with you now and always
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and 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.***

***Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

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. Start a conversation: How have you been keeping, what about this changing weather or hope you are keeping well, I was as just thinking of you and decided to call. Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you should connect.

