



- Third Sunday of Easter 4<sup>th</sup> 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!  
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.**



### **Worth the Effort**

Have you ever felt like giving up, when everything you did seems to have come to a dead end? Have you wondered if all your efforts were worth it? The disciples had journeyed with Jesus and expected there to be significant change in society. Yes Jesus had risen from the dead but now what? He kept disappearing and telling them He is going back to his Father's house. There didn't seem to be a plan even though he told them to wait. In the end they go right back to where they started,... fishing.



**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.**

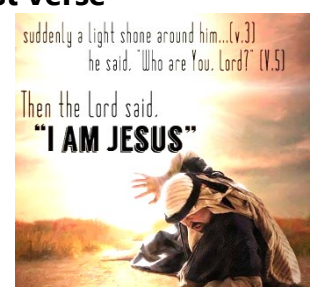
**Here, and throughout the world, We adore you O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen**

**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 9 beginning at the first verse**

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the High priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"



He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

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

### Psalm 30

1I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.  
2O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.  
3O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,  
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.  
4Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
5For his anger is but for a moment; his favour is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.  
6As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."  
7By your favour, O LORD, you had established me as a strong  
mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.  
8To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:  
9"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?  
Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?  
10Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!"  
11You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,  
12so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.  
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever



WEEPING MAY LAST THROUGH THE NIGHT,  
BUT JOY COMES WITH THE MORNING

*Psalm 30:5*

### A reading from the book of Revelation, Chapter 5 beginning at the 6th verse

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power for ever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshipped.

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

#### I SAW IN THE RIGHT HAND OF HIM

WHO SAT ON THE  
THRONE  
A SCROLL  
SEALED  
WITH 7  
SEALS.

Revelation 5:11



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**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Chapter 21 beginning at the first verse**  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Sentence**

**To the one seated on the throne and to the lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever.** Revelation 5:13

*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.*

### **You have turned my mourning into dancing**

**"Get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."**



Jesus will never leave us. He assures us that He has a plan, even when we think our plans have gone awry. He says, "wait and see." To Peter he said, feed my sheep. I bet Peter had trouble reasoning that out. The reality of what Jesus told Peter was to unfold over time. Jesus asks us, "do we love Him," love Him enough to let Him unfold his plans for us. Wait and see.

## prayer-time

God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks this day for the peace and security we enjoy, which was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in time of war. We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come. We pray for our world, remembering especially the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, Africa and the Middle East, Gaza, 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, Ken, Lynn H, Fr Ted and family, Heather C, Neville B, Jo, Mary and family, Lisa W, Jan Y, Michael, Andrew, Jo, Colin C, Cathy M, Pratibha K, Jeanette B, Barbara A, Jo M, Barbara W, 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, Colin, Georgia, Pat V, Brenda, Joanie, Jo, 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 Third Sunday of Easter***

Almighty God through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us everlasting life:

grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may,  
through the renewing power of your Spirit,  
rise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
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.***

***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. Wish them the blessings of Easter and share with them the Joy of the Resurrection, Let God guide you to the person or



persons with whom you should connect. Contact them. Start a conversation: How have you been keeping, what about this changing weather or hope you are keeping well, was just thinking of you and decided to call. ....