

Sunday 13th July 2025 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.

CAN WE LIVE FORGIVNESS



Have you ever thought what it is that identifies us a people who follow the Lord our God? The law, 'love your neighbour as yourself', was an integral part of the Israelites faith. So was the ministry of caring for the orphans, widows and foreigners. To do this was to

follow God's law and honouring Him. Jesus says to the lawyer, love the one your people recognise as your enemy. It is not enough to simply be nice to the likable people, so Jesus gives an example of a Jewish man who has been given compassion by his enemy. Then he says, "Go and do likewise."

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 Amos 7:7-17

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "See, I am setting "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the a plumb line in the midst of Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my

people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of

my people Israel..." Amos 7:8 Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land." And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' "Now therefore hear the word of the Lord. You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.' Therefore thus says the Lord: 'Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parcelled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land."

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 82 — A.P.B.A. Page 309

- God has stood up in the council of heaven: in the midst of the gods he gives judgement.
- ² 'How long will you judge unjustly: and favour the cause of the wicked?
- ³ 'Judge for the poor and fatherless: vindicate the afflicted and oppressed.

'Rescue the poor and needy: and save them from the hands of the wicked.

- 'They do not know, they do not understand, they walk about in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- ⁵ Therefore I say, "Though you are gods: and all of you children of the Most High,
- 6 "Nevertheless you shall die like a mortal: and fall like one of the princes."
- Arise, O God, and judge the earth: for you shall take all nations as your possession.



A reading from the Letter to the Colossians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace

from God our Father. In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. M ay you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power,



and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, *Chapter 10 beginning at verse* 25

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" ³⁰ Jesus



replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The

next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

Do to others as you would have them do to you. Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.

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.

I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel. May you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father

When people hurt us, our default response is to hold offence. In showing compassion the Samaritan man chose to ignore the Jewish abuses against his own people. His action is not simply forgiveness, but living forgiveness in real action. Jesus is expressing what living His way is all about; and living His way is the mark of a Christian. Like a plumbline that shows how correct a wall is, strait or perpendicular, our hearts need to submit to God's leading showing us the truth within our own motives. Israel lost her way, but a prayerful heart relieves the needs of others.

prayer-time Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world;. Lord we pray for your peace and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring, we remember especially those suffering loss in the recent floods in America, and those still being hurt in Gaza and Ukraine. We pray for a ceasefire, and for those in power to work with truth and humility to bring peace to 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. Heavenly Father, We thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Guide us with Your Spirit, Fill our hearts with Your love, and lead us to live according to Your will. Amen. We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Stephen, Anne, Madeleine, Ken, Lynn H, Jo, 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 Sunday

Eternal God, you have taught us through Christ that love is the fulfilment of the law: help us to love you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength, and our neighbour as ourself; through 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.

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 really cold 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 should connect.

