



Sunday 3rd August 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.**



Have you ever been to a family tea where everyone brings food and there is so much to choose from? Too often than not our eyes are bigger than our bellies and we end up eating so much that we regret it later. Jesus talks about a wealth we can have in God where we have learnt to seek Him first before all else. This is all about having the richness of His nature shining through our own personalities. Then, in this abundance, we have gifts to give that are priceless to another's soul.

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 book of Hosea, Chapter 11 beginning at Verse 1

11 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.² The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols.³ Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them.

⁴ I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.

⁵ They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me.⁶ The sword rages in their cities it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes.⁷ My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.

⁸ How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion



grows warm and tender.⁹ I will not execute my fierce anger I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. ¹⁰ They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. ¹¹ They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

[NRSV Hosea 11.1–11]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
for his loving mercy is for ever.
2 Let the Lord's redeemed say so:
whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
3 And gathered in from every land,
from the east and from the west:
from the north and from the south.
4 Some went astray in the wilderness and in the desert:
and found no path to an inhabited city;
5 They were hungry and thirsty:
and their heart fainted within them.
6 Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:
and he took them out of their trouble.
7 He led them by the right path:
till they came to an inhabited city.
8 *Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;*
9 *For he satisfies the thirsty:
and fills the hungry with good things*
43 Whoever is wise, let them observe these things:
and consider the loving-kindness of the Lord.



A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians Chapter 3 beginning at Verse 1



1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. 7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.
8 But now you must get rid of all such things--anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices 10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is

being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. 11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all! [NRSV Colossians 3.1–11]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke,
Chapter 12 beginning at verse 13 *Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.***



¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

[NRSV Luke 12.13–21]

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

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.

**Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you.
He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.**

Paul tells the Colossians, set your minds on things above and not earthly things. We can actually ask God to guide us by his attributes (thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven). When we focus on God, then the negative things Paul lists become inconsequential. As we take on His virtues our selfish desires begin to look foolish. Wealth, or position or power can all be gone tomorrow but when we have invited God to be with us throughout our life long journey we are more than abundantly equipped for now and eternally.

prayer-time Now let us continue to offer our prayers and thanksgiving. We pray for healing of the world; Lord we ask for peace for those who need peace, reconciliation for those who need reconciliation and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring, we pray for all those facing hunger and disease as famine threatens.



We pray for a ceasefire and peace in all areas of conflict and war and for those in power to work with truth and humility to bring peace to all.

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

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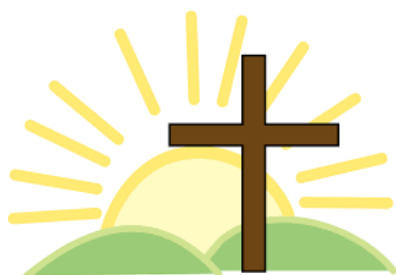
Prayer for Sunday

Living God, Judge of us all,
you have placed in our hands the wealth we call our own:
through your Spirit give us wisdom,
that our possessions may not be a curse, but a means of
blessing in our lives.

Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one 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.***

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.

