



**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November 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.**



The gospels were written 70 plus years after Jesus, and what Jesus predicted had come to pass. The temple was destroyed, the whole of Israel had come under a kind of



Roman martial law. Persecution was escalating from Jewish law keepers and the Romans. If we were living in such circumstances knowing friends have suffered and died, what would our faith and trust in God be like? The whole of the New Testament was written under these circumstances.

**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 Isaiah Chapter 65. 17-25**

I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord — and their



descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent — its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,  
says the Lord.

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

### For the Psalm — A Song of Isaiah —

'Behold God is my salvation:  
I will trust and will not be afraid;  
For the Lord God is my strength and my song:  
and has become my salvation.'  
With joy you will draw water: f  
rom the wells of salvation.  
On that day you will say:  
'Give thanks to the Lord call upon his name;  
'Make known his deeds among the nations:  
proclaim that his name is exalted.  
'Sing God's praises who has triumphed gloriously:  
let this be known in all the world.  
Shout and sing for joy you that dwell in Zion:  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel'!



### A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians Chapter 3.3-16

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command:



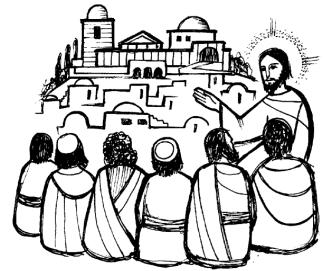
Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing anywork. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

### The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Chapter 21.5-19 Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about

to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."



Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues. and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### **Sentence**

May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways.

2 Thessalonians 3.16

*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.*

**By your endurance you will gain your souls.**

**We worked night and day, so that we might not burden you.**



The Thessalonians had come together to protect and support each other. Some misused this compassion for their own gain. We still live in a world, that whether by man or nature, the suffering has been and is still great. How do we respond to this with God's compassion and understanding? How do we help our neighbour or brother in the midst of their suffering so they can know the heart of Jesus?

### **prayer-time**

Now let us continue to offer our prayers and thanksgiving. Merciful Lord, we offer a prayer for your peace to be with all those who have suffered and continue to do so as a result of injustice, conflict and war. We pray for peace and hope to abound in all these places.

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 give thanks for the success of Cathys surgery and the ongoing success of Jo's treatment and continue to pray for freedom from pain and healing for them. We pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer, Margaret P, Trish S, Kay & Chris DeVries, Lynn H, Jean T, Sue and family, Stephen, Anne, Ken, Neville B, Lisa W, Jan Y, Michael, Andrew, Colin C, Pratibha K, Jeanette B, Barbara A, Jo M, Sue Mc, Griselda, Patrusca, Lorraine, Rachel, Steve,

Ebony, 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, Nicholas & Ben; Sue & Frank G, Emily and her family; Christina and any others we wish to remember, either silently or aloud.

**Let us say the Lord's Prayer Together.**

**Our Father .....**

**The Collect**

Lord God of all the ages,  
the One who is, who was, and who is to come:  
stir up within us a longing for your kingdom,  
keep our hearts steady in times of trial,  
and grant us patient endurance until the Sun of justice dawns.  
We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
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**



***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 think about other people you know, especially those on their own, in ill health, grieving or missing family and friends.  
You can do this in prayer or by contacting them and starting a conversation:  
How have you been keeping?, what about this changing weather? are you looking forward to summer? or, I was as just thinking of you and decided to call. ....  
Let God guide you to the person or persons with whom you need to connect

