



Sunday 30th 26th April 2026

SUNDAY 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 continue to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus let us define the occasion by decorating our table with a variety of things that represent new beginnings, new ways and growth. If you are celebrating this meal without people physically present, please be aware that **God Is With You**.



HEARING AND FOLLOWING. Have you answered the phone and knew instantly who was speaking. Jesus says we can be the same with him. The trick is we need to hang out with him enough to understand not only the sound of his voice but what it means. To know we are safe and that all he brings us is to benefit us in every way. When His virtues become our virtues we hear Him speak within our hearts. This is why we know we can follow Him. Some pretend they hear from Jesus, but all they bring is spiritual hurt.



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.

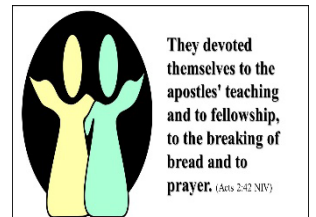
Here, and throughout the world, We adore you O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen

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 2:42-47 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42 NIV)

Psalm 23 —

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want;

² he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters;^[a]

³ he restores my soul.^[b]

He leads me in paths of righteousness^[c]

for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,^[d]

I fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff,

they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil,

my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely^[e] goodness and mercy^[f] shall follow me

all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.^[g]



A reading from the First Letter of Peter 2:1-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like

newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

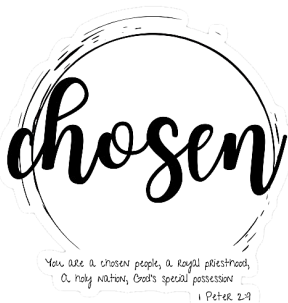
"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 10:1-10

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said: "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the



shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

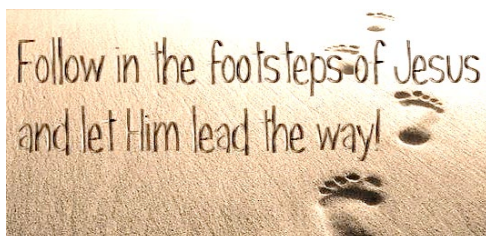


Sentence

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. John 10.11

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 came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.



To be a follower means we choose to belong to someone or some creed. Jesus said His followers know His voice and follow Him. It is like He is the gateway into His fold. This fold is a Spiritual reality of God's making. That feeling of belonging grows ever stronger the more we follow. So it is we live in an awesome Spiritual vortex constantly

building strength within our faith. The more we follow, the more we hear, the more we hear the more we know we belong to Jesus' amazing grace.

prayer-time

Now let us continue to offer our prayers for healing of the world; for those affected by natural disasters, for those evacuated from their homes, those cut off by floods and for emergency service workers who are assisting wherever needed, we pray for all who are suffering because of war and conflict; through no fault of their own they suffer hunger and loss of place and people.. We continue to pray for a peaceful resolution to the escalating conflict in the Middle East and for cease fires in Lebanon and Ukraine to begin and be maintained.

Remembering the Anzac's we recall those who, in the tragedy of war gave their lives for the freedom of all peoples, and pray for the safety of all those who continue to put their lives in danger so that we may enjoy freedom, justice, and mercy.

We continue to pray for those in our parish asking for prayer Rev Beck and family, Jo and family, Trish, Suzi, Nicole, Richard and family, Rachel, :Ann W, Joy I, David B, Cathy, Lorraine, Sue, Margaret P, 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, Rachel, Steve, Ebony, Nicole, David, Takooi, Glenda, Margaret, Wendy, Gweneth, Jo and Ginne, Matthew, Kathryn

and Keiran, Ruth, Jean N, Georgia, Pat V, Brenda, Joanie, Jan, 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



Prayer for fourth Sunday of Easter

God of all power,
you called from death our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep:
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,
to heal the injured,
and to feed one another with understanding;
through your Son, 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 the 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: Happy Easter!, 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.

