

Pull up a chair

Eating with Jesus in the Gospel of Luke

'What is Jesus doing eating and drinking with crooks and sinners?'

Luke 5.30 The Message

The gospels show us that Jesus spent a good deal of time eating and drinking and he didn't always keep the most respectable company! In our preaching series this term we are exploring the 'hospitality of God'.

The dictionary defines hospitality as: being friendly and welcoming to guests and visitors. In Greek the word literally means: the love of a guest. But a guest in the Bible has a far wider meaning than it does in our country where typically we invite family or friends to be our guests. Biblical hospitality expects us to invite strangers and aliens into our homes. Aliens are anyone alienated from society - those who don't have the support and protection of loved ones: widows; orphans; refugees; the poor.

In Biblical times **to share food is to share life**. Home by home, table by table Jesus and his first followers **shared life**, spreading out God's welcome and growing the Kingdom one guest at a time. At Easter, as we remember the Cross and the empty tomb we will celebrate Jesus' sharing of His very life to forgive, feed and sustain each one of us.

I hope, and pray, that this series will encourage you. At God's table there is space for you. Whoever you are, wherever you are from Jesus says: 'Come right on in. Pull up a chair.'

I hope that Jesus will challenge us too. As we gather around His family table He invite us to set up tables of our own where we can be His co-hosts and make space for others with God. I am excited to think about where that might lead us. Who knows we may even find we entertain angels unknowingly during these next four months. (Hebrew 13.2).

May we willingly allow Jesus to be our guest and our host.

With every blessing

Kate

Vicar, St Andrew's Church

PULL UP A CHAIR - EATING WITH JESUS IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

12 January 9.45/11.15 HC	Let's party!
7pm Time to Pray	Luke 5:27-39
whole church prayer meeting	
19 January 9.45 HC/11.15 HC	Simon's house
	Luke 7:33-50
26 January 9.45/11.15 HC	Alfresco dining
VISION SUNDAY	Luke 9:10-17
2 February 9.45/11.15 HC	Peace to this house
PARTNERSHIP SUNDAY	Luke 10:1-20
9 February 9.45/11.15 HC	Seating plan
7pm Time to Pray	Luke 14:1-14
whole church prayer meeting	
9 February 3-5pm	In Andy's Café -
BOARD GAMES + TEA & CAKE	everyone welcome.
16 February 9.45 HC/11.15 HC	Invites out
Family Holy Communion	Luke 14:15-24
18 February 1pm	'Adventures on a bike'
LUNCH SOCIAL	with John Brooks
20 February 3pm TBC	Bring the whole family
FAMILY FILM	for film & refreshments
23 February 9.45/11.15 HC	Heavenly parties
	Luke 15:1-10
26 February 11.15 am	Holy Communion with
ASH WEDNESDAY HC	Ashing
1 March 9.45/11.15 HC	Home-coming party
Visit from Rev Phil Simpson, Across, - mission partners	Luke 15:11-30
1 March 2.30pm	Meet at Heather Farm,
FAMILY DOG WALK	Horsell
8 March 9.45/11.15 HC	From the 'top' table
7pm Time to Pray	Luke 16:19-31
whole church prayer meeting	

14 March 9am-1pm Spring Clean & DIY MORNING	With bacon butties! Many hands make light work!
15 March 9.45 HC/11.15 HC	'Tea at yours?'
	Luke 19:1-10
22 March 9.45 AA/11.15 HC	Lost & Found
MOTHERING SUNDAY	
MOTHERING SUNDAY	Luke 2:41-52
28 March 6pm TBC	An evening with
	Rachel Smith
29 March 9.45/11.15 HC	The Kingdom-table
Visit from Rachel Smith - mission partner	Luke 22:14-30
5 April 9.45 AA/11.15 HC	Blessed is the King
PALM SUNDAY	Luke 19:28-48
9 April 7pm	Meal & Passion Film
MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER	Luke 22: 1-27
10 April GOOD FRIDAY	
10am All Age	Family Service
	Luke 23:26-55
2-3pm	Reflective Service
	Various
12 April from 9.15am	Start your Easter cele-
EASTER BREAKFAST	brations with delicious
	family breakfast
12 April 10am AA HC	He has Risen!
EASTER SUNDAY	Luke 24:1-12
CELEBRATION	
19 April 9.45 /11.15 HC	Table @ Emmaus
7pm Time to Pray	Luke 24:13-35
whole church prayer meeting	
26 April 10am HC	Food. For all Nations.
Followed by the Church AGM (APCM)	Luke: 24:36-49