

OCTOBER 12, 2014
18TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

God, our King, invites
all to the feast.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast
Monday	Luke 14:15-24	Parable of the great banquet
Tuesday	Daniel 5:1-31	The banquet of Belshazzar
Wednesday	Esther 5:1-8, 7:1-10	Esther hosts a banquet
Thursday	Isaiah 25:1-8	The Lord will prepare a feast
Friday	Revelation 19:5-10	The wedding feast of the Lamb
Saturday	Psalms 36:5-10	Feasting in the Lord's house
Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
Philippians 4:4 (NIV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, thank you for inviting us to the feast of heaven. Help us to respond with a spirit of welcome and generosity to others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord God, as we enjoy this earthly feast, prepare us for the feast of heaven. Thank you for all you give and all you do. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with the peace of Jesus. May the Lord watch over your heart and your mind and keep you safe. Amen. (Philippians 4:7)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Can you remember a party you enjoyed attending? What made it special for you?
- Jesus told a parable about a wedding banquet (read Matthew 22:1-10). Who ended up receiving invitations and attending?
- Jesus said that God's kingdom is like a banquet. What is your response to being invited? How are you expressing your "yes" or "no" response by the way you live?

DEVOTIONS

In your home devotional times this week, read Psalm 23 together. Have each household member make a sheep figure using cardboard, glue, cotton, buttons (for eyes) and markers. Using string or thread, attach a sign to each "sheep" with the words, "*(Name) is Jesus' little lamb.*" Hang your "sheep" on your bedroom doors.

SERVICE

World Food Day is celebrated each year on October 16th. This is the day that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations was founded in 1945. How can your household help those who are hungry and need food? Check your local churches to see if there is a food pantry to which you can contribute food or money.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Isaiah 25 describes a special feast that God is preparing for his people (read Isaiah 25:6). Plan a special meal to show your appreciation to significant people in your lives (e.g. school teachers, church staff, ministry volunteers, mentors). Work together to organize invitations and prepare the meal. Make this an annual event on your household calendar.



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