



# Sunday, January 22, 2012

## Reflections

[The secret of Starbucks' success is not in its coffee, but] the pull of the coffeehouse as a *place*.... It wasn't a coffee company, but a third place bringing people together through the social glue of coffee.

*Taylor Clark, Starbucked: A Double Tall Tale of Caffeine, Commerce, and Culture*

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of table fellowship for the cultures of the Mediterranean basin in the first century of our era. Mealtimes were far more than occasions for individuals to consume nourishment. Being welcomed at a table for the purpose of eating food with another person had become a ceremony richly symbolic of friendship, intimacy and unity.

*S. Scott Bartchy, "Table Fellowship"*

In Luke's Gospel Jesus got himself killed for the way he ate.

*Robert J. Karris, Eating Your Way through Luke's Gospel*

Grace is the incomprehensible fact that God is well pleased with a man, and that a man can rejoice in God. Only when grace is recognized to be incomprehensible is it grace.... Grace is the gift of Christ, who exposes the gulf which separates God and man, and, by exposing it, bridges it.

*Karl Barth, Church Dogmatics*

Often we maintain significant boundaries when offering help to persons in need. Many churches prepare and serve meals to hungry neighbors, but few church members find it easy to sit and eat with those who need the meal. When people are very different from ourselves, we often find it more comfortable to cook and clean for them than to share in a meal and conversation. We are familiar with roles as helpers but are less certain about being equals eating together. Many of us struggle with simply being present with people in need; our helping roles give definition to the relationship but they also keep it decidedly hierarchical.

*Christine D. Pohl, Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*

Cover art by Carolyn Sams, a member of our community

# God Calls Us to Worship

## Call to Worship – 1 Chronicles 16:8-10

*Leader:* Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim His greatness.  
Let the whole world know what He has done.  
Sing to Him; yes, sing His praises.  
Tell everyone about His wonderful deeds.

*All:* Exult in His holy name;  
Rejoice, you who worship the LORD.

## Prayer of Repentance – Luke 18:10-14 – *Joe White*

<sup>10</sup>“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

## Serving at Crossroads – *Alex Scott, Elisabeth Kines*

### Offerings of the People

The offering is a way for Christians to support the mission and ministry of the church. Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources—time, talents, possessions—as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God’s grace.

If you are a guest we are glad you are here today. Please feel no obligation to give.

# God Speaks to Us

## Scripture

**Luke 5:29** And Levi made Him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup>And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at His disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

**Luke 7:34** The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, “Look at Him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!”

**Luke 7:36** One of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him, and He went into the Pharisee’s house and took His place at the table. <sup>37</sup>And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that He was reclining at table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, <sup>38</sup>and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed His feet and anointed them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup>Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, He would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.” <sup>40</sup>And Jesus answering said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”

**Luke 15:1** Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup>So He told them this parable.

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## Sermon

*A Meal with Jesus*  
Rankin Wilbourne

# God Sends Us Out

## **Lord's Supper** (9:00 a.m. only)

### **Why do we come forward together?**

Because we are all members of one body in Jesus Christ. In coming forward for the Supper together, we see and participate in the visible display of this truth.

### **Can someone pray for me?**

Yes! People who desire to pray with and for you will be standing in the front of the auditorium after the service. All prayer requests will remain confidential. Also, if you would like to learn more about Jesus, they're available to talk with you.

### **What if I'm not a Christian?**

We are glad you're here. Consider using this time to reflect on your experience today. If you're looking for God, He is near. Take some time to pray to Him. Use your own words or one of the prayers printed below.

*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.* Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who You are. Give me an understanding of You that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life You promise.

*Prayer for Belief.* Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through You I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Thank You for paying my debt on the cross and offering me complete forgiveness. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior and Lord.

## **God Sends Us Out** – Rankin Wilbourne

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**Want prayer?** Our prayer team is available to pray with you after the service at the front of the auditorium. All requests are kept confidential.

**Welcome Center.** If you would like more information about our church, please visit the Welcome Center in the refreshments area.

**Ministry Contacts.** If you have a question or a need, we are here to serve you. To contact a pastor, discuss financial or mercy needs, find a community group, and for other information, please visit:  
[www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries](http://www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries)



## Our Vision

Changed Lives by God's Power  
Renewing Los Angeles for Christ's Fame

## Our Values

**Gospel.** The gospel is the good news of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ: it is expansive and animates everything we do.

**Community.** The gospel gives birth to a new community of sincere humility, indiscriminate love, and deep concern for both spiritual and material needs.

**Discipleship.** We desire to see lives changed by the gospel of grace so that the people of God, grounded in the Word of God, are equipped for the ministry of God.

**Mission.** The gospel defines our identity and our mission as one: we are witnesses to the gospel of God, declaring with our words and our lives that Jesus is Lord.

## Sunday Worship

*Westside:* 9:00 am, 11:00 am

John Adams Middle School  
2425 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90405

*Downtown:* 5:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Cathedral  
514 W Adams Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

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