

# the table is set

BIBLE SUNDAY 2018

## **Bible Reading: Isaiah 55.1-11 (NIVUK)**

### **Invitation to the Thirsty**

<sup>1</sup> 'Come, all you who are thirsty,  
come to the waters;  
and you who have no money,  
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without cost.

<sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not bread,  
and your labour on what does not satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,  
and you will delight in the richest of fare.

<sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me;  
listen, that you may live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,  
my faithful love promised to David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,  
a ruler and commander of the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> Surely you will summon nations you know not,  
and nations you do not know will come running to you,  
because of the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has endowed you with splendour.'

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call on him while he is near.

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.  
Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

<sup>8</sup> 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,'  
declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> 'As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> As the rain and the snow  
come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it  
without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so is my word that goes out from my mouth:  
it will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.'