Light a candle

Sign of the cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son \oplus and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sing

"The Perfect Wisdom of Our God" – Stuart Townend <u>https://youtu.be/z-22E3dWPUk</u> "By Faith" – Keith and Kristyn Getty <u>https://youtu.be/fXB8ihepUpE</u> "He Reigns" – Newsboys <u>https://youtu.be/aKTqwBetI1I</u> "Days of Elijah" – Robin Mark <u>https://youtu.be/ca9LnzJnpjQ</u> "Every Praise" – Hezekiah Walker <u>https://youtu.be/pMwTiy-nedY</u>

God's Word

Read: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Mary Magdalene is remembered by Christians for her faithfulness and dedication to the Lord. Little is actually known about Mary Magdalene. She is thought to have come from the fishing village of Magdala. Interestingly, the Hebrew word, *Migdal*, refers to a castle or a tower or a raised bed of flowers. In the Bible we read that Jesus referred to his close disciples with nicknames. Perhaps calling Mary "Magdalene" was a word play with different meanings. Castles and towers are strong. Long ago castles were used for protection and to keep people together. Watchtowers were used in vineyards and fields to guard the harvest, to protect people, and to see danger and things in the distance. Perhaps Jesus saw Mary as having far-sightedness and wisdom, and as a tower of refuge and strength among the disciples. Mary Magdalene is called "the apostle to the apostles" by some Christians. The word apostle means "messenger" or "person who is sent." Mary was sent by Jesus to the other apostles to proclaim the empty tomb and his resurrection. This good news gave renewed hope and strength to them. Mary had great courage. Courage is founded on love, and love comes from God. Mary was strong enough to remain with Jesus through everything, including the tumult and danger in Jerusalem. Let us be strong and wise like Mary Magdalene and stay close to Jesus through everything that is happening in our lives today.





Activity (optional)

You may like to make some homemade bread. There are easy recipes on the internet. You might like to make damper or scones instead.

E.g. https://www.recipetineats.com/easy-yeast-bread-recipe-no-knead/

Music

Sing/Listen to music. Ideas:

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" – Chris Rice <u>https://youtu.be/0k1WhFtVp0o</u> "Kyrie Eleison" – Mr Mister <u>https://youtu.be/belrNpqqA2g</u>

"40" – U2 (Psalm 40) <u>https://youtu.be/3z_LBNF_-xI</u>

"Grace" – U2 <u>https://youtu.be/8Zk26KXSH3g</u>

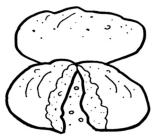
"Amazing Grace/Where the Streets have no Name" – U2 and Soweto Gospel Choir <u>https://youtu.be/MGAdG6-xit4</u> *The streets have no name in heaven. "Amazing Grace" – Soweto Gospel Choir <u>https://youtu.be/ZoJz2SANTyo</u>

Bible verse

Isaiah 25:1-9

Catechism

The Lord's Prayer – Fourth Prayer: Give us today our daily bread.



Prayer

Our Father,

We thank you for providing everything needed for the whole world. You give us so many good things: food, water, clothing, security, purpose and relationships. Help us to be truly thankful for everything you give us. We pray that you would open our eyes to see the needs of our neighbour, fill our hearts with love and compassion, and help us to respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. Amen.