Tuesday 21st April

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Psalm 23: 5

It seems just a little bit absurd to sit down for a meal in the presence of enemies! A celebration meal after the battle - surely that would be better? It just doesn’t make good sense to sit and eat when your enemies are surrounding you, intent on squashing you - it would make you a sitting target! But i*n the midst* of trouble God invites us to sit and eat with Him. It strikes me that there is good spiritual food to be had in difficult times. It both forms character within us, and often reveals character too. It is in times of difficulty, so often, that we press into God and seek Him. Today, the Lord has spread a table before you! But to sit and eat takes enormous trust. By doing so we are saying ‘God, I trust you to take care of these ‘ere enemies. I am going to sit tight in the knowledge that you’ve got this’. The result of this trust and obedience is that, even in trouble we can know the anointing oil of the Holy Spirit as we experience the Presence and provision of our bountiful God! As someone once said: ‘optimist: glass half full; pessimist: glass half empty; Psalmist: glass overflows!

*Lord we praise you that the battle belongs to you. We thank you that you are the God who spreads a table before us and invites us to sit and eat with you. Help us to accept your invitation today - to open the door of our lives to you. We ask that we would experience your anointing presence and that you would shape us into the likeness of Jesus.*

*We pray today for your blessing and protection on health workers caring for the sick. We ask that you would be their provider, their comforter and sustainer and that you would give them wisdom and supernatural insight into the best treatment for each patient. We thank you for the 78 patients in Dorset who have been discharged from hospitals.* Amen

