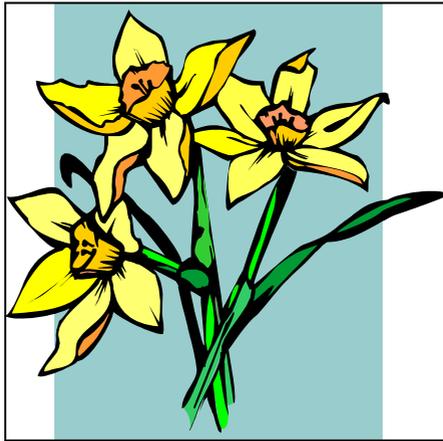


All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday



We gather

Welcome

Hymn

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All When God's people pray for help
help us today.

All When God's people pray for help, God listens
hear us today.

All When God's people pray for help, God listens and rescues
them
rescue us today.

All When God's people pray for help, God listens and rescues
them from their troubles
Amen!

We say sorry

In all our services we take time to think about things that have gone wrong, even on a happy day like this. Mothering Sunday is not happy for everyone: some people here might not have a mother anymore, some might be unable to be mothers, some may have lost a child through death, or lost contact with a child for any number of reasons. Others may have had an unhappy childhood and have painful memories. So as part of saying sorry we are going to think of these situations. After the words have been said, we will listen to some music, during which please come up, pick up a stone and place it in front of the altar where we will build a kind of cairn, which is a special pile of stones to help remember things.

We pray for those who might be sad because they have no children.

All Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We are sad for those who have no mother.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We are sad because we have been hurt by others.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We are sad for all the hurts in God's world.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We come forward to build the cairn

We are sorry because we have hurt other people.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We are sorry that we have ignored the needs of the world.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We are sorry that we have forgotten God's great love for us.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Collect for Mothering Sunday

Loving God, you sent your Son to be part of a human family.
Strengthen us as we share family life together, in our homes
and in our church, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

We listen

Reading

All For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn

Gospel Reading

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

We listen to the Gospel reading

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

We respond

Today we are specially thinking about being part of a family,
and particularly of how God is a mother to us.
Let's share together in these words:

All **We believe in God the Father and mother,
from whom every family
in heaven and earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Prayers

Loving God, we give thanks for the great love you have for each of us. We pray that you will help each of us pass that love on to the next generation. Lord, hear our prayer
All **please.**

Loving God, we give thanks for all mothers and for everything they do, or once did for us, and for all that they mean to us today. We also pray for those who are without family today, for whatever reason, and ask that you would help them to know your love is always close. Lord, hear our prayer
All **please.**

Loving God, we thank you for family life. We pray for those who are waiting for a new baby, and beginning family life. We pray especially for those who are trying to make home and family in difficult circumstances, especially in places of war and struggle. Lord, hear our prayer
All **please.**

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the church. We pray for those who welcome others, who encourage and bless. Inspire us in our worship, and give us a new vision to show your love to those around us. Lord, hear our prayer
All **please.**

Loving God, thank you for everybody who looks after other people. Help us to know that you are always with each one of us. Lord, hear our prayer
All **please.**

The Peace

God makes peace within us - let us claim it.
God makes peace between us - let us share it.
The peace of the Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hymn

We celebrate

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.
You give us happy times
and things to celebrate.
In these we taste your kingdom.
a feast for all your children.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord**
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.

He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered into your loving arms.

And now with the Blessed Virgin Mary
and all your saints,
we give you glory, through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

All **Amen**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed by your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

If you are not accustomed to receiving Holy Communion you are very welcome to come forward for a blessing. We will sing another hymn during Communion.

Hymn

We go out

Blessing of flowers

Loving God, who is both our father and our mother,
we thank you for all the love we have known
in our homes, among our friends, with God's people.
Bless these flowers and, as we share them,
may they remind us to be people of thanks,
people of love, and people of joy in Jesus' name.

All **Amen**

Blessing

May God who made the whole earth, bless us.
May God who draws us all together, bless us.
May God who loves each one of us, bless us.
And the blessing of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you, and all whom you love,
this day and always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stay and share refreshments after the service.

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