

Café worship 9.30am 19 Mar 2023: Mothering Sunday

Welcome

Opening Song: As we are gathered

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, we rejoice with thanks for all those who have mothered us in our lives.

In a world that is broken and in need of your motherly love, please use us to aid others as you do us in providing comfort, nurture, protection and support.

We ask that you grow us as carers to those who need us, so that we might celebrate your goodness together even through our own brokenness. **Amen.**

Song: My Jesus, my saviour

We say sorry to God

God our Father, as Pharaoh's daughter noticed the needs of a small child alone in the reeds, so help us to notice those areas of our own lives needing care and attention. Therefore, let us confess our sins, seeking the embrace of God's forgiveness and peace.

We have failed to nurture the needy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We have failed to make space in our lives for the broken-hearted.

Christ, have mercy.

We struggle to forgive those who have withheld their love from us.

Lord, have mercy.

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, **come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Song: To the river

Bible Reading (with drama!)

Exodus 2:1-10;

At the end: This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

Our Reflections

Song: River, wash over me

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church. **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The prayers, concluding with The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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.

Distribution of flowers, with thanks for the life of Eve Hodder

Notices and Banns

Sending out prayer

God of Grace and compassion, your son, Jesus Christ was part of a family in Nazareth. He knew the love of a mother and of a father and by dying on the cross brought us all together as new family. Help us in the Christian Journey to strive for that day when the whole of humanity is one family together in your church. **Amen.**

Closing Song: Our God is a great big God