

Liturgy for Mothering Sunday 30th March 2025

The Gathering

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Hymns

AS WE ARE GATHERED Jesus is here;
One with each other, Jesus is here.
Joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood,
Part of the body, the church of God.
As we are gathered Jesus is here,
One with each other, Jesus is here.

(sung as three part round)

FATHER, WE ADORE YOU,

Lay our lives before You,

How we love You.

Jesus, we adore You ... (etc.)

Spirit, we adore You ... (etc.)

We pray for our young people as they leave for Flames

Gathering 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

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 2.1-10

At the end; This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Introduction to confession

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. So let us confess our sins, seeking the embrace of God's forgiveness and peace.

Space for reflection

Prayer of Penitence

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.

Absolution

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**

Collect

**God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Hymn

IT IS A THING MOST WONDERFUL,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heaven
And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true;
He came to this poor world below,

And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died,
Only because He loved us so.

I cannot tell how He could love
A child so weak and full of sin;
His love must be most wonderful,
If He could die my love to win.

It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for Him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love Thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love Thee more and more,
Until I see Thee as Thou art.

New Testament reading

Colossians 3:12-17

At the end; This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Bound together with love

Hymn

BIND US TOGETHER, Lord,

Bind us together

With cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord,

Bind us together,

Bind us together with love.

There is only one God,
There is only one King;
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing:

Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son;
Born with the right to be clean,
For Jesus the victory has won.

You are the family of God,
You are the promise divine;
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine.

Response action/activity

Intercessions

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession (Beginning with the Lord's Prayer)

Hymn

BEAUTY FOR BROKENNESS,

Hope for despair,

Lord, in Your suffering world

This is our prayer:

Bread for the children,

Justice, joy, peace;

Sunrise to sunset,

Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives,

Cures for their ills,

Work for the craftsman,

Trade for their skills;
Land for the dispossessed,
Rights for the weak,
Voices to plead the cause
Of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
Friend of the weak,
Give us compassion we pray:
Melt our cold hearts,
Let tears fall like rain;
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars,
Havens from fear,
Cities for sanctuary,
Freedoms to share;
Peace to the killing-fields,
Scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
His cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth,
Oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned—
Our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
Carelessness, greed;
Make us content with
The things that we need.

Lighten our darkness,
Breathe on this flame
Until Your justice
Burns brightly again;
Until the nations

Learn of Your ways,
Seek Your salvation
And bring You their praise.

Our young people join us for distribution of flowers

Notices

Hymn

DOWN THE MOUNTAIN THE RIVER FLOWS,

And it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields,
The river is rushing and the river is here.

*The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer;
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.*

The river God is teeming with life,
And all who touch it can be revived.
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord.

Up to the mountain we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord.
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son.

**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.**

Blessing

May the Lord who brought us all to birth, strengthen us for daily life.

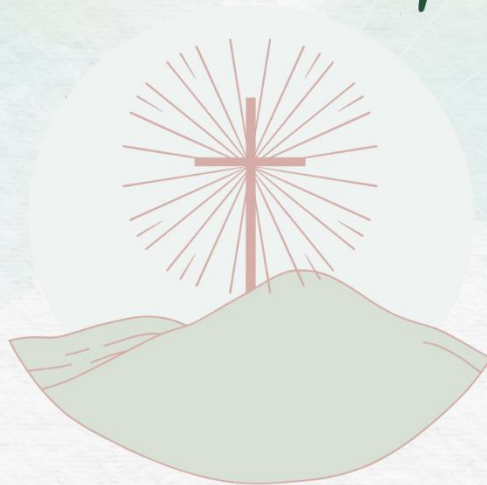
May the Lord who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day.

May the Lord whose steadfast love is for all, send us out to live and work for others.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

Amen

GOOD FRIDAY Workshops



Friday 18th April
10.30am-12pm

Easter Garden, Easter Crafts, Hot
Cross Buns & Refreshments.

All Welcome

