



MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

Gathering Together

In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen**

Words of welcome are said.

We have come together today to give thanks to God for all those people who have nurtured us, and to offer ourselves to nurture others, with God's help.

We have also come to acknowledge the pain of a hurting world, where we have failed to nurture each other. We come to receive again from the God of compassion and mercy

Let us pray together..

All **Loving, compassionate Father, as a mother hen gathers her chicks, so you draw the whole human family to yourself. Bring us together now, Lord, that we may today and forever be united under your wing in all our sorrows and joys. Amen**

We say sorry to God

Holy God, parent of us all, we know we don't always treat each other as you want us to. Lord God, forgive us,

All And help us to be more loving

There are times when we insist on getting our own way, despite what others feel. Lord God, forgive us,

All And help us to be more loving

Sometimes we increase the tension when we ought to be seeking to make peace. Lord God, forgive us,

All And help us to be more loving

Often we say things which hurt each other. Lord God, forgive us,

All And help us to be more loving

For our jealousy, our lack of respect, and times when we won't listen to those we live with, Lord God, forgive us,

All And help us to be more loving

We hear words that tell us we are loved and forgiven by God.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Prayer for the Day

Let us pray

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.

All **Amen.**

Listening to God's Word

Readings from the Bible

The First Reading

1 Samuel 1.20–28

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.'

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to

him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.'

She left him there for the LORD.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord

John 19.25–27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

We recall the faith of the church worldwide

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on 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.**

cf. Ephesians 3

Praying for the Church and the World

Rev'd. James leads the prayers

Celebrating with Bread & Wine

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

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

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

It is always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator,
loving and faithful,
holy and strong.
You made us
and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.
You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit
to bring new life to the world,

and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels
to celebrate and sing:

**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.**

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died.

All **Jesus Christ has died.**

Jesus Christ is risen.

All **Jesus Christ is risen.**

Jesus Christ will come again.

All **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Prayer Jesus taught us

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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.**

The bread is broken

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.**

Draw near with faith.

Saying thank you after communion

Silence is kept.

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of
eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **God of truth,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:**

**strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you
and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Going out into God's World

The Blessing

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all
peoples;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Rest and remain with you this day and always

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

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