



I have loved you with an everlasting love

I have drawn you with loving kindness Jer 31

Mothering Sunday Family Service

Sunday
14 March 2010

Mothering Sunday is a popular day when Christians choose to use the occasion to think about all things which concern motherhood. We give thanks for the Church as Mother, the Virgin Mary as the mother of Jesus, we remember that God cares for us like a mother and last but not least we give thanks for our own mothers. Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Lent and it is a time of special thanksgiving. It is a day in Lent when flowers abound in all churches and when people are encouraged to share a time of refreshment in the penitential season.

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
All **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.
All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.**

Hymn

Our Father God in heaven
On whom our world depends,
To you let praise be given
For families and friends;
For parents, sisters, brothers,
A home where love belongs,
But on this day for mothers
We bring our thankful songs.

What wealth of God's bestowing
For all the world to share!
What strength of heart outgoing
To children everywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
A mother's path must trace,
And earth's unknown tomorrows
Are held in her embrace.

How well we know the story
That tells of Jesus' birth,
The Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
A helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
who finds in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.

Our Father God in heaven,
To you we lift our prayer,
That every child be given
Such tenderness and care,
Where life is all for others,
Where love your love displays:
For God's good gift of mothers
Let earth unite in praise!

Tune St Theodulph

Prayers of Penitence

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

All **Loving God, we have sinned against you;
in what we have thought, said and done.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and turn away from what is wrong.
Forgive us for the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
This is his gracious word:
'Your sins are forgiven.'
Amen. Thanks be to God

Offering



*Thank you to those who have presented their gifts
by standing order, through the bank. If you are a
tax payer please use Gift Aid envelopes to enable
us to reclaim tax. All stand as the Offering is
brought forward.*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Hymn

To God be the glory 708

To God be the glory! Great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son;
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son:
And give Him the glory! Great things He hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.



The Ministry of The Word

Collect Prayer

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.

Bible Readings

These may be followed on Partnership News

After each reading the reader will say

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn

(Tune Crimond)

We gladly celebrate and praise,
The gift so great and good,
Through which God's kindness is made known:
The gift of motherhood.

We sing of Mary's mother-love:
For she, of all on earth,
Received the privilege to bear
And bring God's Son to birth.

We pray that God's own mother-love
Will hold in gentleness,
All children who have never known
A mother's tenderness.

For mothers, who with broken hearts,
Are faced with grief and loss,
We pray the Son of God will give
Deep comfort from his cross.

We trust the mother-love of God,
Who bears, in Mary's boy,
Our pain and sorrow, to secure
Our everlasting joy.

Sermon

The Reverend Charles Royden

Hymn

Now thank we all our God 486

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God
whom earth and heaven adore
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Prayers

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All: **Our Father,**
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen

Prayer and Distribution Of Flowers

O God bless these flowers, bless us and bless our mothers.
May the flowers remind us how much our mothers have done
for us; may they remind our mothers that we love them; and
may they remind us all that God cares for each one of us, be-
cause we are all his children. **Amen.**

Hymn

How great thou art 506

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!
In all the world there is no-one like thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art.*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, - I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died, to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart,
then shall I bow in humble adoration,

The Blessing

May the Lord who brought us to birth by his Spirit,
strengthen us for the Christian life.

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

May the Lord whose steadfast love is constant as a mother's care,
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.**

Minister: Go in peace to Love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please do remain after the service for coffee