



Mothering Sunday Family Service

With baptism of Chloe Allen

Welcome

A Verse from Scripture

This is the day that the Lord had made.
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

For the beauty of the earth 333

Thanksgiving

We thank God for giving us other people to be part of our lives:
For parents, and the love which brought us to birth: we praise you,
O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

For mothers who have cherished and nurtured us: we praise you,
O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

For fathers who have loved and supported us: we praise you,
O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

For brothers and sisters with whom we have shared our home:
we praise you, O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

For children, entrusted to our care as parents: we praise you,
O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

For other relatives and friends who have been with us in our hopes
and joys, we praise you, O Lord, **and bring you thanks today.**

**Help us to live as those who belong to one another and to you,
now and always. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

Let us confess our sins

**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.**

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

The Offering

**Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives to be
used in your service through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Hymn

Sing Hosanna 492

Baptism

Hymn

Love Divine 267

Collect Prayer and Bible Readings

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth: strengthen us each day,
that in joy and sorrow we may know your presence; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1. Old Testament Isaiah 43: 1-7, **2.** New Testament Colossians 3:
12-17, **3.** Gospel Reading Gospel John 3: 14-21

Talk

Mr Richard Ledger

Sketch

(The Prodigal Daughter)

Hymn

Father in heaven (In Partnership News)

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God who loves us and wants us to love each other.

This is our God.

We believe in Jesus, who cared about children and held them in his arms. He wanted a world where everyone could live together in peace.

This is Jesus Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who keeps working with us until everything is good and true.

This is the Holy Spirit.

We can be the Church which reminds people of God because we love each other.

This we believe.

*Prepared by children for the World Council of Churches
Assembly in Canberra, 1991.*

Prayers

The following responses may be used

Leader Lord in your mercy:

All hear our prayer.

ending with

Leader Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Blessing of Flowers

O God, bless these flowers, bless us and bless our mothers. May the flowers remind us of how much our mothers have done for us; may they remind our mothers how much we love them; and may they remind us all that God cares for us better than any mother ever could. Amen

Distribution of Flowers

Hymn

Now thank we all our God 566

The Blessing

**All We go into the world, to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love, and to reflect God's glory.**

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All In the name of Christ. Amen

Thank you to all those who have helped prepare our churches or helped in our worship this morning.

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.