



# **Mothering Sunday Family Service at Putnoe Heights Church**

**Sunday 21 March 2004**

## **Opening Scripture**

As a mother comforts a child so will I comfort you, says the Lord.  
*Isaiah 66.13*

## **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**

Lord the light of your love is shining 445 Mission Praise

## **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.

*(Please be seated)*

*All*     **Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore to us the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse *you* from *your* sins,  
and restore *you* in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*     **Amen.**

*All*     Blessed is the Lord,  
**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

*All*     Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
**and in our song will we praise our God.  
Blessed be God for ever.**

### **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.**

### **A Special Contribution To Our Service**

By the children of our Hazeldene Heights Pre-school

## Hymn

Rejoice, rejoice, 572 Mission Praise

### Thanksgiving Prayer

We thank God for giving us others to share in 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 and their 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 and times of sadness:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For all who first spoke to us of Jesus, and have drawn us  
into the family of our Father in heaven:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**  
**Help us to live**  
**as those who belong to one another,**  
**and to you, our Father, now and always. Amen.**



## The Ministry of The Word

### Collect Prayer

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### Bible Readings

*These may be followed on the Bible Notes Sheet.*

Joshua Chapter 5:9-12 2 Corinthians Chapter 5:16-21

Luke Chapter 15:1-3 & 11b-32

*After each reading the reader will say*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

### Hymn

Blessed Assurance 59 Mission Praise

### Sermon

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman

### Hymn

Amazing Grace 31 Mission Praise

## 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, because we are all his children  
**Amen.**

### **Hymn**

To God be the glory 559 Mission Praise

*Thank you to all of those who have  
prepared our church for worship  
especially for the beautiful flowers*

*Please do remain after the service for coffee*

## The Blessing

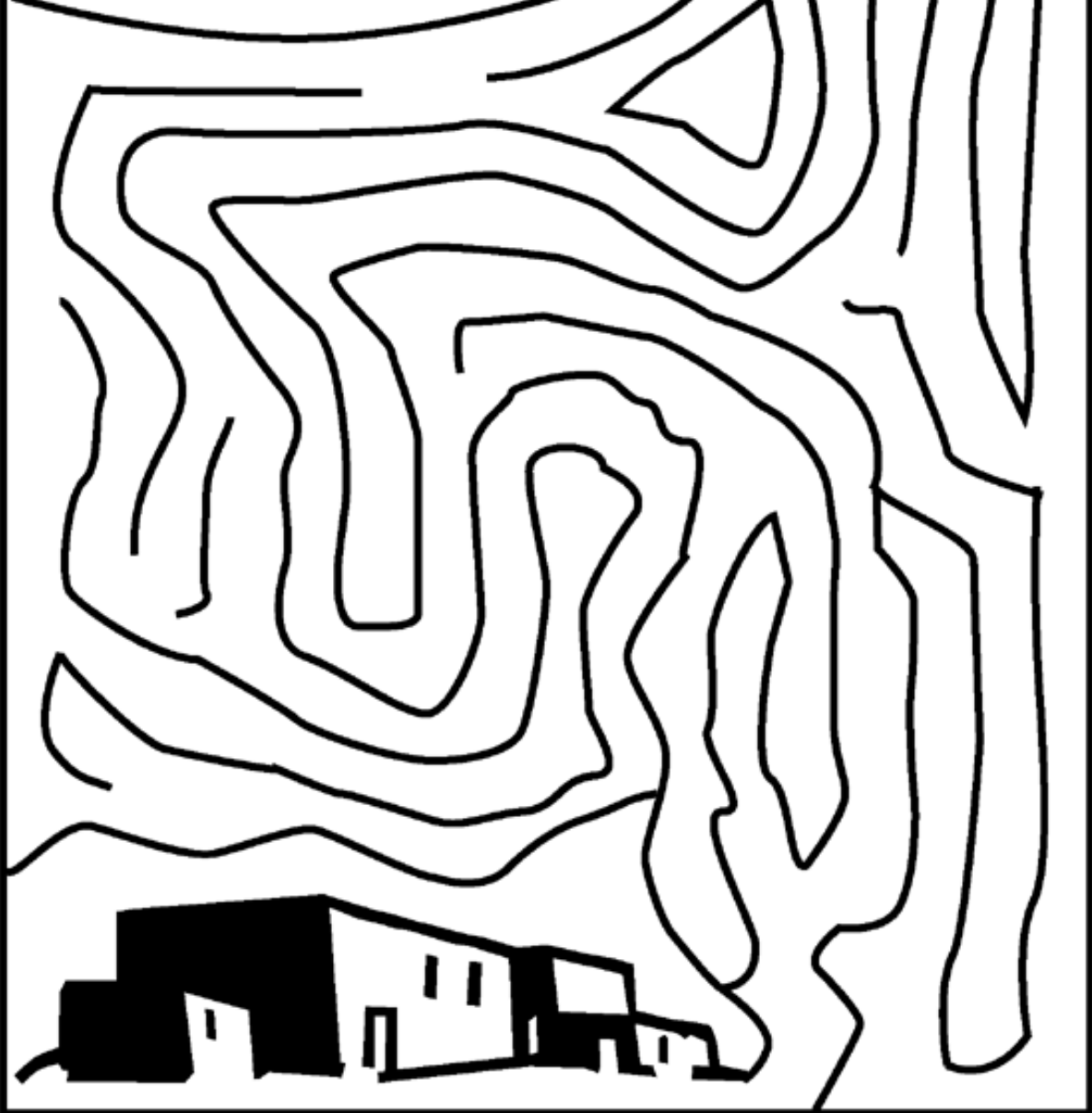
May the Lord who brought us to birth by his Spirit,  
strengthen us for the Christian life.

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.**

Help the Prodigal Son  
find his way home.



If a child lives with criticism,  
HE learns to condemn.  
If a child lives with hostility,  
HE learns to fight.  
If a child lives with ridicule,  
HE learns to be shy.  
If a child lives with shame,  
HE learns to feel guilty.  
If a child lives with tolerance,  
HE learns to be patient.  
If a child lives with encouragement,  
HE learns confidence.  
If a child lives with praise,  
HE learns to appreciate.  
If a child lives with fairness,  
HE learns justice.  
If a child lives with security,  
HE learns to have faith.  
If a child lives with approval,  
HE learns to like himself.  
If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,  
HE learns to find love in the world.

May God inspire all parents and grandparents, teachers and carers who nurture our children. May we all by our Christian conduct provide good examples which may lead them to follow Christ.