

All-Age Eucharist Mothering Sunday Sunday 10 March 2023

We sing a Hymn

God of Eve and God of Mary, God of love and mother-earth, thank you for the ones who with us shared their life and gave us birth.

As you came to earth in Jesus, so you come to us today; you are present in the caring that prepares us for life's way.

Thank you, that the Church our Mother, gives us bread and fills our cup, and the comfort of the Spirit warms our hearts and lifts us up.

God of Eve and God of Mary, Christ our brother, human Son, Spirit, caring like a Mother, take our love and make us one!

We greet each other

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

We say sorry to God

Jesus said, 'Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.' As sisters and brothers in God's family, who have not always cared as we should, we come together to ask our Lord for forgiveness.

You made us to be one family, yet sometimes we fail to share what you have given. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You became one of us to reconcile all people, yet sometimes we turn from those we do not know. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You rejoice in our differences, yet sometimes we close our hearts and minds in fear. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Amen.

We pray the special prayer for the day: the Collect

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ lived in a family in Nazareth: Grant that in our families on earth we may so learn to love and to live together that we may rejoice as one family in your heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We sing a hymn

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, pleasures pure and undefiled: Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our sacrifice of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven. Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our sacrifice of praise.

For thy church which evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of live, Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our sacrifice of praise.

Remain standing

We hear words of Jesus from the Gospel of John

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

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. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit

Address

Stand

We say what we believe

Let us declare our faith in God.

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. Amen.

Kneel or sit

We pray to God

Mother God, you have given us the right to be called children of God. Help us to show your love in our homes that they may be places of love, security and truth.

Mother God

embrace us with your love.

Mother God, Jesus, your Son, was born into the family of Mary and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children; strengthen those families living under stress and may your love be known where no human love is found.

Mother God

embrace us with your love.

Mother God, we thank you for the family of the Church. We pray that all may find in her their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.

Mother God

embrace us with your love.

Mother God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing among the nations; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children.

Mother God

embrace us with your love.

Stand

WE CELEBRATE JESUS IN BREAD AND WINE

We share the Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

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

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please share the Peace from your seats.

Remain standing; a Collection will be taken during the singing of the hymn.

We sing a hymn

All our blessings, all our joys with thankful hearts we sing, Lord of life and Lord of love, accept the praise we bring.

For parents and for children, for partners and for friends, for those whose care enfolds us with love that never ends.

For fellowship and friendship for all we have to give, for those who've shared our journey and taught us how to live.

For all who've shared our sorrow, walked with us in our pain, who've held our hand through darkness and showed us light again.

In sacrifice and service your love is clearly shown, your outstretched arms embrace us to bring us safely home.

All our blessings, all our joys with thankful hearts we sing, Lord of life and Lord of love, accept the praise we bring.

We pray over the bread and wine

God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. accept all we offer you this day; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love, even when things go wrong.
Jesus knew hurt and pain.
Through him you wipe away our tears, and fill us with your peace.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

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.

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

With Mary, mother of our Lord, and with Botolph and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

Silence is kept.

We say the Lord's Prayer

As God's children, and heirs with Christ we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father.

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.

We break the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion. Communion will be distributed from a single standing station. Please maintain social distances. If you would prefer a blessing, please keep your head bowed.

We pray again

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.

Amen.

The Notices

Blessing and distribution of flowers

For the love of mothers, and all who show a mother's love; Loving God we give you thanks.

For patience, understanding, hope and joy without limit: Loving God we give you thanks.

For those who welcome us home; for those who become our family; and the mothering of the church;

Loving God we give you thanks.

For these flowers, lovingly given.
Bless them that they may be a sign of God's great love, holding each of us in the heart of eternity;
Loving God we give you thanks.

Stand

We are blessed by God

May the love of God our fill our hearts. May the hope of God fill our homes. May the peace of God fill our lives. And may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Hymn

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust ever childlike, no cares could destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labours, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

We are sent out

Go in the peace of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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Hymns

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