

Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Lent 4

Mothering Sunday

The Gathering

*People are invited to choose a ribbon as they enter church*

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

**Welcome**

**Gathering Prayer**

Father God,  
We thank you for mothers and carers everywhere,  
For the special love they have for their children.  
We thank you Jesus for your special care and comfort  
And the perfect love you have for us all.  
Help us all to show your love to those who care for us,  
And to the people that we meet in our lives.

**All Amen**

**Hymn**

Wide, wide as the ocean  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QURo0UrQLy0>

Wide, wide as the ocean  
high as the heavens above;  
deep, deep as the deepest sea  
Is my saviours love.  
I, though so unworthy,  
Still am a child of his care,  
For his word teaches me that his love  
reaches me everywhere.

**Notices**

**Introduction to today's theme**

**Prayer of Preparation**

God our Father,  
as you notice the needs  
of small child and grown-ups,  
help us to remember those areas of our  
own lives needing care and attention.

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Let us confess and say sorry for our sins,  
and ask for God's forgiveness and peace.

### *Silence*

#### **Prayer of Penitence**

We have failed to nurture the needy,

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

We have failed to make space in our  
lives for the broken-hearted.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

We struggle to forgive those who have  
withheld their love from us.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

#### **Absolution**

*The leader says*

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen**

#### **The Collect**

*We say together*

**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**

### *The Word*

#### **First Reading** 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. <sup>4</sup>He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. <sup>5</sup>For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. <sup>6</sup>Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. <sup>7</sup>We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thank be to God.**

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## Gospel Reading: John 19:25b-27

<sup>25b</sup> Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup> 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.**

**Sermon** <https://youtu.be/-LI6ihuD7rE>

## Hymn

*Come forward and leave your ribbon at the foot of the cross*

- *As a symbol of thanks for those who have mothered us.*
- *As a symbol for those who have struggled to mother or who have failed to mother us.*
- *As a symbol of those who have experienced disappointment about being a mother.*

**Kumbaya My Lord (Come by Here)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-U8yRqFSZY>

Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's crying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's singing, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing, Lord, kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's praying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's praying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's praying, Lord, kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

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## Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God and makes  
Christ known in the world?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

### The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

## Offertory Hymn

*Collection is taken.*

*Flowers are given out to each person.*

Father God, I wonder

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xdGX1WWRuQ>

Father God,

I wonder how I managed to exist  
without the knowledge of your parenthood

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and your loving care.  
But now I am your child,  
I am adopted in your family  
and I can never be alone,  
'cause, Father God, you're there beside me.  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
for evermore.

### The Dismissal

God of Grace and compassion,  
your son, Jesus Christ was part  
of a family in Nazareth.  
He knew the love of a mother and of a father  
and by dying on the cross brought us all  
together as new family.  
Help us in our Christian journey to strive for that  
day when the whole of humanity is one family,  
caring, helping and loving each other  
as your Church.

**All Amen.**

### Blessing

May the Lord who brought us all to birth,  
strengthen us for daily life.  
May the Lord who provides for all our needs  
sustain us day by day.  
May the Lord whose steadfast love is for all,  
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.

**All Amen.**

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This service has been adapted from the liturgy prepared by  
St Mellitus College for use by the Mothers' Union

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