

YouTube service for St John's and All Saints' on Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. 14th March 2021.

Welcome and introduction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
All And also with you.

Praise God who loves us.
All Praise God who cares.

Opening prayer

So this morning we pray and place before God the life of our world and we light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.
All Blessed be God for ever.

On this mothering Sunday, when many are far from family, friends or loved ones, we light a candle for all those we cannot be physically present with.
All Blessed be God for ever.

We light a candle for all who are sick, all who are in hospital, all who struggle with pain, fear and sadness, and all who are grieving this day.
All Blessed be God for ever.

We light a candle for all who are isolated, lonely and worried at this time.
All Blessed be God for ever.

We light a candle for all those who care for others, whether as family or friends, or as doctors, nurses, carers

and all the health professionals we are so deeply thankful for.

All Blessed be God for ever.

And on this Mothering Sunday, we light this candle for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for their children.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We light a candle for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We light this candle for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Music

Lord of all hopefulness
Jan Struther (1901-53)
Chet Valley Churches, Norfolk

Invitation to confession

This morning we come before God and in a moment of quiet bring before God the brokenness of the world and of our lives. So let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others and our failure to love as Christ loved us.

The Confession

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception. We fail to live as your children.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You call us to do good. We seek our own good. Christ, have mercy.

All Christ have mercy.

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of others. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

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.

Collect

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.

Old Testament reading

Exodus 2:1-10

Music

At the cross her station keeping
Patrick Dwyer

New Testament reading

John 19:25-27

Reflection

Jane

Reflective music for lent

Magnificat

Sonnet

Mothering Sunday by Malcolm Guite
from *Sounding the Seasons*

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.
All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Music

Only by grace can we enter
Gerrit Gustafson
Chet Valley Churches, Norfolk

In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Amen

Intercessions

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer:

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.

Music

Longing for light (Christ, be our light!)
Bernadette Farrell
Chet Valley Churches, Norfolk

Concluding prayer

The Song of St Anselm
Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children. Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; through your gentleness we find comfort in fear. Your warmth gives life to the dead,
your touch makes sinners righteous.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.

Blessing and dismissal

May God, who gave birth to all creation,
bless you:
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless you: may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless you. May almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

