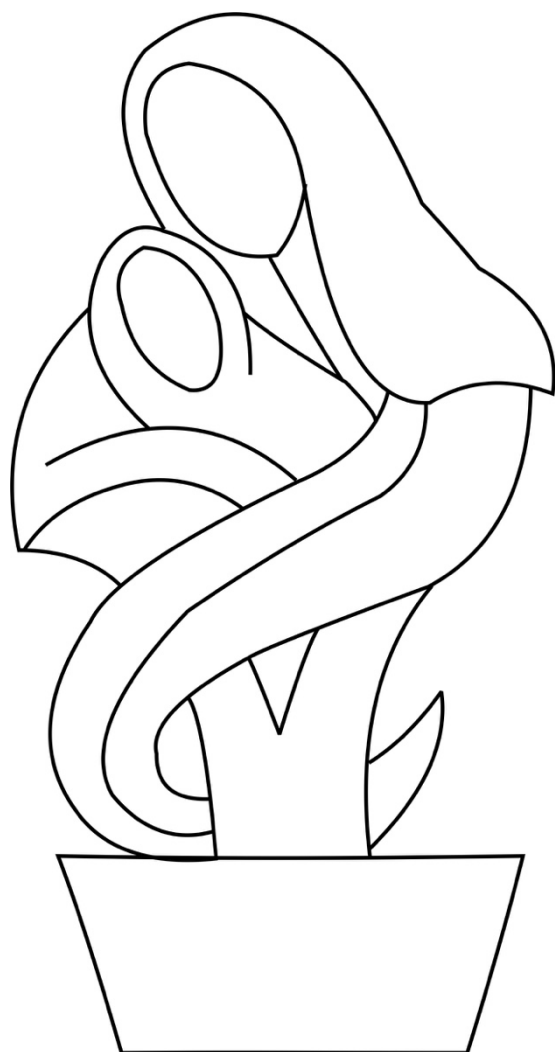


KIDLINGTON ANGLICANS

# Mothering Sunday



22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, 10am

**Revd Martin Davis will preside and Canon Felicity Scroggie will preach.**

***The Gathering***

**Greeting**

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

*Words of welcome.*

**Praising and thanking God**

*Three candles are lit.*

We light these candles to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Under your wings**

Jesus said; 'How many times have I wanted to put my arms around all your people, just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you would not let me.' (Luke 13:34)

Under your wings  
**You would hide us Mothering God**

Under your wings  
**You would shelter us Mothering God**

Under your wings  
**You would warm us Mothering God**

Under your wings  
**You would nurture us Mothering God.**

*Ruth Burgess*

## Confession

Let us call to mind our sin,  
our failure to value the love of others  
and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

### *Silence for reflection*

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

**Lord have mercy.**

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

**Christ have mercy.**

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

**Lord have mercy.**

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.

**Amen.**

## The Collect

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

Let us pray.

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.**

## **Readings**

### ***1 John 4. 7-12***

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you O Lord**

### ***John 19:25-27***

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

## **Sermon**

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Praise God who loves us.

**Praise God who cares.**

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.**

## **Prayers**

*Today our prayers have been written by Joyce Morris*

Heavenly Father as we celebrate Mothering Sunday in these unusual and difficult circumstances we hold before you in our prayers all whom we love, our family, our friends, and our neighbours and we give thanks for our own mothers and for all mothers everywhere.

We ask your blessing on all our relationships. Guide all parents and the many other people within our circle of family and friends, who offer love and support throughout the different stages of our lives.

We give thanks for all who have nurtured us and helped us to grow in faith and we pray today that we may continue to put our trust in you in the difficult weeks ahead when many people will not be able to meet with families and friends.

We give thanks for our Clergy Team who are working so hard to keep us connected and who are enabling us to worship through the wonders of technology. Keep them safe as they continue to minister to us and to care for us.

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We pray for the peoples of all nations remembering particularly those living in countries where the health care system is underdeveloped, where food and water is scarce and where there is fighting and unrest

We pray for all the world leaders who at this time are trying to keep their people safe from the effects of the corona virus. In this country we pray for our government and all the medical experts who are giving advice. Give them wisdom to implement the correct safety measures and give us the wisdom and strength to follow the advice selflessly, however hard this may seem.

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We pray for our community of Kidlington. Father God we ask you to bless all our homes that they may be places of security and love. Be with all who are afraid that they may lose their jobs, may have insufficient money, or insufficient food. And we hold before you gracious God all those who are suffering from the virus and those who have other illnesses.

Merciful God encircle all who are suffering with your love and keep them within your tender care.

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We remember those who have died this week.....

Gracious Lord hear the prayers of all who mourn and sustain them in their grief and bring us all at the last to your eternal home in heaven.

We conclude these intercessions with a prayer written by Ulla Monberg

*God be with us  
At our beginning and our ending.  
Be with us now  
Help us to find you  
In the chaos of our lives  
Let your light shine in the darkness  
So that we may be guided  
To walk in your ways all the days of our life*  
**Amen**

### **Prayer for Mothers**

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

For the care of mothers;  
**Thanks be to God.**

For their patience when tested;  
**Thanks be to God.**

For their love when tired;  
**Thanks be to God.**

For their hope when despairing;  
**Thanks be to God.**

For their service without limit;  
**Thanks be to God.**

*While we cannot give you all a Mothering Sunday gift in person this year, we have a plant here and we will place it in the church porch for all those of us who cannot be with their Mothers, or children, or those who love them on this day. May it grow as a sign of the love that binds us together wherever we are.*

## The Peace

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,  
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

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

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

## Preparation of the Table

Be still and know that I am God.....  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.....  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust....

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it  
The President takes the bread and wine and says*

Blessed be God,  
By whose grace creation is renewed,  
By whose love heaven is opened,  
By whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.**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 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.  
And now with St Mary, St John,  
and all your saints  
we give you glory,  
through Jesus Christ,  
in the strength of the Spirit,  
today and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

### **Breaking of 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.**

### **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The president & those present receive communion on behalf of all the people.*

**Prayer Hymn: (MP906) O Mother of the motherless (adapted from Father of the fatherless)**

*We leave these words here for you to use as you wish.*

O Mother of the motherless  
in whom all families are blessed,  
I love the way You mother me.  
You gave me life, forgave the past;  
now in Your arms I'm safe at last -  
I love the way You mother me

*Mother me, for ever You'll mother me;  
and in Your embrace I'll be forever secure.  
I love the way You mother me  
I love the way You mother me*

When bruised and broken I draw near,  
You hold me close and dry my tears,  
I love the way You mother me.  
At last my fearful heart is still,  
surrendered to Your perfect will -  
I love the way You mother me

*Mother me, for ever You'll mother me...*

If in my foolishness I stray,  
returning empty and ashamed,  
I love the way You mother me.  
Exchanging for my wretchedness  
Your radiant robes of righteousness -  
I love the way You mother me

*Mother me, for ever You'll mother me...*

And when I look into Your eyes,  
from deep within my spirit cries:  
I love the way You mother me.  
Before such love I stand amazed,  
and ever will through endless days -  
I love the way You mother me

*Mother me, for ever You'll mother me...*

## Prayer after Communion

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.**

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Dismissal

## The Blessing

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

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

## The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**