



The Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton

The Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

Sunday 15th March 2026



Please pray:

For The Anglican Church of Kenya.

For The Bishop of Lewes, The Right Reverend William Hazlewood and his PA Nicky Still.

For our mothers, for those who care for children, for those how are estranged from our parents, and for those unable to have children.

For the work of the Mother's Union.

For those who work to bring peace around the world, especially in the Middle East.

For neighbours in Onslow Road.

For Elias, Pauline Grimstone, Veronica Holden, Paul Thompson, Trevor, Robin, Rols Ham-Riche, Sarah, Michael Miller, Jess, Marian

Recently Departed: Bishop Andrew Watson

Anniversaries of death: Dorothy Hill, Leonald Giles.

www.goodshepherdbrighton.org.uk

Welcome to The Church of the Good Shepherd. This sheet has everything you need to follow what is going on. The writing in the red italics gives instructions. The text in normal type will be spoken by a priest, reader or other member of the congregation. We all join in with the bold type.

Please stand when the bell rings and the altar party enters.

Processional Hymn

NEH 285

- 1** 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.*

- 2** 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.*

- 3** For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and brain's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.*

- 4** For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.*

- 5** 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.***

**6 For thy Church that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
This pure sacrifice of love:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.***

F. S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

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.

The priest introduces the celebration. We say the Prayer of Preparation.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Penitential Rite

The priest invites us to call to mind our sins.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Kyrie

**Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

NEH 541

We remain standing for the 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 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 forever.

Amen.

Please sit for the readings.

The Liturgy of the Word
First Reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

1 Samuel 1:20-end

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.'

She left him there for the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 127 (Chant: Goss)

- 1 Except the Lord build the house *
their labour is but lost that build it.
- 2 Except the Lord keep the city *
the watchman waketh but in vain.
- 3 It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest,
and eat the bread of carefulness *
for so he giveth his beloved sleep.
- 4 Lo, children and the fruit of the womb *
are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.
- 5 Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant *
even so are the young children.
- 6 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them *
they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the
gate.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,* world
without end. Amen.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Colossians 3:12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand for the Gospel reading.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory.

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.

John 19:25b-27

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.

At the end of the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

We sit for the sermon.

The Creed

Please stand for the Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercessions

In the intercessions, we make this or another response:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers:

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

The Peace

Please remain standing as the celebrant introduces the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

During the Offertory Hymn, the Gifts of Bread and Wine are presented by the people. A collection is taken. There is also a Card machine at the back of the church. You are welcome to use it at the end of the service if you would like to make any donation.

Offertory Hymn

NEH 185

- 1 Sing we of the blessed Mother
who received the angel's word,
and obedient to his summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
sing we of the joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed
who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.**

- 2 Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
of the sword that pierced her through,
when beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning high on Calvary's tree,
saw the price of man's redemption
paid to set the sinner free.
- 3 Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
and in prayer with Christ's apostles,
waited on his promised word:
from on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
heavenly breath of God's own being,
manifest through wind and flame.
- 4 Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
when on earth her work was done,
and the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
raised on high and crowned with grace,
may your Son, the world's redeemer,
grant us all to see his face.

G. B. Timms (1910-97)

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Invitation to Prayer is said:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

The priest then prays the Prayer over the Gifts to which we respond:

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.

The priest praises God for his mighty acts, and we sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:

...as without end we acclaim:

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.

NEH 541

The priest prays the prayer of consecration, and this acclamation is said:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

The Prayer continues, leading into the doxology, which ends

... for ever and ever.

Amen.

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer:

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 Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated host:

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.

We sing the 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.**

NEH 541

Giving of Communion

Behold 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.**

If you are baptised in the name of the Trinity, and are used to receiving communion, you are very welcome to do so here. Otherwise, you may like to come forward for a blessing. Please bring this sheet with you to indicate that you would like a blessing.

Please do not intinct. If you are unwell, please help us to keep those who are immunocompromised safe by refraining from taking the chalice. It is perfectly valid to receive the bread only.

Choir

Shall we not love thee, Mother dear, Simon Lole

Communion Hymn

NEH 84

**1 It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heaven,
And die to save a child like me.**

**2 And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,**

And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died
For love of those who loved him not.

3 But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fire,
Is always burning in his heart.

4 It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for him so faint and poor.

5 And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.

W. Walsham How (1823-97)

Post Communion

We stand as the priest prays:

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.

We pray together:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Admission of Members to the Mothers' Union

Fr Mathew introduces the aims and purpose of the Mother's Union, before asking all new members to the front, and existing members to stand:

I ask both new and present members to join in affirming their commitment to the Mothers' Union.

Do you reaffirm your baptism promises?

I do, with God's help.

Will you try to uphold and support the Aim, Purpose and Mission of the Mothers' Union?

I will with God's help.

Will you continue to plan your life to include prayer and Bible reading and worship in Church?

I will, by the grace of God.

Mthr Alice and Marian, I admit you to membership of the Mothers' Union in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Branch Leader invites the congregation to pray for the work of the Mothers' Union:

We commit the Mothers' Union to the work of Jesus Christ through the Mothers' Union Prayer:

**Loving Lord, we thank you for your love
so freely given to us all.**

We pray for families around the world.

**Bless the work of the Mothers' Union
as we seek to share your love through the
encouragement, strengthening and support
of marriage and family life.**

**Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united
in prayer and worship, and in love and
service reach out as your hands across the
world.**

In Jesus' name.

Amen

The Blessing of Flowers

Heavenly Father,
bless these flowers,
that those who give and receive them
may celebrate their love for one another,
delight in the wonder of your creation,
and share the joy of human relationships.
We ask through him who knew the happiness of an earthly family,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The priest asks God's blessing on us, which ends:

...and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

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

Recessional Hymn *NEH 186*

- 1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**
- 2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.**
- 3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

Organ Voluntary

Festival Voluntary, Flor Peeters

THIS WEEK

Monday 16 th	
10.15am (Zoom opens 9.45am)	Bible Study
Tuesday 17 th	
2pm - 4pm	Tea at The Good Shepherd
Wednesday 18 th	
11am	The Eucharist <i>at Chatsworth Home</i>
Thursday 19 th <i>St Joseph</i>	
10.30am 11am 7.30pm	The Eucharist Lent Group (in church) Lent Group (49 Maldon Road)
Friday 20 th	
10.30am 11am	The Eucharist Stations of the Cross
Sunday 22 nd The Fifth Sunday of Lent	
8.00am 10.15am	The Eucharist Parish Eucharist

NOTICES

Please do stay to enjoy some Simnel Cake this morning.

Our **Lent Course** continues this week on Thursdays: 11am in church or at 7.30pm at 49 Maldon Road. Don't worry if you didn't come last week - you are still welcome.

Friday Lent Eucharist (10.30am) and Stations of the Cross (11am) continues this Friday and up until Holy Week.

Next Sunday (22nd March) we are celebrating Lyn Murdoch's 100th Birthday after our 10.15am Parish Eucharist. Refreshments will be provided.

On Good Friday morning we will be hosting an **Easter Craft Morning** aimed at children aged 0-11. It begins at 10am and will run until 11.30am, with a short service at 11.15am. Please do spread the word!

Amar will be playing an **Organ Recital** on Thursday 26th March at 5.15pm, to raise money for some upcoming work on the Organ. Please do spread the word and come along and support him if you can!

There will be a **Deanery Confirmation** on Thursday 4th June. If you haven't been confirmed and wish to know more, please speak to Mthr Alice or Fr Mathew.

A sign up sheet for the **Sycamore Course** is available now at the back of church.

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