

Longford Eight Benefice



A Service for MOTHERING SUNDAY

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All **And also with you.**

*Welcome to our recorded service for Mothering Sunday from the
Church of St Michael & All Angels, Church Broughton.*

*It was on Mothering Sunday last year that we did our first recorded
service – what a lot we have learnt since then!*

*The Church refers to this day, not as Mothers' Day, but as Mothering
Sunday, conscious that mothering is not the sole preserve of our
mothers, even if they do the lion's share of it. There are so many
others involved in caring for us as we grow up.*

*I know that Mothering Sunday is a difficult day for some – for those
whose mothers have died, or whose children have died, or those who
had a difficult relationship with their mothers, or never knew their
mothers. We will remember them in our prayers.*

HYMN

Voices of the Choir of St Martin in the Fields sing the hymn
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
based on Mary's hymn of joy – the Magnificat, from Luke's gospel.

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.

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.

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.

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 (born 1926) from Luke 1 vs46-55

Sung by St Martin's Voices. Music: CC from The Church of England.

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CONFESSION *Kneel or sit.*

As sisters and brothers in God's family we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness for the wrong we have done and the good we have not done.

Silence for reflection.

Your love gives us life. We fail to love others.
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,
but we ignore the cries of others.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *us* from *our* sins,
and restore *us* in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE COLLECT

Praise God who loves us.

All **Praise God who cares.**

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket

among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Exodus 2 .1-10

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Meanwhile, 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. *John 19.25b-27*

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

TALK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 redeemed the world
and 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

Kneel or sit

As children of a loving God who always listens to our cries,
let us pray to our Father in heaven.

Loving God, you have called us to be your children.
Help us to show your love in our homes;
may they be places of love and truth.

God of love,

All hear our prayer.

Loving God, Jesus, your Son, was born into the family of Mary
and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children.

God of love,

All hear our prayer.

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the Church.
We pray that the lonely and the rejected may be welcomed and
loved in the name of Jesus.

God of love,

All hear our prayer.

Loving God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for peace among the nations; food for the hungry; freedom for the oppressed; and for joy where there is pain.

God of love,
All **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we ask these and all our prayers in the name of Jesus, your Son.

Amen.

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

**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.**

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

For the care of mothers;
All **thanks be to God.**
For their patience when tested;
All **thanks be to God.**
For their love when tired;
All **thanks be to God.**

For their hope when despairing;
All thanks be to God.

For their services without limit;
All thanks be to God.

For those unable to have children;
All comfort them O God.

For those who have lost children;
All comfort them O God.

For those experiencing broken relationships;
All comfort them O God.

For those who mourn the loss of their mothers;
All comfort them O God.

For all those who find this day difficult;
All comfort them O God.

**All Thank you God for the love of our mothers:
for their care and concern;
for the joys they have shared with us;
for the pains they have borne for us;
thank you God for all that they give us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

This is the moment when we would normally ask children to come to collect a posy of flowers to give to their mothers. We cannot do that today but, if you can, do go into the garden to pick just one flower to give to your mother as a token of your love.

HYMN St Martin's Voices sing

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
hath blessed us on our way

with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

*Nun danket alle Gott Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

THE DISMISSAL

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 forever.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen

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