

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN 184

### *For the Beauty of the Earth*

#### OPENING RESPONSES

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God, creator and parent of all  
**we come to worship you.**

God, you care for us like a mother  
**we come to worship you.**

God, you support us on life's journey  
**we come to worship you.**

God, creator and parent of all  
**we come to worship you.**

#### WELCOME

#### 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.**

#### A NEW COMMANDMENT *(sung)*

A new commandment I give unto you:  
that you love one another,  
as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know  
that you are my disciples  
if you have love, if you have love  
for one another.

#### 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.

Your love gives us life.

Forgive us when we fail to live as your  
children.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to do good.

Forgive us when we seek our own  
good.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

You hear us when we cry for help.

Forgive us when we ignore the cries of  
others.

Lord, have mercy.

**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. **Amen.**

#### KYRIE *(Stand)*

**Lord, have mercy (x3)**

**Christ, have mercy (x3)**

**Lord, have mercy (x3)**

#### 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.

**Amen.**

#### READING: Exodus 2:1-10

*A reading from the Book of Exodus*

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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle: The Song of Anselm (Stand)**

- 1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your |  
people|to you;  
you are gentle with us as a|mother|  
with her|children.
- 2 Often you weep over our|sins · and  
our|pride;

tenderly you|draw us · from|hatred ·  
and|judgement.

- 3 You comfort us in sorrow and|bind up ·  
our|wounds;  
in sickness you nurse us and with|  
pure|milk you|feed us.
- 4 Jesus, by your dying, we are|born to|  
new life;  
by your anguish and labour|we come|  
forth in|joy.
- 5 Despair turns to hope through|your  
sweet|goodness;  
through your gentleness|we find|  
comfort · in|fear.
- 6 Your warmth gives|life · to the|dead;  
your|touch  
makes|sinners|righteous.
- 7 Lord Jesus, in your|mercy|heal us;  
in your love and|tender|ness  
re|make us.
- 8 In your compassion bring|grace · and  
for|givenness;  
for the beauty of heaven|may your|  
love pre|pare us.

**READING: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

*A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings

that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 441** (*Stand*)

**Mary, Blessed Grieving Mother**

**GOSPEL READING: John 19:25b-27**

**Praise to you, O Christ,**

**King of eternal glory.**

**Praise to you, O Christ,**

**King of eternal glory.**

The Lord is a great God,  
O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.

**Praise to you, O Christ,**

**King of eternal glory.**

**Praise to you, O Christ,**

**King of eternal glory.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**CREED** (*Stand*)

**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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

**PEACE** (*Stand*)

Praise God who loves us.

## **Praise God who cares.**

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.**

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

Faithful one, so unchanging  
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace  
Lord of all I depend on you  
I call out to you, again and again  
I call out to you, again and again  
*You are my rock in times of trouble  
You lift me up when I fall down  
All through the storm  
Your love is, the anchor  
My hope is in You alone*

## **PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER G (Stand)**

The Lord is here.

## **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**SANCTUS** (*sung*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread,

he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith (*sung*)

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with St Stephen and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

**THE 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.**

**AGNUS DEI (*sung x2*)**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
give us your peace.**

**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.**

**HYMNS DURING COMMUNION**

**575 Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands**

**422 Lord, We Come to Ask Your Healing  
72 Bind Us Together Lord**

**PRAYERS 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.**

**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.**

**NOTICES**

**PRAYER FOR MOTHERS AND  
DISTRIBUTION OF FLOWERS**

We praise you, our God, for all mothers  
who have loved and laughed and laboured  
as they cared for their children;  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for all mothers  
who have wept in sorrow and joy for their  
children:  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of  
a woman and nurtured in her love, and for  
Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting  
love.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Thank you God for the love of mothers:**  
**thank you God for their care and concern;**  
**thank you God for the joys they have**

**shared; thank you God for the pains they**  
**have borne; thank you God for all that**  
**they give; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

**HYMN 605**

***Sing We of the Blessed Mother***

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Loving God,**  
**you uphold us from birth to death, and**  
**through all life's changes, with your grace**  
**and love. In gratitude for all the love we**  
**have received, throughout our lives, may**  
**we be always ready to help those who are**  
**struggling, to protect the vulnerable, to**  
**feed the hungry, and to comfort the**  
**broken. In Jesus' name we pray.**  
**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

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

**DISMISSAL**

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