



**Welcome to
St Peter's for a
Service of the Word
Sunday 15th March
Mothering Sunday**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

Hymn: Tell out my soul

Praising and Thanking God

A candle may be lit
We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in
our darkness.
Blessed be God for ever.

Praising and Thanking God

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.

Invitation to 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

Confession

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.

Absolution

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

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 2.1–10

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.'

At the end:

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading

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.

At the end:

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn: Bind Us Together

Gospel Reading

John 19.25–27

And that is what the soldiers did.

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.

At the end:

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

Hymn: The Power of Your Love

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 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 of Intercession

This response may be used:

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

At the end:

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

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**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.**

Loving God, accept the cries of our heart as we offer you prayers;
through them transform us and all creation until you are in all and
through all.

We ask these and all our prayers in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

The Peace

Praise God who loves us.

Praise God who cares.

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.

The congregation share the Peace

Prayer for Mothers and Distribution of Flowers

Praise God who loves us.

Praise God who cares.

For the care of mothers,
and all those who care for us;

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.

Hymn – during this hymn, flowers may be distributed

All things bright and beautiful

Notices

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.

Hymn: Love Divine

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ,

Amen.

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