



All-Age Worship
Sunday 11 March 2018
Mothering Sunday

The service is led by Revd Canon Jonathan Baker and Ben Merrell

★ We Gather Together

Welcome and Notices

A responsive prayer to help us begin to worship

God has called us here this morning
All the world give God your praises
Let us offer him our worship
All the world give God your praises
Let us thank him for his goodness
All the world give God your praises
Let us ask him to forgive us
All the world give God your praises
Let us learn what he would teach us
All the world give God your praises
Let us bring our prayers before him
All the world give God your praises

★ We Praise God Together

Hymn

Morning has broken,
Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken
Like the first bird;
Praise for the singing,
Praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing
Fresh from the Word.

Sweet the rain's new fall,
Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall
On the first grass;
Praise for the sweetness,
Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness
Where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight,
Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light
Eden saw play;
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
God's re-creation
Of the new day.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon

Tune: BUNESSAN

We praise you, our God, for all parents, carers and especially 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 parents 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.

Junior Choir:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (Lindley)

★ We Confess our Sins

Kneel or sit

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.

Short silence for reflection

You offer us understanding and grace.

We fail to be gracious to those who rely on us

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You set us an example of love and compassion

We disappoint those who look up to us

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

You sacrificed even your own son
We long for your help in the sacrifices we need to make.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The President declares God's forgiveness.

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**

★ We Praise God Together

Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit in me
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit in me
Wash me, cleanse me, purify me
Make my heart as white as snow
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit in me

Dave Fellingham ©1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

*Knowing you, Jesus
Knowing you, there is no greater thing
You're my all, you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know you more
To be found in you and known as yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Oh, to know the power of your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like you in your death, my Lord
So with you to live and never die

Graham Kendrick © 1993 Make Way Music

Collect (*Prayer for the Day*)

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.

★ We Listen to God's Word

The Word of God *from the Old Testament*

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³ 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. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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?' ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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
Thanks be to God

Song

From heav'n you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will, but yours', he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick © Kingsway's Thankyou Music

The Word of God *from the New Testament*

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

John 19: 25-27

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Address: *Rev'd Canon Jonathan Baker*

Junior Choir

Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo – First Movement (Flanders and Horovitz.)

★ We Affirm Our Faith

**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.**

★ We Pray Together

We sing

Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men,
Torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath:
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin;
Every bitter thought,
Every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees,
Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two,
Dead are raised to life;
'Finished!' the victory cry.

Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death,
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

*This, the power of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

Prayers of Intercession followed by the Lord's Prayer

**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**

Blessing of Flowers

Blessed are you, loving God, gentle and merciful;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
By the breath of your Spirit all things came into being:
**the beauty and wonder of your creation
in earth and sky and sea;
the gift of life and the freedom to love.**

By your blessing, may these flowers
be given and received in thanksgiving:
**for the mothers who brought us to birth;
for the people, families and communities
who have nurtured us on life's journey;
for our spiritual mother,
your Church throughout the world;
for the love and faithfulness of Mary, mother of Jesus;
and above all for your great love for us
revealed in the life of Christ,
by his death and resurrection.**

Blessed are you, loving God, gentle and merciful;
to you be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Flowers are distributed to the congregation

Hymn

During which the collection is taken and offered

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|---|--|
| 1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too. | 4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through. |
| 2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load. | 5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony. |
| 3. I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear. | 6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too. |

Blessing

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.



You are invited to coffee in the South Transept after the service.

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