

# MOTHERING SUNDAY 2020

## RECORDED AT CHRIST CHURCH

Welcome to Christ Church on this Mothering Sunday. Welcome to those who are familiar with our church building and to those who are seeing it for the first time. We hope you will find this morning's liturgy a comfort and an encouragement at this challenging time.

### Opening Prayer of Thanks and lighting of a candle

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness

**All: *Blessed be God for ever.***

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and labored as they cared for their children

**All: *Blessed be God for ever.***

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children

**All: *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.

**All: *Blessed be God for ever.***

### First Reading - Exodus 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup>The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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?' <sup>8</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel reading - John 10:25-27

### Homily

## **Canticle – The song of Anselm**

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you:  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children  
Often you weep over our sins and our pride:  
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.

**Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you**

You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds;  
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.

Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life:  
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.

**Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you**

Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness:  
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear

Your warmth gives life to the dead:  
Your touch makes sinners righteous.

**Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you**

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us:  
in your love and tenderness remake us.  
In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness:  
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

**Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you**

## **Intercessions**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning, great is his faithfulness.

Eternal God, you are constant with your people.

Like a mother you draw all people to your generous heart. Guide us at this time of change and uncertainty and remind us of your goodness.

Lord in your mercy.....

Holy God, your presence is always before us. We give thanks for all who have nurtured us and helped us grow in faith and trust. Increase your Church in hope and courage to proclaim your love, and strengthen all who feel isolated and alone today. We remember our church community here at Christ Church and St. Christopher and give thanks for all you give us in those we love.

Lord in your mercy.....

God our Father and our Mother, you call us to work with you for the good of all.

Bless all parents and children, especially new mothers. Be with all for whom this day brings pain and regret. Transform us through your mercy and grace.

Lord in your mercy.....

God our protector, in times of plenty and in times of need, you cradle our life in your hands. We entrust to your care all who suffer as a result of the Corona Virus, and all who have asked our prayers. We pray especially at this time for NHS staff and those who care for the elderly and vulnerable in their own homes and in residential care. Encircle them with your love and keep them within your tender mercy.

Lord in your mercy....

From the cross, your Son commended his mother to the care of his beloved disciple. Hear the cry of all who mourn. Comfort and sustain them in their grief and assure them of your presence with them.

Lord, in your mercy.....

We join all our prayers together in the prayer that Jesus gave us.

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.

## **Hymn**

### **Sing we of the Blessed Mother**

1        SING we of the blessed Mother  
who received the angels 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 from the awful 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,  
Tokened in the 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 thy Son, the world's redeemer,  
Grant us all to see his face.

## **Blessing**

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding fill our hearts and minds with the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing....