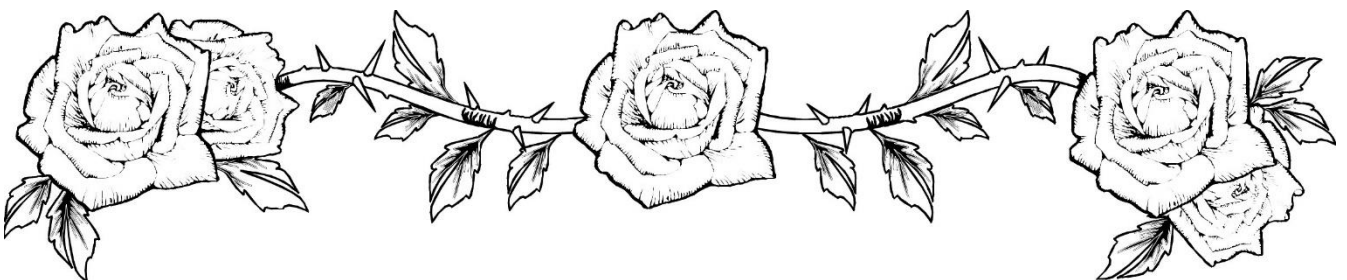


*A Service
for
Mothering Sunday*

10th March 2024

Welcome to Christ Church



Welcome and Notices

Hymn *All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful,...

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;

All things bright and beautiful,...

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one;

All things bright and beautiful,...

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
To gather every day;

All things bright and beautiful,...

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well

All things bright and beautiful,...

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you!

Praise God who loves us.

All: **Praise God who forgives us.**

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.

All: **Amen.**

Bible Reading *1 Samuel 1:20-28*

Talk *Patrick Richmond, Vicar*

Hymn Fathers and mothers,
sisters and brothers,
all those who love us,
for whom we care:
help and befriend them,
keep and defend them,
Jesus our Saviour,
this is our prayer.

And for those others,
fathers and mothers,
children who hunger,
they must be fed:
we would be caring,
readily sharing,
one with another
our daily bread.

Sisters and brothers,
fathers and mothers,
we who together
offer our praise:
hear our thanksgiving,
God ever living,
may we walk with you
all of our days.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

Baptismal Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All: **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Mothering Sunday

For our mothers who bore us:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

For our mothers who fed us and nurtured us:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

For Mary the mother of Jesus:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

For the Church in which we were born as Christians:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

For the Church which feeds and sustains us:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

For mothers and fathers, grandparents and carers:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Saying Sorry to God

Family life is not always perfect or wonderful – sometimes families can be full of sadness and unhappiness...

For times we have hurt other people by our unkind or angry words:

All: **Lord God, forgive us and help us.**

For times we have hurt people close to us because we were tired or grumpy:

All: **Lord God, forgive us and help us.**

For times we have hurt other people because of what we have done, or failed to do:

All: **Lord God, forgive us and help us.**

For times we have hurt you, Lord God, by our selfishness and disobedience:

All: **Lord God, forgive us and help us.**

May God the Father forgive us by the death of his Son, and strengthen us to live in the power of his Spirit forever.

All: **Amen.**

Prayers for the Church and the World

The response to the words 'God of Love' is 'hear our prayer'

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All: **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 Peace

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

All: **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We greet one another

Hymn He's got the whole world in his hand. (x2)
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me brother in his hand. (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me sister in his hand. (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hand. (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got everybody here in his hand. (x3)
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the whole world in his hand. (x2)
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

African-American traditional song

The Blessing of Mothering Sunday Posies

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these flowers to offer.
Accept them and us in your service of love and care,
and bring your special blessing on all who will receive
these loving gifts today.

All: **Amen.**

The Distribution of Posies

Children of all ages are invited to collect posies for their mothers and grandmothers. Posies are then distributed to others present in church who would like one. Please also feel free to take some away for those who cannot be with us.

The choir will sing 'For the beauty of the earth' by John Rutter.

Hymn 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 (b. 1926)

The Blessing and The Dismissal

Praise God who loves us.

All: **Praise God who cares.**

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:

All: **Amen.**

May God, born of an earthly mother, bless us:

All: **Amen.**

May God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.

All: **Amen.**

May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary *Postlude in D* – Gustav Merkel

There is a Retiring Collection on the way out for the Mothers' Union (www.mothersunion.org). Please use and complete the yellow Gift Aid Envelopes if you are a UK taxpayer.

You might be interested in:

Chat over a Cuppa – Mondays, 2pm

Come along to Christ Church for a cup of tea and a chat

Easter Day – Sunday March 31st, 10am

Communion for all ages, followed by Easter egg hunt, refreshments and sparkling wine.

Sunday Services and Activities for Children

Please see the website (www.christchurch-eaton.org.uk) or a welcome form in church for information about our services and activities for children.

The Chosen – 7th, 21st, 28th April, 12th May, 3pm

The Chosen is a TV series dramatizing the life of Jesus, seen through the eyes of those who knew him. We will watch one episode per session, and discuss afterwards. Each episode (rated 12) is approximately an hour long. This is a free event and refreshments are provided. No Biblical knowledge is necessary. For further information please email christchurch_chosen@aol.com



Here for Christ – here for you

Just Ask: visits, finding out more, christenings and weddings

Would you like a visit? Are you interested in finding out more about the Christian faith or in getting confirmed? Would you like more information about christenings or weddings? Please just ask Patrick the Vicar (01603 250844, vicar@christchurch-eaton.org.uk) or visit our website (www.christchurch-eaton.org.uk).