

Prayer 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.

Notices—and distribution of flowers.

Sending Out Hymn

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*
2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all...
3. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all...
4. For thy church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all...

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Blessing

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

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 almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.
Amen.

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

Please join us for coffee and other refreshments in the Hall.

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St Andrew's, Chesterton All-age Communion

19 March 2023
Mothering Sunday



The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

Opening Hymn

- 1 Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
- 2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.
- 3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern* Electronic Words Edition, number 739
Words: MARTIN RINKART (1586–1649) translated by CATHERINE WINK-
WORTH (1827–1878) Music: Nun danket. Melody in Johann Cruger Praxis Pie-
tatis Melica, 1647; harmony chiefly from Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Lobgesang,
1840.

Praise and thanksgiving

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.

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

Blessed be God for ever.

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.

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

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.

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.**

First Reading

Exodus 2.1-10

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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

The president and people receive communion. Visitors who are communicant members of their home churches are welcome to receive communion at St Andrew's. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please signify this by bringing your order of service with you.

Please wait to be invited forward to receive Communion.

There will be two chalice bearers – one on either side of the President. As you are invited out of your pew, it is your choice which of two lines you join: those standing in the North line (on the left as you face the altar) will be handed bread dipped in wine. Those standing in the South line (on the right as you face the altar) will be handed only the bread. Once the latter have consumed the bread, they are welcome to step to the right-hand chalice bearer and sip from the chalice, which is wiped between communicants. You are welcome to receive only the bread, if that is your preference.

Communion Hymn

- 1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.
- 2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.
- 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.
- 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.
- 5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

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(1896-1979).

Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died.
Jesus Christ has died.
Jesus Christ is risen.
Jesus Christ is risen.
Jesus Christ will come again.
Jesus Christ will come again.

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

President: Amen
Children: Amen
Everyone: Amen

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

President: Amen
Children: Amen
Everyone: Amen

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

President: Amen
Children: Amen
Everyone: Amen

We kneel and keep a moment's silence

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread

Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2.33-35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

Psalm of response

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
**In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

Psalm 139:13-18

Hymn

(to the tune of "Morning has broken")

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.

The Creed

Praise God who loves us.

Praise God who cares.

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.**

cf Philippians 2.6-11

Prayers of Intercession

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

And at the end

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

Offertory Hymn

- 1 God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.
- 2 As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life's way.
- 3 Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.
- 4 Thank you for belonging, shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,

and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.

- 5 God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!

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Eucharistic Prayer

In the following Eucharistic Prayer, the responses include children repeating a word by the President, then everyone repeating the children. See where indicated.

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.

It is always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator,
loving and faithful,
holy and strong.
You made us
and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.

President: Holy

Children: Holy

Everyone: Holy

You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.

President: Holy

Children: Holy

Everyone: Holy

You send your Spirit
to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels
to celebrate and say:

President: Holy

Children: Holy

Everyone: Holy Lord,

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

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

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.