

## Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday)

### INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **313**

*Hymns Old & New*

In the name of the Father,  
and of ✠ the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: Amen.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.*

**Lord God, we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing  
and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive ✠ you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

KYRIE ELEÏSON *is sung.*

**Kyrie, eleïson.** (× 3) *(Lord, have mercy.)*

**Christe, eleïson.** (× 3) *(Christ, have mercy.)*

**Kyrie, eleïson.** (× 3) *(Lord, have mercy.)*

*All remain standing for the COLLECT.*

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ,  
the child of Mary, shared the life of a home  
in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole  
human family to himself: strengthen us in our  
daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may  
know the power of your presence to bind to-  
gether and to heal; through Jesus Christ your  
Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with  
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings Set 2

FIRST READING

*Exo 2.1–10*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

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.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**R.** The Lord is compassion and love.

*(All repeat)*

O my soul bless the Lord,  
and all my being, bless his holy name.  
O my soul bless the Lord,  
and forget not all his love. **R.**

He forgives you all your guilt,  
and heals your every ill,  
redeems your life from the grave,  
crowns you with friendship and love. **R.**

The Lord is full of compassion and love,  
slow to anger, rich in grace.  
He has not dealt with us after our sins,  
nor repaid us for all our faults. **R.**

As far as east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has pity on his sons,  
so the Lord has mercy on his own. **R.**

## SECOND READING

2 Cor 1:3–7

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**  
Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven:  
is my brother and sister and mother, says the  
Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

## GOSPEL READING

Jn 19:25–27

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Standing by 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 stand-  
ing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman,  
behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple,  
"Behold, your mother!" And from that hour  
the disciple took her to his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

A SERMON *may follow.*

*All stand to recite the* NICENE CREED.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**

*(all bow)* **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

*(all rise)* **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the**

dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

*The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:*

℣. Lord, hear us. ℞. Lord, graciously hear us.  
or ℣. Lord, in your mercy, ℞. Hear our prayer.

*At the Commemoration of the Departed:*

℣. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;  
℞. And let light perpetual shine upon them.

*The Intercessions end:* Merciful Father,  
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your  
Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.

### OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Our Father God in heaven,  
on whom our world depends,  
to you let praise be given,  
for families and friends;  
For parents, sisters, brothers,  
a home where love belongs,  
But on this day for mothers,  
we bring our thankful songs.
2. What wealth of God's bestowing  
for all the world to share!  
What strength of heart outgoing  
to children everywhere!  
Our deepest joys and sorrows  
a mother's path must trace,  
and earth's unknown tomorrows  
are held in her embrace.

3. How well we know the story  
that tells of Jesus' birth,  
the Lord of heaven's glory  
become a child of earth;  
a helpless infant sleeping,  
yet king of realms above,  
who finds in Mary's keeping  
the warmth of human love.

4. Our Father God in heaven,  
to you we lift our prayer,  
that every child be given  
such tenderness and care,  
where life is all for others,  
where love your love displays:  
for God's good gift of mothers  
let earth unite in praise!

*The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice  
and yours may be acceptable to God, the  
almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your  
hands, for the praise and glory of his  
name, for our good, and the good of all  
his Church.

Accept, Lord, the sacrifice we offer you, and  
grant that our families may be secure in your  
grace and your peace; through Christ our  
Lord. Amen.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The PREFACE follows.*

*All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.*

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

Blessed is he ✠ who comes in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All *kneel*. After the Consecration, all acclaim:

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.**

**You are \* the Saviour of the world (\* × 2).**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:*

... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## RITE OF COMMUNION

*The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.*

**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.**

*The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: grant us peace.**

*The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our  
Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and  
his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for  
you, and feed on him in your hearts by  
faith with thanksgiving.

*Holy Communion is distributed.*

COMMUNION HYMN— **258**

*The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.*

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.**

## CONCLUSION

*The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

... The blessing of God almighty, the Father,  
the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among  
you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN— **345**

*The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.*

℣. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

℟. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,**

**pray for us sinners, now,**

**and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

℣. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

℟. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

℣. And the Word was made flesh:

℟. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

℣. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

℟. **That we may be made worthy of the  
promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O  
Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to  
whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son,  
was made known by the message of an angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought  
to the glory of his Resurrection; through the  
same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

10.3.23