



## Mothering Sunday Service 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017

### Welcome

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured 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.**

### 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 sacrifice of praise*

2. For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,  
sun and moon and stars of light:

3. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
pleasures pure and undefiled:

4. For each perfect gift of thine,  
to our race so freely giv'n,  
graces human and divine,  
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n:

5. For thy Church which evermore  
lifteth holy hands above,  
off'ring up on ev'ry shore  
her pure sacrifice of love:

## Saying Sorry

Father God, we confess that we are not always as we seem to others, nor even as we pretend to ourselves. You alone see us as we are: and you love us and forgive us. May the faith you have put in us strengthen us into loving you and others more fully. May your Son, Jesus, keep working in us his miracle of transformation; and may the whole world come to realise that it is yours. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Reading:** Acts 9 verses 1-19

**Reading:** Matthew 4 verses 17-22

## Address

## Hymn

*Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together with cords  
that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together, Lord  
Bind us together in love.*

1. There is only one God,  
there is only one King.  
There is only one Body,  
that is why we sing:

2. Fit for the glory of God,  
purchased by his precious Blood,  
born with the right to be free:  
Jesus the vict'ry has won.

3. We are the fam'ly of God,  
we are his promise divine,  
we are his chosen desire  
we are the glorious new wine.

## Saying thank you

The giving of flowers or other gifts

Praise God who loves us.

**Praise God who cares.**

For the care of mothers;

**Thanks be to God.**

For their patience when tested;

**Thanks be to God.**

For their love when tired;

**Thanks be to God.**

For their hope when despairing;

**Thanks be to God.**

For their service without limit;

**Thanks be to God.**

**Thank you God for the love of our mothers:  
thank you God for their care and concern;  
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;  
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;  
thank you God for all that they give us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Hymn**

1. God is our strength and refuge,  
our present help in trouble;  
and we therefore will not fear,  
though the earth should change!  
Though mountains shake and tremble,  
though swirling floods are raging,  
God the Lord of hosts is with us ever more!

2. There is a flowing river  
within God's holy city;  
God is in the midst of her -  
she shall not be moved!  
God's help is swiftly given,  
thrones vanish at his presence -  
God the Lord of hosts is with us ever more!

3. Come, see the works of our maker,  
learn of his deeds all-pow'rful;  
wars will cease across the world  
when he shatters the spear!  
Be still and know your creator,  
uplift him in the nations -  
God the Lord of hosts is with us ever more!

## The Prayers and 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.**

## Hymn

*(during this hymn, the collection will be taken to support the Mustard Seed Orphanage in Hoima Uganda)*

1. 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.
2. 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 might one.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:  
pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
4. 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

## The Blessing

### Acknowledgements

'Bind us together, Lord' Bob Gilman © 1977 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

'God is our strength and refuge' Richard Bewes (b.1934) from Psalm 46  
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'Tell out, my soul' based on Luke 1:46-55 © Timothy Dudley-Smith  
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