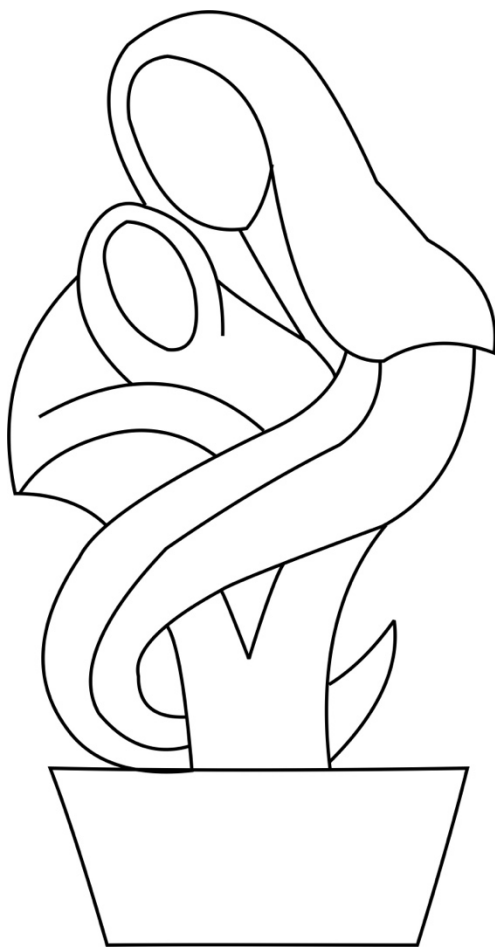


Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

MOTHERING SUNDAY



Sunday 14th March 2021

Words of welcome

Hymn

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
The heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly:
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

Greeting

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

Amen

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

Prayers of Preparation

A candle is lit.

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.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

The president says

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray

Silence is kept

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 together 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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading Exodus 2.1-10

Now 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

Canticle: Song of St Anselm

**Gather your little ones to you, O God,
as a hen gathers her brood to protect them.**

1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

**2 Often you weep over our sins and our pride,
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.**

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

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

5 Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

**6 Your warmth gives life to the dead,
your touch makes sinners righteous.**

7 Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.

**8 In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.**

**Gather your little ones to you, O God,
as a hen gathers her brood to protect them.**

Hymn

O', God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
'Ever the maker and keeper of my days

You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too

Although your Spirit is upon me
Still I search for shelter from your light
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight

For you created me and shaped me
Gave me life within my mother's womb
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading: John 19:25b-27

Meanwhile, standing near 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 standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said

to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Affirmation of Faith

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.**

Prayers

As children of a loving God who always listens to our cries,
let us pray to the Lord who is our refuge and stronghold.

This response is used

God of love

Hear our prayer

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

**for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
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
and also with you.

Hymn

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till they become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Preparation of the Table

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

Amen

The Eucharistic 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 thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last
with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

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
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

**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.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The president receives communion whilst people join in from their homes.

Anthem Christus factus est, Bruckner

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

To be said by those unable to receive communion – or you may wish to say a personal prayer of your own.

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the
world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

A Maori version of the Lord's Prayer, from the New Zealand Prayer Book

The Sending Out

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!

The Blessing

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

The Dismissal

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

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Resuming public worship

We are looking forward to resuming public worship on Palm Sunday! There will be two Eucharist services: an evening service on **Saturday 27th March at 6pm** and a morning service on **Sunday 28th March at 10am**. Please note the new times for both services, and the new Saturday evening service, which will be similar in format to the Sunday service, but without music. Booking details will follow soon, along with more information about Holy Week and Easter.

Mothering Sunday: Today!

Please collect a daffodil posy from the church porch today as a sign of love and care from your mother church! Thank you so much to Bernie and Frances Farrar for making the posies, and to Helen and Dave for arranging some deliveries.

Zoom Coffee after Church: Sunday 21st March, 11am

Please join us on Zoom to say farewell to our placement students, who will be finishing their placements on Sunday 21st March. This will include a chance to chat to one another in breakout groups, and we will finish by 11.30am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81866990406?pwd=NWE4NEFJT2pOL01S TDIxVVg5amduUT09>

Meeting ID: 818 6699 0406

Passcode: 887046

Holy Trinity Parish Quiz Night: Thursday 25th March

Thanks to Roz and Paul Rogers, who have volunteered to be 'quizmasters', we plan to hold a virtual quiz on Thursday 25th March at 7.30pm. Please save the date!

More Tea Vicar

More Tea Vicar is back! Join Revd Laura for a cup of tea and a chat, on **Wednesdays at 3pm:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88286071662?pwd=dmlYSGZ2UjFKSFRx Y21Qb3hwUGd6dz09>

Meeting ID: 882 8607 1662

Passcode: 273957

Eco Church Resources

The Eco Team have put together a list of interesting webinars on environmental issues from various sources, including the Church of England and the Oxford Martin School (part of Oxford University) – see below. Some are on church issues and others are of more general interest. Please see this link for more details:

<https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/>

Electrical Works

Let there be light! The electrical work is continuing in church, and set to be complete by the end of March. Please pray for the contractors and all involved with our building project as we begin this first phase, and plan for the next:

*Eternal God, Father Son and Holy Spirit
Bless the work that will be taking place over the coming weeks
May the contractors work safely and diligently.
May the work that takes place be done
to the glory and honour of your name,
that all who visit this house of prayer,
may be drawn out of darkness into your marvellous light.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Morning Prayer: Weekly on Mondays at 9am

A chance to pause for prayer at the beginning of the week. The focus for prayer will be the psalms, which offer ancient wisdom for contemporary times.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86782891843?pwd=S25BN0E3QUF6aXk5cHBETktaRmhlZ09>

Meeting ID: 867 8289 1843

Passcode: 309879

Lent at HTHQ

Here are more details about services, groups and resources for Lent:

Lent Family Calendar

Produced by Roots, who provide resources for children and families, you may wish to follow this calendar at home over the weeks of Lent: with daily actions and reflections for the whole family.

'For such a time as this'. A Lent Course exploring ecological justice, from USPG. Each session features Bible study, stories of hope and encouragement from USPG partner churches across the world, and opportunities to reflect on how, as Christians, we can respond to the climate emergency. This course will run on Zoom on **Tuesday evenings in Lent from 7-8pm**, starting on **Tuesday 23rd February**.

USPG Lent Course

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82894921657?pwd=aER2MUdWRldQVGxCR3JHSmIWEZ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 828 9492 1657

Passcode: 117598

You may also like to do the course individually or in home groups. Please let Helen know if you plan to attend (office@hthq.uk), and if you would like a print-out of the booklet which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.uspg.org.uk/engage/support5/forsuchatime/lent-course-2021/>

Lent Poetry Challenge

Many of us have turned to poetry for wisdom during this time, and may find it helpful to commit to reading a poem a day during Lent, following Malcolm Guite's book *Word in the Wilderness* (Canterbury Press, 2014). Laura will be holding three Zoom sessions to read and discuss some of the poems together. These will be on **Monday evenings (1st, 15th, 29th March) at 7-8pm**. Please let Laura know if you would like to take part (vicar@hthq.uk).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83412106705?pwd=YWovZzA4NXB5SVIwTTd1ZnA0M0JuUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 1210 6705

Passcode: 902980

Come and See

Lots of people are asking deep questions of faith at this time. 'Come and See', run through Oxford Diocese, is an invitation to everyone and anyone who feels adrift in this pandemic, whether or not they know anything about the Christian faith. You can find more details and register here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

Lent Retreat: Growing back better

2020 challenged us, individually and collectively, in ways no-one could have imagined. It has confronted us with the question of whether we want to go back to how things were, or to 'grow back

better'. It has challenged us to reflect on what kind of people we truly desire to become and what kind of world we hope to pass on to future generations. This Lent Retreat, run by Pray as you Go in collaboration with Sacred Space, offers seven weekly sessions to help reflect on these questions. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/retreat/lent-2021>

Prayers for Hope and Healing

This contemplative prayer gathering will meet weekly on Thursdays at 8.30pm during Lent, beginning Thursday 25th February (there will be no prayer meeting on February 18th). The focus will be: seeing salvation, praying through art, and there is a new Zoom link for the Lent meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84521812373?pwd=ZTVkaFZZV25Ba3ZaYXR3RVQ1MEJMdz09>

Meeting ID: 845 2181 2373

Passcode: 738378

Live Lent: Church of England App

The Church of England have produced an App called 'Live Lent', which can be downloaded on your phone or tablet. It includes daily reflections for Lent, and many other resources. If you are not online, or know someone who is not online, don't forget the Daily Hope line which will be updated with each day's audio reflection paired with a hymn. Enjoy by calling the free phone number **0800 804 8044**.