

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

The Eucharist for Mothering Sunday



*'As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you'*

Isaiah 66.13a

The Gathering

The president greets the people.

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Greeting

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.
A hymn is sung.*

Prayers of Penitence

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.
Kyrie eleison.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.
Christe eleison.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit.
Kyrie eleison.

Absolution

The president pronounces the Absolution.

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The Collect is said, and all respond:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

Either one or two readings from scripture precede the Gospel reading, and a psalm, canticle or hymn may follow the first reading.

At the end of each, the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced, the reader says:

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

After the Sermon an anthem may be sung, or a piece of music played.

The 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

The minister introduces the prayers:

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

One of these responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us:
hear our prayer. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end:

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The minister introduces the Peace.

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

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

Online Offertory

Thank you for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. Like most parishes there's been a real pressure on our income recently, so if you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. Donations can be made today or online – simply search 'Give a Little Parish of Esher' or click on this link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed on it, while a hymn is sung or a piece of music is played.

The following prayer is used:

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
Accept all we offer you this day;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

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 [*N 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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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

The minister breaks the consecrated 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.**

The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.

**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

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.**

*In line with Church of England guidance I invite those who wish to
make an act of Spiritual Communion this morning to pray:*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Amen.

after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

During the distribution, music may be sung or played.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The post communion prayer is said, then all say together:

**We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples.**

Amen.

Notices may be given.

The Ceremony of Flowers

Nurturing God,
we thank you for those who give of themselves in mothering roles
and for the love they have for those in their care.
We thank you too for your great love for all us.
Help us to trust in that love and
help us show that love in all that we do.
And so, bless these flowers, that they may bring joy,
hope or comfort to all who receive them.
Amen.

The daffodils are distributed.

We place this flower to remind us of the love of God – that bright
love which no darkness can overcome.

Blessed be God for ever.

We place this flower to remind us of all mothers who have loved and
laughed, sacrificed and served, as they cared for their children.

May God's love shine through them.

We place this flower to remind us of all mothers who have wept in
sorrow over their children; for all those who have lost children or
mothers; and for all for whom today is a day of grief, pain and sadness.

May God's peace be with them.

We place this flower to remind us of Jesus, born of a woman and
nurtured in her love, and we give thanks for Mary, a reminder of
God's strong and fierce, tender and vulnerable love.

Blessed be God for ever.

Amen.

*All are invited to come forward, if they wish, to place a daffodil in
the vases on the altar in memory of a loved one, or as a token of
a heart-felt prayer.*

The Dismissal

A closing hymn is sung.

The Blessing

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:
may God, who in Jesus had an earthly mother, bless us:
may God, who loves us as a mother loves her children, bless us.
May almighty God bless us, 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.

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