

MOTHERING SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECT, READINGS, HYMNS & SONGS

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 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**

NT READING Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL Luke 2:33-35

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

³³The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus. ³⁴Then 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 ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

HYMNS & SONGS DURING THE SERVICE

Opening: Great is thy faithfulness

1Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions,
they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

2Summer and winter, and springtime
and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses
above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath
provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

3Pardon for sin and a peace that
endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide;
strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand
beside!

Words: T O Chilsholm © 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

Gradual: Give thanks



Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
let the poor say "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for
us.

Repeat all and at the end...
Give thanks.

Give thanks with a grateful heart
give thanks to the holy One.
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
let the poor say "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for
us.

Words: Henry Smith © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Offertory: It is a thing most wonderful



¹It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heav'n,
and die to save a child like me.

²And yet I know that it is true:
he chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept and toiled, and mourned and died
for love of those who loved him not.

³I cannot tell how he could love
a child so weak and full of sin;
his love must be most wonderful,
if he could die my love to win.

⁴I sometimes think about the cross,
and shut my eyes, and try to see
the cruel nails and crown of thorns,
and Jesus crucified for me.

⁵But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love which, like a fire,
is always burning in his heart.

⁶It is most wonderful to know
his love for me so free and sure;
but 'tis more wonderful to see
my love for him so faint and poor.

⁷And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.

Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897)

Final: O the deep, deep love of Jesus



¹O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward,
to my glorious rest above.

²O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Spread his praise from shore to shore,
how he loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, nevermore;
how he watches o'er his loved ones,
died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth,
watcheth o'er them from the throne.

³O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Love of ev'ry love the best;
'tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee.

Samuel Trevor Francis (1834-1925)
From an anthem by Thomas Williams (1869-1944)