

Readings & Reflections for Mothering Sunday 14Mar2021

Reading Colossians 3 12-17

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

Reading from Anselm of Canterbury 1190

- 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.

Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 19: 25b - 27

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then 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.**

Intercessions

Dear Jesus, we thank you for all mothers and carers around the world, and for all they do for their children. We thank you for their patience when we don't get things right. We thank you for their encouragement when we find life hard. We pray that mums would feel really special today, and that you would remind us every day to show them as much love and help as they give to us. Amen

Loving God, you have given us the right to be called children of God. Help us to show your love in our homes that they may be places of love, security and truth. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, Jesus, your Son, was born into the family of Mary and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children; strengthen those families living under stress and may your love be known where no human love is found. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the Church. We pray that all may find in her their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing among the nations; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

add prayers for the day:

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

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayerworship/worship/texts/newpatterns/sample-services-contents/npw14.asp> Lord, in your mercy