

Welcome to St Mary's Church Shirehampton

Sunday 15th March 2026 – Mothering Sunday

GATHERING

Candle 1. is lit:

Nurturing God,

we light this candle in recognition of the great care and love you have for each one of us.

Nurturing God, we praise and thank you.

Candle 2. is lit:

Nurturing God,

we light this candle in thanksgiving for all mothers, for all they do, or once did, for all they give, or once gave and for all they mean and will always mean.

Nurturing God, we praise and thank you.

Candle 3. is lit:

Nurturing God,

we light this candle for all families throughout the world.

Nurturing God, we praise and thank you.

Candle 4. is lit:

Nurturing God,

we light this candle for the family of the Church, here and everywhere.

Nurturing God, we praise and thank you.

Candle 5. is lit:

Nurturing God,

we light this candle for all who nurture and encourage others.

Nurturing God, we praise and thank you.

CAFÉ

I'M SORRY GOD

O Creating God who loved us into being,
we your children praise you.

When we fall, you lift us up, when we fail you restore us,
when we are wounded you nurse us,

when we grieve you weep with us,
when we celebrate you laugh with us.

But sometimes we don't reach out to you,
we are embarrassed, or we forget, or we feel silly.

Help us to reach out to you at any and all times of our lives we pray.

Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN

1 *All our blessings, all our joys
With thankful hearts we sing,
God of love and faithfulness,
Accept the praise we bring.*
For parents and for children,
For husbands, wives, and friends,
For those whose care enfolds us
With love that never ends.

3 *All our blessings, all our joys
With thankful hearts we sing,
God of love and faithfulness,
Accept the praise we bring.*
For all who've shared our sorrow,
Walked with us in our pain,
Who've held our hand through darkness
And showed us light again.

2 *All our blessings, all our joys
With thankful hearts we sing,
God of love and faithfulness,
Accept the praise we bring.*
For fellowship and friendship
For all we have to give,
For those who've shared our journey
And taught us how to live.

4 *All our blessings, all our joys
With thankful hearts we sing,
God of love and faithfulness,
Accept the praise we bring.*
In sacrifice and service
Your love is clearly shown,
Your outstretched arms embrace us
to bring us safely home.

TALK

HYMN

1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
 he is my light, my strength, my song;
 this cornerstone, this solid ground,
 firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
 What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
 My comforter, my all in all,
 here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone! who took on flesh,
 fullness of God in helpless babe!
 This gift of love and righteousness,
 scorned by the ones he came to save:
 till on that cross as Jesus died,
 the wrath of God was satisfied,
 for every sin on him was laid;
 here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay,
 light of the world by darkness slain,
 then bursting forth in glorious day
 up from the grave he rose again.
 And as he stands in victory,
 sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
 for I am his and he is mine,
 bought with the precious blood of Christ

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
 this is the power of Christ in me;
 from life's first cry to final breath,
 Jesus commands my destiny.
 No power of hell, no scheme of man,
 can ever pluck me from his hand;
 till he returns or calls me home,
 here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Stuart Townend
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WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

PRAYER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FLOWERS

O God bless these flowers, bless us and bless our mothers.
 May these flowers remind us how much our mothers have done for us;
 may they remind our mothers that we love them;
 and may they remind us all that God cares for each one of us, because we are all his children.

Amen.

As our flowers are shared amongst us let us take a moment to give thanks to all those who nurtured us and all those we are privileged to nurture

PRAYERS

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

THE PEACE

We hold hands around the tables as we share 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

1 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
the Holy One, is here;

come, bow before him now,

with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found,

we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,

the Holy One, is here.

2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord,
is shining all around;

he burns with holy fire,

with splendour he is crowned.

How awesome is the sight,

our radiant King of Light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

is shining all around.

3 Be still, for the power of the Lord,
is moving in this place,

he comes to cleanse and heal,

to minister his grace.

No work too hard for him,

in faith receive from him;

be still, for the power of the Lord

is moving in this place.

David J. Evans (b. 1957)

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COMMUNION

Gathered around a table is where Jesus so often met people.
So, as we gather we give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give you thanks...you are the one from whom we come
and the one to whom we will return.

You watch us waking and sleeping.

You keep every tear that we shed.

You hear every prayer that we make,

you know both our best and our worst and will not let us go.

Blessed is he

who was born among us incognito

who told the deepest truths in ordinary language.

Who touched and healed

Who showed inclusive love in all its unconditional glory

Who for all this, was crucified, died was buried

Who for all this and for all of us...rose again

Who though high in heaven is present with us here and now.

Blessed is he in all his love and beauty,

God beyond holiness, as we do what Jesus once did,

let your Spirit move among us to settle on this bread and this wine

that they might become for us the body and blood of Christ **Amen**

Among friends gathered round a table,

Jesus took bread and when he had blessed it he broke it and said

Take this and eat...It is my body. it is given for you.

Do this to remember me.

Then later he took a cup of wine...and when he had given thanks.

In this cup the new relationship with God made possible because of my death.

Take this all of you to remember me

The gifts of God for the people of God

Bread and wine is shared

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, you know each of us, your children, by name.
Thank you for your presence in our lives, today and each day.
Thank you for renewing and uniting us through this meal.
Amen

BLESSINGS

NOTICES

BIRTHDAYS

SONG

We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be
He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God, He holds the victory

*There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
we shout out Your praise*

We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones away

*There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise*

We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven, accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

'Cause we were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven, accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

*There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise*

(repeat)

We shout out Your praise
There is joy in the house, there is joy in the house today
We shout out Your praise
We shout out Your praise

Songwriters: Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham
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SENDING

We have offered praise and prayer to our God,
who sends us out to offer peace and hope to others.

We have heard the call of Jesus in the silence and singing,
and we will join him in speaking for the voiceless.

Filled by the Spirit with faith and trust,
we go to serve others, humbly and lovingly.

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.

Please feel free to

Have another cuppa?

Shake hands?

Slip away quietly?

Take a flower and a hug to your mother or a mother-figure?