

WORSHIP AT HOME

14 March 2021
4TH Week of Lent
MOTHERING SUNDAY



LET'S PRAY TOGETHER

Loving God, your power has been at work from the very beginning, in relationship with all creatures and things.

Creator God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit.

You created us, and you give us all opportunities to love and nurture other human beings, and to take care of this world which is our home.

We thank you on this day for our mothers, and those who have shown us motherly love.

Thank you for the example of love, concern and compassion we have seen which has inspired us to demonstrate the same qualities to others who we meet in the ordinary and extraordinary.

Thank you for the inspiring examples of those whose loving, active concern extends beyond their family circle.

Loving God, we thank you for all the way you mother us, and for the ultimate example of complete sacrifice.

Forgive us for when we turn our faces from you and our words and actions do not show a desire to nurture this world, and your children.

Transform us into your likeness and set us free to serve wherever your Spirit lead us. **AMEN**

The Lord's prayer - Our Father.....

LET'S SING - pictures each other praising

God together:-

1. Praise to the lord, the almighty,
the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is
thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, Brothers and sisters,
draw near,
Praise Him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
thy work and defend thee;

Surely His goodness and mercy here
daily attend thee: Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do,
Who with His love doth befriend thee.

3. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish
thy life and restore thee,

Fitting thee well for the tasks that
are ever before thee, Then to thy need

He like a mother doth speed,
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

4. Praise to the Lord!

O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

**EPHESIANS 5vs 8 For you were once
darkness, but now you are light in the
Lord. Live as children of light (for the
fruit of light consists in all goodness,
righteousness and truth) and find out
what pleases the Lord.**

The story of a mother's sacrifice

It wasn't until John was about twelve years old that he really became self-conscious about his mother's hands. Although she was in every other way a beautiful woman, her hands were terribly scarred and twisted. John's father was the first to notice that John, who had once brought his friends home to play, now no longer did so.

Perhaps you would like to know how your mother came to have such hands', said his father, 'because when I married her they were lovely. One day when you were just able to toddle about, your mother turned her back for a moment. You made for the fireplace and stood too close. You screamed, and because there was nothing else available and the flames were growing, she smothered them with her own hands. She saved you but sacrificed her hands in doing so.

John just looked ahead and said nothing. Soon, John once again began bringing his friends around to the house for a game or to tea. He always made a point of asking his friends very discreetly to note his mother's hands. "You see", he would say, "she burnt them because she loved me so much".

The lad in this story was in the dark about what really happened, and needed to be told the story, to open his eyes to understand the sacrificial gift

We travel through Lent with the anticipation of Easter Sunday. The first disciples lived their time in the dark, for them they had no idea what would happen, and certainly not a clue that Jesus would die and rise again, and be present with them again. They were confused about Jesus teachings, misunderstood the miracles, easily mistrusted, and Jesus was only present with them when they could see him.

We are not in the dark about God's love for, and activity in this world. We have a whole collection of His words and wisdom in our Holy Bibles, we have two thousand years of testimonies, we have Christian brothers and sisters to talk and listen to, all telling stories to help us to understand the gift for ourselves. What pleases our Lord? Surely, when we delve into and learn to love His word, when we share our stories with enthusiasm, and listen to others unique experiences of His loving presence, when we trust Him with every moment of our lives, and praise, and thank, and give Him the glory.

OFFERING *Lord, all the riches we have come from you, wealth, happiness, comfort, faith, love. As we offer our gifts of money, accept our lives, and guide and help us to use them wisely and well. AMEN*

PRAYING WITH GOD FOR HIS WORLD

Lord of time and eternity, we take time on our day of rest to remember the needs of others:-

We remember those for who this day is not restful because of work and responsibilities....

We pray for the places where Your world is hurting and broken, hungry and hurting.....

We pray for the people of Your world in fear, bereaved, sick, physically and mentally breaking.....

We pray for sustenance, strength, peace, faith, and hope. In Jesus name AMEN

LET'S PRAISE AND SING

(1) We are marching in the light of God

We are marching in the light of God

(x2)

We are marching, we are marching Oh,

We are marching in the light of God

(x2)

(2) We are living in the loving of God

We are living in the love of God

(X2)

We are living, we are living Oh,

We are living in the love of God

(3) We are moving in the power of God

We are moving in the power of God

(x2)

We are moving, we are moving Oh

We are moving in the power of God

(x2)

A BLESSING

**The Lord bless you and yours with joy,
Peace, light and love AMEN**

