



Mothering Sunday Zoom Service

10.30 AM, 21ST MARCH 2021

Led by Revd Natasha Brady

Welcome everyone

The Gathering

Praise God Who loves us

Praise God Who cares

Let us pray ...

Heavenly Father, we rejoice with thanks

for all those who have mothered us in our lives.

In a world that is broken and in need of your motherly love,

**please use us to aid others as you do us in providing comfort, nurture,
protection and support.**

We ask that you grow us as carers to those who need us,

so that we might celebrate your goodness together

even through our own brokenness.

Amen

Song Shine Jesus Shine

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Confession

God our Father, as Pharaoh's daughter noticed the needs of a small child alone in the reeds, so help us to notice those areas of our own lives needing care and attention.

Silence to reflect

Now, let us confess our sin, seeking the embrace of God's forgiveness and peace.

**Where we have failed to nurture the needy,
Lord, have mercy.**

**When we fail to make space in our lives for the broken-hearted.
Christ, have mercy.**

**When we struggle to forgive those who have withheld their love from us.
Lord, have mercy.**

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you:
when wrong-doing spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts,
come to our aid and turn us back to you again;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading Exodus 2.1-10 ... read to us by Pam Blewett

Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, **2** and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. **3** But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. **4** His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

5 Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river-bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. **6** She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said.

7 Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?'

8 'Yes, go,' she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother.
9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So the woman took the baby and nursed him. **10** When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Sermon

Response Making baskets

Song A little bit of love

Music production and video editing: Carl Stanbridge; Arrangement by Craig McLeish; Music and Lyrics: Graham Kendrick; Copyright © 2020 Make Way Music; www.grahamkendrick.co.uk

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Intercessions prepared and read to us by Richard Beckingsale

Response: In you O Lord **Do we put our trust**

Collect

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;

Your kingdom come; your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen

Final Song 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Written by Matt Redman, Performed and used with permission by iSingWorship 4

Dismissal & Final Prayer

Praise God who loves us.

Praise God who cares.

May the blessing of God be with us
as we love and serve one another;
and as we share Christ's unconditional love –
in the name of God the Creator, Redeemer and Spirit.
Amen.

Take away song Mary, did you know? click [here](#) to be taken to Youtube.

Thank you for joining us today

Going Deeper

Bible Notes

Exodus 2:1-10

This is several generations after Joseph, who had done so well in Egypt. Now the Israelites have the ignominy of being slaves and are so numerous that they are seen as a threat and have to be culled. 'Hebrew' is a word found in slightly different forms in various early Semitic cultures. The word refers to the lowest social class, the dregs, and the Israelites seem to have taken this status on themselves with a perverse pride.

Although a Jew from the tribe of Levi, Moses was brought up in the court of Pharaoh, and his later experience with his wife Zipporah (4.24ff.) might suggest he had not been circumcised, which would have helped his survival as a child. Moses is an Egyptian name, where it can be found in a variety of forms. (The attempted Hebrew derivation of his name in verse 10 is artificial.) Indeed the whole story crosses boundaries with other ancient cultures. The earliest known parallel of a king saved as a child by divine providence is that of Sargon of Akkad around 2300 BC. The threat to Moses find a parallel a thousand years later in a similar threat to Jesus (Matthew 2.16).

The heroes of this story are all women. First, Moses' mother who hid him for three months, floated him on the Nile (a dangerous thing to do with crocodiles about) and even got to act as his wet nurse until he was weaned. Next, his sister kept watch over the child and had the courage to approach Pharaoh's daughter to suggest finding a nurse. Finally, Pharaoh's daughter 'took pity on him', had him nursed and eventually adopted him. None of these women is named. The story is about how God protected the child and did so through these women whose names no one has remembered.

A prayer for Mothering Sunday

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving to a motherly God

Motherly God,

thanks to you for life and living, even when we are weary and worn-out.

Thanks to you for challenge and change, even when we seek safety and security.

Thanks to you for playfulness and pain, even when we seek moderation and mild-living.

Thanks to you for companionship when we are lonely.

Thanks to you for calling when we are settled.

Thanks to you for creativity when we are uninspired.

Bring us to newness of life as your people.

Bring us to wholeness of life from out of its fragments.

Bring us to fullness of life from your communion in and with us.

Motherly God, to you we pray,

Amen.

Mini Activity Sheet - Mothering Sunday – 14th March 2021



**'I drew him out of the water...'
Exodus 2.10 (NRSV)**

Here are some of the people from the story today.
Can you connect the objects with the likely owners?



Today we are thinking about the good things our mothers and other helpers do for us. Saying 'thank you' is an important thing to do. Can you complete the phrases of things to thank our mothers and helpers for? What other things do we need to add?