

St Michael And All Angels Sandhurst

Order for a Service to be used at home (All-Age version)



Mothering Sunday, 22nd March 2020

Notes on using this service

This service has been written with a small family group in mind – anything from one adult plus one child upward. It is suggested that if possible you print out copies for each person, or download it to a tablet or smartphone per person.

The roles of leading and reading the Bible reading and the prayers can be shared out.

Posture: choose what is most suitable for you; you might like to stand to sing and to share the Peace, sit or kneel for the prayers and sit for the rest.

Please adapt the material to suit your family group. The service will last between 20 and 40 minutes, depending on how long you take over the activities.

Opening Prayer

Leader Let us begin our service by saying together this prayer:

**Heavenly Father,
thank you for loving us always,
even if we forget you.
Please forgive us when we go wrong,
and help us to please you in everything we think, say and do.
Help us now to worship you,
listen to your word and pray in faith.
May we know you are with us,
both now and in the week ahead.
For Jesus' sake. Amen.**

The Collect (special prayer for Mothering Sunday)

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.

Songs

I'm gonna clap my hands to show I love you

Listen to it and sing along. Do the actions if you know them.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGxHOnyDf-I>

(words on next page and on the video)

I'm gonna clap my hands to show I love you,
gonna shout out loud, gonna sing your praise.
You are everything to me.

Jesus, I love your name.

I'm gonna stamp my feet to show I love you,
gonna jump around, gonna sing your praise.
You are everything to me.

Jesus, I love your name.

You are the best friend that I could ever know.

I lift my hands to you,

'cause you died for me upon the Cross,
you took away my sin and shame.

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Let everything that has breath praise the Lord

*Listen and sing along. This video is an extended version; you
can stop it at 3 mins 50 secs. The words are in the video.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7lvvd1JdQU>

*Let everything that, everything that,
everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

*Let everything that, everything that,
everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Praise you in the morning, praise you in the evening,
Praise you when I'm young and when I'm old,
Praise you when I'm laughing, praise you when I'm grieving,
Praise you every season of the soul.

If we could see how much you're worth,
Your power, your might, your endless love,
Then surely we would never cease to praise.

*Let everything that, everything that,
everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Let everything that, everything that,
everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Praise you in the heavens, joining with the angels,
praising you for ever and a day.
praise you on the earth now, joining with creation,
calling all the nations to your praise.
If they could see how much you're worth,
Your power, your might, your endless love,
Then surely they would never cease to praise.

Let everything that ...

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Exploring the Theme: Saying Thank You

Mothering Sunday is a traditional time to show appreciation to mothers, grandmothers and others who care for us. Discuss these questions together. Younger children might like to do this by drawing a picture.

1. Who are the people who care for us?
2. What things do they do for us?
3. How do they show they love us?
4. Is it easy looking after other people and supporting them?
If not, why not?

Bible Reading

Psalm 116:1-7,12,17-19 (Good News Bible)

The prayer of someone rescued from death

- ¹ I love the LORD, because he hears me;
he listens to my prayers.
- ² He listens to me every time I call to him.
- ³ The danger of death was all around me;
the horrors of the grave closed in on me;
I was filled with fear and anxiety.
- ⁴ Then I called to the LORD,
“I beg you, LORD, save me!”
- ⁵ The LORD is merciful and good;
our God is compassionate.
- ⁶ The LORD protects the helpless;
when I was in danger, he saved me.
- ⁷ Be confident, my heart,
because the LORD has been good to me.
- ¹² What can I offer the LORD
for all his goodness to me?
- ¹⁷ I will give you a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and offer my prayer to you.
- ¹⁸⁻¹⁹ In the assembly of all your people,
in the sanctuary of your Temple in Jerusalem,
I will give you what I have promised.

Questions to discuss together:

1. What does the writer say about God?
(there are several things in verses 1-7)
2. What experiences have you had of asking God for help?
How did things work out?
3. How does the writer feel now? *(Look at verse 7)*
4. How does the writer want to show his/her appreciation to God? *(See verses 12-end)*
5. How can we show our appreciation to God for looking after us and answering our prayers? Think of at least 2 or 3 ways. Then decide how you are going to put this into practice, either individually or together.

Prayers

Feel free to make up your own prayers based on the theme.

Here are some suggestions:

- *Write a prayer thanking God for all the good things in your life, for the people who show their love for us (including mothers), for the beauty of creation, and anything else.*
- *Write a prayer for mothers, fathers, grandparents, asking God to help them when they are tired or worried, or find it difficult to manage all the things they have to do.*

Here are some prayers you could read out together:

Dear God, on Mothering Sunday we thank you for all mothers, and especially for our own mothers and grandmothers; for their love, for the sacrifices they made for us, and for their strength and wisdom which have helped us through our own difficult times.

Please bless and guide all mothers, fathers, grandparents and everyone who cares for children, and may they always be given the help and encouragement they need.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father,
your Son Jesus grew up in a human family in Nazareth.
Please help children to listen to their parents,
and to learn to give as well as to receive.
Especially please bless and protect all children who do not have a loving family to grow up in,
and give wisdom to all who try to help them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the Church,
which is your worldwide family.
Thank you for all the people in our church who do different things to make our church run smoothly.
Help us all to care for each other,
and to grow more like Jesus every day.
Help us all to grow in faith and in confidence,
and to live the way you want us to,
so that others may know your love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are sick,
or who suffer through poverty or war,
and for those whose loved ones are far away or have died.
Especially we pray for the people of Syria, Yemen and other

places where there is war,
and for the people who have had to run away from their
homes in order to survive.

We pray for charities like Tearfund who are trying to help
them.

Help each of us to do what we can to make this world a better
place.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us bring our prayers together using the prayer which Jesus
taught:

**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.**

Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The peace is shared. This can be with a sign rather than a handshake.

Song

Bless the Lord, o my soul

Listen and sing along.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSxocnlaN0A>

(Words on next page and on the video)

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship your holy name.*

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul ...

2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,
your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing;
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul ...

3. And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come,
still my soul will sing your praise unending;
ten thousand years and then for evermore.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship his holy name.*

Sing like never before, O my soul,

I'll worship your holy name.

Yes, I'll worship your holy name.

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End the service with this prayer:

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen.**