

A SIMPLE ACT OF WORSHIP – TO ENCOURAGE US IN OUR TIME OF NEED

Preparation

We meet in the presence of God
All **who knows our needs,**
hears our cries,
feels our pain,
and heals our wounds.

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In the darkness of our sin,
your light breaks forth like the dawn
and your healing springs up for deliverance.
As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,
sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
and open our lips to sing your praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Prayers of Penitence

The Gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.
Jesus is our high priest, who was tempted like us, yet without sin.
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith,
we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

Silence is kept.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me:
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from me:
Lord, have mercy
All **Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive us
by the death of his Son
and strengthen us
to live in the power of the Spirit all our days.
All **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: Praise, my soul, the king of heaven

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven
who like thee his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!
- 2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!
- 3 Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows!
- 4 Angels, help us to adore him,
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space: Praise
him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

BIBLE READING(S)

2 CORINTHIANS 1: 3–7

JOHN 19: 25B–27

Response

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul:

All O my God, in you I trust.**PRAYERS**

We pray to the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our troubles.

On this Mothering Sunday, we give thanks for all who have nurtured and cherished us.
We give thanks for our mother Church, which has born witness down the centuries to
your saving grace and mercy.

Today, we pray for a scattered church, physically separated but spiritually united in
our calling to pray for others and to bear one another's burdens. Deepen our unity
and service in new and creative ways.

God of all comfort,
All be merciful and hear us.

We give thanks for the world, in the knowledge that in Christ everything holds
together.

Today, we pray for a world, which has been plunged into trouble and distress, calling
on you to give us courage in our present adversity. Grant to all in authority wisdom
and strength to make sound decisions for the good of all nations.

God of all comfort,
All be merciful and hear us.

We give thanks for the progress of science and medicines and the ways in which they
can relieve suffering and bring healing.

Today, we pray for the medical services, stretched to their limits around the world.
Bring them renewed strength to minister to the sick and the dying with compassion
and gentleness.

God of all comfort,
All be merciful and hear us.

We give thanks for our local communities, our families and our friends, and the blessings of technology to help us keep in touch.

Today, we pray for the strengthening of family and community life. Give us eyes to see the lonely and the distressed to bring light into darkness and peace where there are fears.

God of all comfort,
All be merciful and hear us.

We give thanks that through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have a greater hope that is steadfast and certain.

Today, we put our trust again in the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, as we look forward to that day when we rejoice together with the saints in heaven.

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

Collect 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.
All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All 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.**

Hymn: There is a hope that burns within my heart

- 1 There is a hope that burns within my heart,
 that gives me strength for ev'ry passing day;
 a glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part,
 yet drives all doubt away:
 I stand in Christ, with sins forgiv'n;
 and Christ in me, the hope of heav'n!
 My highest calling and my deepest joy,
 to make his will my home.
- 2 There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
 a consolation strong against despair,
 that when the world has plunged me
 in its deepest pit,
 I find the Saviour there!
 Through present suff'rings, future's fear,
 he whispers 'courage' in my ear.
 For I am safe in everlasting arms,
 and they will lead me home.
- 3 There is a hope that stands the test of time,
 that lifts my eyes beyond the beck'ning grave,
 to see the matchless beauty of a day divine
 when I behold his face!
 When sufferings cease and sorrows die,
 and ev'ry longing satisfied,
 then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
 for I am truly home.

MARK EDWARDS AND STUART TOWNEND

© 2007 Thankyou music/adm. by worshiptogether.com songs
 excl. UK & Europe, adm. by kingswaysongs.com www.kingswaysongs.com
 Used by permission.
 Used By Permission. CCL Licence No. 93795

The Conclusion

May God bless us and show us compassion and mercy.
All Amen