

# Dedham and Ardleigh Parishes

## **Mothering Sunday** *Morning Service*

This recorded service will be available from 11am on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
<https://www.dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk/Media/AllMedia.aspx>

*A very warm welcome to this service*

INTRODUCTION and GREETING

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

This is the day that the Lord has made

**We will rejoice and be glad in it**

**Hymn: 394** Tell out my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;

Tender to me the promise of his word;

In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!

Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;

His mercy sure, from age to age to same;

His holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!

Powers and dominions lay their glory by

Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight

The hungry fed, the humble lifted high

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!

Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

To children's children and for evermore!

WELCOME AND NOTICES

**Prayer of Praise**

Gracious God on this special day of thanksgiving, we catch a glimpse, through a mother's love for her child, of your love for us; the care devotion and dedication you show to all your children which makes you as much 'our Mother' as 'our father'

For that great truth

**we praise and thank you**

We owe our lives to you. You have watched over us from our birth, tenderly nurturing us, showering us with love. When we needed you, you have been there.

For that great truth

**we praise and thank you**

You have given us strength in times of need, comfort in times of distress, encouragement in times of despair, guidance in times of uncertainty. Whatever we have faced, you have been with us.

For that great truth

**we praise and thank you**

### **We say sorry**

Holy God, we confess to you the times when  
we have failed to treat those with whom we live  
with the care you expect of us.

For the things we say which cause hurt to each other,  
perfect Parent of us all:

**Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

For the times we insist on getting our own way,  
despite what others feel,  
perfect Parent of us all:

**Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

For the times when we increase the tension  
instead of seeking to make peace,  
perfect Parent of us all.

**Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

For our anger, our lack of respect and our failure  
to listen, perfect Parent of us all.

**Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

And sometimes we get irritable and are impatient,  
perfect Parent of us all.

**Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

*Some moments silence*

### **We hear God's forgiveness**

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

### **Hymn: 537 For the beauty of the earth**

For the beauty of the earth  
For the beauty of the skies  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies  
Over and around us lies

Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise

For the beauty of the hour  
Of the day and of the night  
Hill and vale and tree and flower  
Sun and moon and stars of light  
Sun and moon and stars of light

Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise

For the joy of human love  
Brother, sister, parent, child  
Friends on earth and friends above  
For all gentle thoughts and mild  
For all gentle thoughts and mild

Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise

### **Bible Readings:**

Old Testament - Isaiah 49 verses 8-16 pp 736  
New Testament - 2 Corinthians 1 verses 3-7 pp 1158

### **Talk**

**Hymn:** 238 Come down O Love divine

1 Come down, O Love divine!  
seek out this soul of mine  
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

2 There let it freely burn  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let your glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and make my pathway clear, by your illuming.

3 Let holy charity  
my outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become my inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart  
which takes the humbler part,  
and for its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4 And so the yearning strong  
with which the soul will long  
shall far surpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace  
till we become the place  
in which the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen. *cf Ephesians 3***

REMEMBERING those who have loved us

#### PRAYERS

##### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your Kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is 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 forever. Amen**

#### CLOSING RESPONSES

Lord, bless the homes to which we now go.  
**make them open and welcoming in your name**

Lord, bless the families of which we are a part; including the family of the church.  
**make them signs of your love and care.**

Lord, bless and guide us in whatever we do and wherever we go.  
**Go before us, watch over us and keep us in your love, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

**Hymn 739** Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
to keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and Spirit blest,  
who reign in highest heaven  
the one eternal God,  
whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**All: In the name of Christ Amen**