



**LANCASTER  
PRIORY**

# **Choral Eucharist**

10.00am

Mothering Sunday

19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

Mothering Sunday is a time to celebrate our mother churches, those people and places which have nurtured our faith. But for many this time comes with painful associations with motherhood, feelings of inadequacy or loss. Yet in Christ, we are given both comfort and family.

We have come together today to give thanks to God for all those people who have nurtured us, and to offer ourselves to nurture others, with God's help. We have also come to acknowledge the pain of a hurting world, where we have failed to nurture each other.

*Throughout this booklet you will find instructions regarding posture (sit and stand), these capture what is normal for our congregation but are not intended to be restrictive for those who may need to sit or indeed not sit for too long.*

Notices are given at before the service, please see the notice sheet for more information.

Refreshments are served at the back of church following this service every week. Please join us.



**CONTACTLESS CARD DONATIONS STATION**—you can donate to the Priory using the contact-less card reader which stands beside the door. Alternatively you can give online via GiveALittle using this QR Code:



## **Acknowledgements**

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# The Gathering

## Processional Hymn (NEH 184)

*Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter as we sing the hymn.*

*During the hymn the altar is censed.*

Shall we not love thee, Mother dear,  
Whom Jesus loves so well,  
And to his glory year by year  
Thy praise and honour tell?

2 Thee did he choose from whom to take  
True flesh, his flesh to be;  
In it to suffer for our sake,  
And by it make us free.

3 O wondrous depth of love divine,  
And he should bend so low;  
And, Mary, O what joy was thine  
The Saviour's love to know.

4 Joy to be mother of the Lord,  
Yet thine the truer bliss,  
In ev'ry thought and deed and word  
To be for ever his.

5 Now is the realm of life above  
Close to thy Son thou art,  
While on thy soul glad streams of love  
Flow from his sacred heart.

6 Jesu, the Virgin's holy Son,  
Praise we thy mother blest;  
Grant when our earthly course is run,  
Life with the saints at rest.

Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

## The Greeting *The president says*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name.  
**Illumine our homes with the light of your love.**

We thank you for gifts of love we have received.  
**For all who nurture, nourish and guide us as we grow to be who we are.**

As we have been loved by them, so we are loved by you, O God.  
**Join with us in this day of celebration as we rejoice in being loved.**

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you. **And also with you.**

*Young Church and their leaders gather at the front and the president prays with them before they go to their activities.*

## **Prayers of Penitence** *A minister leads the confession*

Let us call to mind our failure to value the love of others and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early.

Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement;

bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Kyrie** *The choir sings*

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

## **The Absolution** *The priest prays*

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Collect** *The president says 'Let us pray' and silence is kept.*

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 Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading** 1 Samuel 1: 20-end

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite

for all time.’ Her husband Elkanah said to her, ‘Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.’ So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him.

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, ‘Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.’ She left him there for the Lord. For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn** (LP21)

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure

2. How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

3. Behold the man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers

4. It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

5. I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection

6. Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

7. Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

Stuart Townend 1963 -

## **Second Reading** Colossians 3:12-17

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone

has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Acclamation** *We stand and face the Gospel procession.*

*A cantor sings*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you.

You are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

### **The Gospel Reading** John 3: 1-17

*A minister says* The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'

Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.'

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **The Sermon** Rev'd Steve Haskett

*Please sit.*

## **The Affirmation of Faith** *Please stand.*

Let us declare our faith in God. Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession** *Please sit. This response is used*

Lord of compassion: In your mercy, hear us.

*And at the end*

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

*A member of the Mothers' Union leads us in this prayer,*

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Distribution of Flowers and The Peace** *Please stand.*

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says 'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.' The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

*A minister says Let us offer one another a sign of peace.*

*And all may exchange a sign of peace. During the Peace, flowers will be presented as a gift from the Mothers' Union.*

## **Offertory Hymn** (NEH 285)

*During which a collection is taken and the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light:

3. For the joy of ear and eye  
For the heart and brain's delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight:

4. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
pleasures pure and undefiled:

5. For each perfect gift of thine,  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

6. For thy Church that evermore  
lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore  
her pure sacrifice of love.

F.S. Pierpoint 1835-1917

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:



*The choir sings* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Amen

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*A minister says* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Bring us at the last with Mary the Mother of our Lord and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power, be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

## **Breaking of the Bread** *The president breaks the consecrated bread*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup.  
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **Giving of Communion**

*The president invites the congregation to receive Holy Communion.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

## **The Agnus Dei** *Please sit. The choir sings*

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

*The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.*

## **Communion Anthem** Upon Your Heart (*Eleanor Daley*)

**Communion Hymn** (T. NEH 86) *We remain seated to sing.*

The love of God comes close  
where stands an open door,  
to let the stranger in,  
to mingle rich and poor.

*The love of God is here to stay,  
embracing those who walk the Way;  
the love of God is here to stay.*

2. The peace of God comes close  
to those caught in the storm,  
forgoing lives of ease  
to ease the lives forlorn.

*The peace of God is here to stay,  
embracing those who walk the Way;  
the peace of God is here to stay.*

3. The joy of God comes close  
where faith encounters fears,  
where heights and depths of life  
are found through smiles and tears.

*The joy of God is here to stay,  
embracing those who walk the Way;  
the joy of God is here to stay.*

4. The grace of God comes close  
to those whose grace is spent,  
when hearts are tired or sore  
and hope is bruised and bent.

*The grace of God is here to stay,  
embracing those who walk the Way;  
the grace of God is here to stay.*

5. The Son of God comes close  
where people praise his name,  
where bread and wine are blest  
and shared as when he came.

*The Son of God is here to stay,  
embracing those who walk the Way;  
the Son of God is here to stay.*

John L. Bell 1949 -

**Prayer after Communion** *We say this prayer*

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing** *The president says*

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Recessional Hymn** (NEH 461)

*As we sing the servers, choir and clergy move to the west. We turn to face the font.*

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.

2. There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

3. For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of man's mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.

4. But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he will not own.

5. There is plentiful redemption  
in the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the member  
in the sorrows of the Head.

6. There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

7. If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

F.W. Faber 1814-1863

### **The Dismissal** *A minister says*

This is love, not that we loved God, **but that he loved us and sent his Son.**

He is the sacrifice for our sins, **that we might live through him.**

If God loves us so much **we ought to love one another.**

If we love one another **God lives in us.**

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

### **Organ Voluntary** Fantasia in G (*Bach*)

*Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart.*