

**Sunday 19th March 2023**  
**Mothering Sunday**

**Prayer for the day**

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ,  
the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in  
Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the  
whole human family to  
himself:  
strengthen us in our daily  
living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of  
your presence  
to bind together and to  
heal;  
through Jesus Christ your  
Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns  
with you,  
in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**First Reading**  
**Exodus 2:1–10**

[1] Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. [2] The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. [3] When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child

in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. [4] And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him. [5] Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. [6] When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.” [7] Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” [8] And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Go.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. [9] And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed him. [10] When the child grew older, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, “Because,” she said, “I

drew him out of the water.” (ESV)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**  
**2 Corinthians 1:3–7**

[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, [4] who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. [5] For as we share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. [6] If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. [7] Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort. (ESV)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our  
Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Reading**  
**Luke 1:32–35**

[32] He will be great and  
will be called the Son of  
the Most High. And the  
Lord God will give to him  
the throne of his father  
David, [33] and he will  
reign over the house of  
Jacob forever, and of his  
kingdom there will be no  
end.”

[34] And Mary said to the  
angel, “How will this be,  
since I am a virgin?”

[35] And the angel  
answered her, “The Holy  
Spirit will come upon you,  
and the power of the Most  
High will overshadow you;  
therefore the child to be  
born will be called holy—  
the Son of God. (ESV)

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

**Final Prayer**

Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her  
children at the breast  
you feed us in this  
sacrament with the food  
and drink of eternal life:

help us who have tasted  
your goodness  
to grow in grace within  
the household of faith;  
through Jesus Christ our  
Lord.  
**Amen.**

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