

Sunday 15th March 2026  
Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)

Collect

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.

or

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.

Readings

1 Samuel 1.20–end

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

21 The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow.

22 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.

23 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.

24 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.

25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.

26 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.

27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him.

28 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 19.25b–27

25 And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

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

27 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.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Post Communion

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.

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