

## Prayer over the daffodils:

President: Loving God,  
We thank you for mothers and carers  
everywhere,  
and for the special love they have for their  
children.  
We thank you for your special care and comfort,  
and for the perfect love you have for us all.  
Help us to show your love  
to those who care for us,  
and to all the people that we meet in our lives.

+ Bless these flowers, that they may bring joy,  
contentment, hope or comfort to all who see  
them.

**All: Amen.**

## Responsory – The response is: **Thanks be to God**

### Blessing:

May God who gave birth to all creation, bless you;  
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly  
mother, bless you;  
may God, who broods as a mother over her children,  
bless you.  
May Almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Mothering Sunday – A Service of the Word



President: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

President: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

President: Come, worship the God who said:  
As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you. *(Isaiah 66:13a)*

**All: We will come before our God.**

President: Gather us now before you, O God,  
as a hen gathers her brood to protect them.  
Like a mother, you gather your people to you;  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her  
children.  
As we meet today and follow your example,  
protect us, support us, and feed us  
with your unconditional love. **Amen.**

*(Adapted from St Anselm of Canterbury)*

### **The Lighting of the Candles (Four candles will be lit)**

Minister: We light this candle to remind us that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

Minister: We light this candle for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured, as they cared for their children.

**All: May God's love shine through them.**

Minister: We light this candle for all mothers who have wept in sorrow over their children; for all those who have lost children or mothers; and for all for whom this is a day of sadness.

**All: May God's peace be with them.**

Minister: We light this candle for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and we praise you for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

**All: Blessed be God for ever. Amen.**

### **Collect – Let us pray:**

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. **Amen.**

### **Readings:**

- 1 Samuel 1:20 – end
- Psalm 127:1-4
- John 19.25b - 27

### **Sermon or Talk or Silence**

**Creed –** Let us declare our faith in God.

**All: 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 fill 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.**

### **Prayers of intercession, ending with The Lord's Prayer**