

The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

STAND

Let us pray.

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 our Lord. **AMEN.**

The Old Testament Lesson. The reader says:

SIT

A reading from Exodus.

Exodus 2: 1-10

A man from the house of Levi married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she

took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Silence

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

STAND

THOMAS ATTWOOD



Psalm 34: 11-20

Come, my children, and / listen • to / me: I will / teach • you the / fear • of the / Lord.

Who is there who de- / lights in / life: and longs for / days • to en- / joy good / things?

Keep your / tongue from / evil: and your / lips from / lying / words.

Turn from evil / and do / good: seek / peace / and pur- / sue it.

The eyes of the Lord are up- / on the / righteous: and his ears are / open / to their / cry.

The face of the Lord is against / those • who do / evil: to root out the re- / membrance • of them / from the / earth.

The righteous cry * and the / Lord / hears them: and delivers them / out of / all their / troubles.

The Lord is near to the / broken- / hearted: and will save / those • who are / crushed in / spirit.

Many are the / troubles • of the / righteous: from them / all • will the / Lord de- / liver them.

He keeps / all their / bones: so that not / one of / them is / broken.

2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If

we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

Silence

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

STAND



The Gospel.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Sung response:

Glory to you O Lord.

Luke 2: 33-35

The father and mother of the child Jesus were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel,

and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

After the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Sung response:

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. **AMEN.**