

Glori Patri**Mother's Day Prayer**

Leader: God of Provision and Unconditional Love, On this day when we acknowledge the importance of motherhood among us, we first give thanks that you are a loving parent to us all. From your being all life was born, and in your bosom all creation is nurtured. You have formed us in your image as your children, and gathered us together as a brood under your wing. You have united us as kindred members of one human family, and we are grateful to be your offspring together. We celebrate your divine love, reflected in human expressions of motherhood.

People: We give you thanks for the mothers among us, and ask that you strengthen them in their daily tasks. Grant them wisdom in the lessons they teach, patience in the discipline they foster, and persistence in their promotion of decency and compassion, both by word and example. May they be given the honor and thanks they deserve but often do not receive.

Leader: We thank you for all motherly figures: grandmothers, aunts, sisters, wives, step-mothers, foster mothers, guardians, babysitters, teachers, health care providers, neighbors, friends, loved ones, and many others, who practice self-sacrifice and embody compassion to all who are privileged to be in their influence. Grant them vigor to carry on their work, and the satisfaction that the holy privilege of their task affords.

People: We acknowledge to you, O God, that even amid our grateful celebration, many of us come with restless spirits, reluctant to name the difficulties of this day.

Leader: For some, this day brings the sorrowful awareness of their own inability to conceive biological children. Draw your tender spirit near their feelings of self-betrayal, impotence, and grief, and remind them that those who struggle with infertility have always shared a special place in your heart. We pray for those who have suffered miscarriages, those fatigued by fertility treatments, and those struggling through the process of adoption. May they remember that in your power and through your church, they can still leave a lasting legacy beyond themselves.

For some, this day is marked by loneliness and grief, as they spend this first Mother's Day as a widower, an orphan, or a parent who has lost a child. To those who today live in the wake of the death of a loved one, grant glimpses of the resurrection. Bring to them a steady restoration of their broken hearts, allow them to live into their future with hope, and empower them to carry out the legacy of lessons instilled within them.

For some, this is a day that surfaces ongoing tensions that exist within our personal relationships and family dynamics. We ask for healing from the wounds of our past, a path of forgiveness for wrongs both experienced and committed, and the rebuilding of trust forged in honesty, authenticity, and love.

People: We give you thanks for the wide spectrum of motherhood represented among us today: new mothers and young mothers whose children are in their most tender years; mothers of grown children who transition into empty nests and a new chapter of self-discovery; mothers and grandmothers of advanced years, whose twilight of life is marked by frailty of body but a potency of spirit. Theirs is a cumulative reminder that though our lives are marked by transition and change, your nurture and affection for all your children remains the same. We also give you thanks for those without their own children who still share the motherly wisdom, spirit, and heart that is of you with children of all ages.

All: Therefore, remind us to live with a child-like faith, curious to every wondrous mystery, attentive to your every instruction, obedient to your every command, and willing to share with every one of your children. We give you thanks, O God, who is a loving Mother and Father to us all, and in whose name we pray, Amen.

Passing the Peace (*Respecting those who wish to social distance*)

Message for the Young at Heart (*Video*)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S GOOD NEWS

We Pray Together, the Prayer of the Day

Loving God, help us to love others as Christ has loved us. Bring us into the spiritual joy of living our lives as your friend, and teach us to abide in your love, that we may show that love to the world. Amen.

Today's Scripture Reading:

1 John 5:1–6

Liturgist

John 15:9–17

Pastor Paul

Reflecting on Scripture – More Love Talk

Pastor Paul

Osawatomie Special Music – “Down By the River to Pray”

Marti Bogart – Pianist

Miami & Paola Special Music “Thy Word Is Like a Garden, Lord”-S. Wellman Gail Jones

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer (Please use debts and debtors)

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to stewardship

Let us show our friendship with Christ and our love for our neighbors by giving generously so that we may bear the lasting fruit of Christ's love.

We ask for blessings on our tithes and offerings

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name that these tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

Doxology**WE RESPOND AND GO IN GOD'S NAME**

Glory to God Hymn #726 – "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Charge & Benediction**Closing Response**

"Go ye now in peace and know that the love of God will guide you...Feel his presence here beside you, showing you the way...go ye now in peace, go ye now in peace."

Postlude

Miami	"The Gift to Be Simple"-D. Wood	Gail Jones
Osawatomie	"Standing in the Need of Prayer"	Marti Bogart
Paola	"The Gift to Be Simple"-D. Wood	Gail Jones