

**Mothers day Service -10 May 2020-Proverbs 31:28-31; 2 Timothy 1:5; 2 Timothy 3:14-15**

**Greeting:** Today on this special day called -Mother's day, *we want to honor all the women in our midst.* Those who are birth mothers, adoptive mothers, foster mothers, stepmothers, and those who might not have children in the traditional sense, but who are spiritual mothers, nurturing and growing others in the faith. Motherhood takes on many different forms, but all of them sacrifice to bring about new life. Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus.

**Call to Worship Christian Education 101: A Child Learns to Trust by Laurie Hays Coffman <><**

L: My mom is my shepherd; I shall not want. She makes me lie down under cool, downy comforts. She watches me play beside still waters. She restores my soul.

**F: She leads me in paths of respect, responsibility, and goodness, for I am her namesake!**

L: Yea, even though I walk past monsters in the dark, I will not be ascares, because my mom is always near me. Her hands and her voice, they comfort me.

**F: Mama sets the table and cheerfully calls me to dinner even in front of big, mean bullies.**

L: She anoints my skinned knees and broken heart with kisses. She smiles and throws me a towel when my cup runneth over.

**All: Surely God's peace, power, and mercy shall uphold me all the days of my life, for my Mother taught me to dwell in the house of God forever.**

**Opening prayer:**

**Father/ Family member:**

Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands, and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in carrying us and giving us birth. Father, please be present with us in this service this morning, may your Holy spirit lead, guide us and speak to us in Jesus Precious Name. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession: Father:** Lord, Creator and giver of every good gift .We recall your creation isn't as it should be. Sin has broken what was good and inflicted pain. ***(A time of silence to reflect on these words)***

**Let's Pray together:**

**All** : Oh, my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, I detest all my sins, because of your just punishments, but most of all, because they offend you, My God. I firmly resolve with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon:** .**Father/ Family member:**

*Jesus promises a day coming when our tears will be wiped away and everything is set right once and for all. Hear this hopeful vision John was given:* **"I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"**  
**(Revelation 21: 3-5)**

**Scripture Readings:**

**Proverbs 31: 28-31**

**Her children rise up and call her blessed;  
Her husband *also*, and he praises  
her: "Many daughters have done well,  
But you excel them  
all." Charm *is* deceitful and  
beauty *is* passing, But a  
woman *who* fears the LORD, she shall be  
praised. Give her of the fruit of her  
hands, And let her own works praise her  
in the gates.**

**2 Timothy 1:5-<sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your  
sincere faith, which first lived in your  
grandmother Lois and in your mother  
Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in  
you also.**

**2 Timothy 3:14-15-**

**<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you  
have learned and have become  
convinced of, because you know those  
from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how  
from infancy you have known the Holy  
Scriptures, which are able to make you  
wise for salvation through faith in Christ  
Jesus.**

### Sermon:

I begin to say Happy Mothers day amidst Lockdown and the fact that we cannot have special family gathering and celebrations. In the same spirit, I want to tell the motherless, I am feeling and thinking of you today. May God in His great mercy, be that comfort for you as family. Remember, no change in history or disaster will ever take away the value of mothers. I hope that your day will be special. There is no doubt that mothering is the toughest job that you ever have and you love almost every minute of it. Today we pause to say **“Thanks”** for all of your hard work throughout the year. We probably don’t say **“thanks”** enough.

I read of a husband who was feeling guilty because he had not been very attentive to his wife. He decided to change. On his way home from work he bought a box of chocolates and a bunch of Red roses to surprise his wife. He walks up to the door and rings the bell, she opens it, and there he stands, chocolates in one hand, flowers in the other, singing, **“Have I told you lately that I love you?”** instantly she starts crying, big old tears just gushing out of her eyes. She sobs, **“oh, Jerry! Everything went wrong today. We had a leak in the tap, the kids were terrible, the house is a wreck and now you**

**come home drunk!”** hopefully that’s not the case with you men today.

I believe that every parent and especially a mother has a great influence on her children. Someone has said, “Like mother, like children.” **Behind every great man is his mother.** Someone imagined the mothers of these well-known sons making the following comments: **Mrs. Lindbergh: “Charles, can’t you do anything by yourself?” Mrs. Washington: “George never did have a head for money.” Mrs. Armstrong: “Neil has no more business taking flying lessons than the man on the moon.”** (Reader’s Digest [3/88], p. 78.)

Mothers do influence their sons and daughters! One of life’s greatest blessings is to have a godly mother. And, thus, **one of the greatest gifts you can give your children is to be a godly mother.** In 2 Timothy 1:5-“ **I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.”**

We learn that Timothy’s faith came to him through his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. The Apostle Paul’s preaching may have been used by God to bring Timothy to actual conversion, but

behind his preaching were years of godly influence by his grandmother and mother.

**Godly mothers are women of sincere faith-. 2 Timothy 3:14-15 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**

The nurturing of the child, with all that is fair and good, our Lord does through you mothers. **As a child grows older, she changes her methods, not her love.** Mothers are also designed by God to nurture. There is just no greater nurturing power on the planet than a mother. When the apostle Paul was describing his love for the church at Thessalonica, he used the metaphor of a mother's love to describe how deeply he cared for the Thessalonians. He reminded them that he was like a "gentle" mother who **"tenderly cares for her own children" (1 Thessalonians 2:7)**. When God described His love for Israel, He did so with a

motherhood metaphor. **He told Israel that He would comfort them like a mother comforts her children (Isaiah 66:13).**

In our world we find a lot of mothers who are just mothers in name and has no passion or love to be mothers in the true sense of the word. As Sydney J. Harris wrote: **“The commonest fallacy among women is that simply having children makes one a mother — which is as absurd as believing that having a piano makes one a musician.”**

When your children or grandchildren see you reading your Bible, they learn that being in God’s word is important. You don’t have to tell them that; they can see that it’s important to you, so they know that it matters. When they hear you pray or talk about an answer to prayer, they become more trusting of God, more aware that He cares, and that they can go to Him, too, just as you do. When they see you reach out to help others, see you supporting missions, the church, other charities, it rubs off, and they, too, will be generous and involved when grown. From you they learn how to love openly and completely. They learn that, even if you don’t necessarily approve of something they’ve done, you still approve of them. Then, when others put them down, they can rest in the knowledge that they are loved; that their mothers think they are special and

that God loves them, too. A godly mother shines and the light passes on to the next generation and the next. So, too, is it with you and your children and grandchildren. So get out there and shine, and then shine some more.

John Wesley said: **“I learned more about Christianity from my mother than from all the theologians of England.”** May you have a fun-filled day and be spoilt rotten and to those mothers who are not so fortunate, remember our God is with you right where you are.

### Intercessory prayers:

L: We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms. We pray for older moms whose children are grown.

**F: Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done.**

L: We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

**F: Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.**

L: We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms.

**F: Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.**

L: We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

**F: Grant them strength and wisdom.**

L: We pray for moms who enjoy financial abundance.

**F: Grant them time to share with their families.**

L: We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

**F: Grant them relief and justice.**

L: We pray for step-moms.

**F: Grant them patience and understanding and love.**

L: We pray for moms who are separated from their children.

**F: Grant them faith and hope.**

L: We pray for moms in marriages that are in crisis.

**F: Grant them support and insight.**

L: We pray for moms who have lost children.

**F: Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

L: We pray for mothers who aborted their children.

**F: Grant them healing and peace.**

L: We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.

**F: Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.**

L: We pray for adoptive mothers.

**F: Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.**

L: We pray for girls and women who think about being moms.

**F: Grant them wisdom and discernment.**

L: We pray for women who desperately want, or wanted, to be moms.

**F: Grant them grace to accept your timing and will.**

L: We pray for all women who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

**F: Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.**

L: We pray for those people present who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

**F: Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection. All this we prayer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Dismissal/Commissioning:**

May the blessing of the Divine- Be an especially bright benediction upon mothers everywhere. On this Mother's Day! Lead her to a place. Guide her with your grace. To a place where she'll be safe. Amen.