

CAFÉ CHURCH
RURAL RELAXING
SUNDAY 16TH JUNE
2024,
10.45AM
By kind permission of Caroline Jack



A Service for Fathers' Day

We say together the words printed in black in bold.

Welcome

Hymn: Praise, my soul, the king of heaven
chosen by Caroline Jack

A Gathering Prayer

Loving God, thank you for bringing us
together so we may hear of your great love
for us and give you our praise and prayers.

Amen

Praise

See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called the children of God.

Confession

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:
Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.
We turn to you again.

Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead
but now have life through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: Luke 15: 11-32

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Response to God's Word

Hymn: Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Talk

Activity

Hymn: All things bright and beautiful
chosen by Teresa Nixon

We believe

Let us declare our faith in God.

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 fills 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

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray:

Our Father who art in heaven...

Nurturing God, thank you for those who have nurtured us. Open our eyes to the plight of so many fathers and mothers around the world for whom life is difficult. Help us share your love and mercy with them.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for men who are expectant fathers; those who are waiting with joy, and those who are filled with uncertainty and fear. We pray for men who are new fathers, that they may be full partners in caring for and raising their children.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for men and women who long to be parents, but who struggle to do so.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for men who are fathers, either by birth, by adoption, through foster care, or through raising grandchildren. We pray that they may be supported in their parenting that their children may have proper food, shelter, education, and healthcare.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for fathers who have lost children. Comfort them, Holy Spirit, with your everlasting presence and assure them of new life.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for fathers who are incarcerated; fathers who have been abusive; fathers who have been hurtful and neglectful; fathers who have left their families. We pray for your will to be done in their lives and in the lives of their families.

Hear us, Fathering God..

Your mercy is great.

We pray for men who give of themselves with their intellect, their skills, their gifts, and their physical abilities. Bless all men, that they may be allies to protect women from abuse and harassment, and may be advocates and equal partners. .

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for people of all genders and sexual orientations, and those who are parenting in many forms and in the many ways families come together.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for boys and men who struggle against a culture of toxic masculinity. We pray for men who strive to protect and advocate for those most vulnerable – children, those who are poor, God’s Creation, the disenfranchised, women, and those men and women whose voices go unheard. May they heed your call to justice.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all those known to us who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially remembering HM King Charles, HRH The Princess of Wales, Tom Theakston, and Marjorie Dore.

Hear us, Fathering God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who have lost fathers and other important men in their lives, that they may be comforted with the peace that passes all understanding.

Hear us, Fathering God

Your mercy is great.

Who else should we remember today? ...

We bring forward all those for whom we pray:

Hear us, Fathering God

Your mercy is great.

Holy God, we lift our prayers to you through the Holy Spirit in hope, entrusting all for whom we pray to your great goodness and mercy, made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen

Adapted from prayers by Leah D. Schade.

Hymn: For the beauty of the earth

Final Prayer

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Please do join us for refreshments after the service.