**Sunday 10 March 2024 - Lent 4 Mothering Sunday**

**Hymn 634 - Love divine all loves excelling!**

**Preparing - to hear God’s word**

Let us hear the word of the Lord.  
**So may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.**

**2 Corinthians 1.3–7 - please be seated**

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. 7 And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Children’s Spot - How did Jesus love his mother?**

**Jesus’ hands were kind hands - Hymn 213**

**Psalm 127.1–4 - we stand to say**

1 Unless the LORD builds the house, **the builders labour in vain.**  
Unless the LORD watches over the city, **the guards stand watch in vain.**

2 In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—  
**for he grants sleep to those he loves.**

3 Children are a heritage from the LORD, **offspring are a reward from him.**  
4 Like arrows in the hands of a warrior **are children born in one’s youth.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;•  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Sunday Club begins**

**John 4.9–30 - please be seated**

9 The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?’ (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.’ 11 ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?’ 13 Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.’ 15 The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.’ 16 He told her, ‘Go, call your husband and come back.’ 17 ‘I have no husband,’ she replied. Jesus said to her, ‘You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.’  
19 ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.’ 21 ‘Woman,’ Jesus replied, ‘believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.’ 25 The woman said, ‘I know that Messiah’ (called Christ) ‘is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.’ 26 Then Jesus declared, ‘I, the one speaking to you—I am he.’ 27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, ‘What do you want?’ or ‘Why are you talking with her?’

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 ‘Come, see a man who told me everything I’ve ever done. Could this be the Messiah?’ 30 They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Hymn 581 - I the Lord of sea and sky**

**Collection Hymn 543 - Lord of the Home**

**Closing Hymn There is a hope - Townend/Edwards**

There is a hope that burns within my heart,  
That gives me strength for every passing day;  
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part, Yet drives all doubt away:  
I stand in Christ, with sins forgiven;  
And Christ in me, the hope of heaven!  
My highest calling and my deepest joy,  
To make His will my home.

2 There is a hope that lifts my weary head,  
A consolation strong against despair,  
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit, I find the Saviour there!  
Through present sufferings, future’s fear,  
He whispers ‘courage’ in my ear.  
For I am safe in everlasting arms,  
And they will lead me home

3 There is a hope that stands the test of time,  
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,  
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine  
When I behold His face!  
When sufferings cease and sorrows die,  
And every longing satisfied.  
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul, **For I am truly home.**

## Easter Lilies in Carryduff. Complete the form at JTC Table Wednesday 13 March *Magazine* *materials to office (for early publication)* Services at Carryduff: 10:00 am Communion 7:30 pm Lent Service: Essence of PrayerSaturday 16 March: 11:45 am St Patrick’s Day Service in Down Cathedral Next Sunday 17March St Patrick’s Day 8:30 am Early Communion 10:00 am Worship followed by Easter Vestry 12:00 Sunday WorshipBeacon Lighting 7:30 pm at Carryduff 8:30 pm at Killaney Friday 22 March Magazine Team 11:00 am Ballyclare Male Choir 7:00 pm