

Norman Kennedy Presbyterian Church
May 10, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH:

- Church services continue in this format. Some feedback from the congregation is that this method is going well. Thank you for your dedication and participation. We may need to stay with this format for another month or two! Hang in there!
- If you have difficulties opening the links to musical accompaniment or special features, contact Taeyang (306-999-5113)- he will give you some guidance.
- **COMMUNION SUNDAY –on May 31st** – there will be 3 or 4 time slots for 10 people per time to come to the church for a short communion service. An email will be sent out to explain this further. You won't want to miss this opportunity.
- Food Bank Bin from NKP was picked up this week. Another bin has been received and so contributions to it can be at any time.
- Men's Breakfast Discussion meeting (BYOB- the 'b' is for breakfast – as this is a virtual (Zoom) meeting!) The meeting is May 16 – Parry will send out the discussion materials ahead of time, just let him know you wish to participate.
- A Board of Managers meeting is called for May 19th, 6:30 p.m. Among the issues for the Board to discuss is some version of on-line giving. Let us know if you would use that option so we will know if and when to put a method in place.
- The Missions Committee will meet on Thursday, May 21st at 1:30 p.m. at the church.
- Please take note of this: the NKP website is up and active again. Here's the address: www.nkpchurchregina.ca Check it and our FB page.
- Your faithful support has been greatly appreciated. Your envelopes are arriving by mail and by being dropped off either at the church or to the Bosch's home. We will also pick up envelopes from your home, just let us know.
- Sunday School lessons and a craft are being distributed to the mailboxes of the regular Sunday School children. Thanks to Sumi, for preparing and distributing these. We'd love to get drawings, colouring sheets and samples of the crafts back from the children so we can make a display at the church.
- Special music contributions are provided for our 'email' worship services. Thanks to those singing and to Sumi & Taeyang for recording these parts of our worship.
- **'Spring Basket/ Fancy Bag Contest & Auction'** – a fundraiser event!



This is now to be a 'SILENT AUCTION' event. It will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 31st. **NOW is the time to get the basket/bag/ box/container prepared.** CREATIVITY FOLKS – CREATIVITY! Bring your bag to the church the week of May 25th. On the 31st when you come in the church for Communion, you will have an opportunity to submit your bid! More details will be emailed!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome to church at home Worship

Happy MOTHER'S Day!

WORDS OF GREETING:

Welcome in the name of Christ. God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

SONG OF PREPARATION: *Down to the River to Pray/ Lord, Listen to Your Children
Praying Medley*

https://youtu.be/PtTyz8My3_I

(Thank you to our members in Saskatoon – Rachel & Mabel Kotei recorded this for us. As you listen please prepare your heart and mind for worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, who has shown us the wonders of His unfailing love;
and who, for the sake of His name, leads us and guides us.

In you, O Lord, we put our trust.

You are our God, and our lives are in your hands.

Lord, let the light of your face shine on us as we celebrate together in your presence.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: # 376 *'Lord, The light of your love is shining'*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rce9UHYZwl4>

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be

Send forth your
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there
Send forth your word
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

OPENING PRAYER:

Holy and gracious God, we come into your presence with thanksgiving. Thanksgiving for those who love us into new life, day by day, month by month, year by year, decade by decade. For mothers and fathers, teachers, healers, friends, and families whose teaching continually guide us in your way of holy love, we say together: **Hallelujah! Amen.**

Don't forget to send your colouring or art work to the church – we will print pictures in the Order of Worship each week and we will make a display with the other pictures for everyone to see when we return to worship in the sanctuary.

SONG: # 631 'Jesus hands were kind hands'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sGdZUuisSY>

(this link will provide the music – after you open it, go back to the service text for the words and sing along or just listen to this children's choir)

Jesus' hands were kind hands,
doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness,
blessing children small,
Washing tired feet and saving
those who fall;
Jesus' hands were kind hands,
doing good to all.

Take my hands, Lord Jesus,
let them work for you;
Make them strong and gentle,
kind in all I do;
Let me watch you, Jesus,
till I'm gentle too,
Take my hands Lord Jesus
Let them work for you.

- A BIBLE VERSE TO LEARN:
Psalm 31:15a
"My whole life is in your hands."

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

- What does it feel like to hold someone's hand?
- Are some hands warm and soft while other hands are cold, or rough and hard?
- Are some hands so big that 2 or 3 of your hands would fit in that big hand?
- Have you ever held a very small hand? (Some of you who have younger brothers or sisters might remember touching their tiny baby hands.)



- Today is Mother's Day, can I encourage you, if possible, to hold your mother's hand today and tell your mother a few things that she does with her hands that you really like and you can also thank her for doing those things while you hold her hand. (Maybe she smooths out or fixes your hair with her hands and that feels nice; maybe she puts a band-aid on a cut you got and you know the cut will get better now; maybe she used her hand to help you do the craft that was sent out with your Sunday School lesson; maybe her hand took away a sharp knife you reached for because she knew you might cut yourself; maybe she touches your face with her hand when she kisses you good night; maybe _____ you fill in the blank with things your mom does with her hands for you). There's a lot of ways every day when you will feel the hand of your mother or father. It's important sometimes just to hold their hands and feel from their hands how much they care for you.
- In the Bible verse to remember for today God says he holds your whole life in His Hands. That is so awesome. Everything about you, everything you have ever done, everything you will do, everywhere you go, everything that happens to you – God holds it all in His very BIG STRONG hands.
- How does that make you feel?
- The person who wrote about God's hands in Psalm 31 knew God's hands were the best and strongest hands ever – and this person thanked God for keeping him safe in God's hands. Will you thank God today for your Mom's hands and also for God's great big strong hands that hold you today and always?

SOMETHING TO DO:

- I sent some playdoh to your home with the Sunday School packages this week. Could you make a model of a hand? You could make an open hand, or a hand that is holding an object, or a hand that is waving, or a hand that is holding onto something... be creative!

*(If possible, take a picture of yourself with your model and send the picture to the church to be included in our display of your work during Covid 10 church services.)
Let's sing a song about God's big, strong, powerful hands...*

CALL TO CONFESSION: The Lord Christ Jesus gave everything that we who are poor may be made rich. In celebration and humility, we come before God to confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Generous and loving Lord,
We have forgotten you and failed you time and again.
Even so, you do not forget and you will not fail.
We confess that we have not shown kindness to those whom you love;
We have held in contempt those to whom you have shown mercy.
Grant us your strength and give us your peace.
In true wisdom, may we be ever patient and loving,
That we may glorify your name and live in your everlasting victory.
It is in the name of your son Jesus Christ that we pray all things.
Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Hymn 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' (vs. 3 & chorus)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoFJzsEF3ZM>

(instrumental – sing along silently repeating these words)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness, " Lord, unto me!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Living God, help us so to hear your Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe; and believing, we may follow your way in all faithfulness, seeking your honour and glory in all that we do. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

(online Bible resource for various translations can be found at www.biblegateway.com)

The Gospel of John 14:1-14 (ESV)

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God;^[a] believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?^[b] ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.”^[c] ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also.^[d] From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me^[e] anything in my name, I will do it.

1 Peter 2:2-10 (ESV)

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”^[a]

⁸and “A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON: ‘Precious – to God!’

I don’t have the word ‘precious’ in my vocabulary.

What do I mean?

I mean I know the word, I could describe or define the word, but I just don’t use that word – or least not often.

I might use a word with a similar meaning – like valuable, priceless, treasured, loved. But seldom precious.

Maybe the word was changed for me when it was used in the Lord of the Rings



trilogy. The character Gollum (who is a physically odd even scary looking character) speaks to what has consumed him – that being the ring - and he calls it ‘**my precious!**’ He does so in such a way that the word becomes unattractive. In the movie Gollum represents

greed and ambition but in finding the ring ‘goodness’ also emerges – and therefore the ring became something of great value, something he needed to and would go to any length to find again. Because it was precious to him!

Isn’t that’s what we would also do for something or someone who we deemed was precious or valuable?

Think about that in regards to Jesus Christ.

Is He ‘your precious’; are you His?

Peter writes that Jesus was and is precious to God and we are, in turn, precious to Jesus – so precious - or if you don’t use that word – then so valuable, so treasured, so loved that Jesus didn’t just search for us but he found us, loved us, died for us.

Precious we are indeed!

Precious He is indeed in fulfilling His Father's plan for him!

Our New Testament reading in 2 Peter this morning includes this verse – “come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious”.

Here Peter gives us a word picture of the value of Jesus.

Peter's analogy is that of a rock. A rock can be a precious gem.

How many women have such a rock on the 3rd finger of their left hand? Do they not consider it a precious stone?



Peter probably did not envision the rock being the diamond of an engagement ring but he would have been familiar with the idea of **cornerstone**.

A cornerstone – especially chosen/selected, an important stone, a valuable stone, a stone that was precious because structure, stability and integrity was necessary in that stone. Structural engineers of ancient times knew full well the importance of the cornerstone. It had to be both strong in substance and perfect in symmetry because it would establish the plumb line for every single angle of the building. The slightest weakness in the cornerstone could mean an eventual collapse of the building. Based on the perfect dimensions of the cornerstone, every other stone would be cut and fitted in as the building took shape and became strong and secure.

Peter develops this analogy for our understanding of Jesus and the church – the church is ‘built’ of those who believe. Post-resurrection, as we have studied over the last few Sundays, many disciples were finding belief hard. But who Jesus was, what He had done was real. His life, his death and resurrection, his ascension – all this happened, all this was true, all this was the new movement of God to declare his power, his purpose, his glory in the world. The new had come, that which was solid and true and real and predicted or prophesied and enduring was introduced.

What better image than that of a new temple, a spiritual temple! Such to be the epitome of a true and lasting temple – a place which held so much value and representation to the Jewish people. The temple was the center of life, it was the place where one found the Holy Scriptures, it was a court, it was the school, it was the home of faith. Peter calls not for the construction of a new physical temple but teaches that **Jesus and his followers become a true temple**. One in which the master builder is God and the stones are chiselled and shaped to fit together, forming something of great value. The cornerstone is of even greater value.



Checking out near the front door of our church building you will find its cornerstone.

Upon examination, to my untrained eye, I think it is just ceremonial.

Yet its significance is that it names the building and symbolizes that from 1975 this was/is the place where a church gathered.

Our church is a well constructed building made of brick & mortar, stone and cement, wood & iron in its various parts.

But moreso, it is a church of living stones!

Beyond ceremony, in reality- in order to live the life of faith Peter writes we must *"come to Jesus, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious."* A spiritual building is being formed and we too are being added to the building – each one of us being a living stone and being cemented into place, into the relationship which is with Jesus and connected also to those who believe.

Many metaphors are used in the Bible to describe the Christian life and our relationship with our heavenly Father – last week we thought about the shepherd metaphor... we could think of the vine and branches, the field and its crops, the body and its parts. Today, think about being a stone. That's right you and I as stones!

For some, the very word stone conjures up ideas like stone-cold, stone wall, stone-deaf, heart of stone, set in stone...all of which mean hardness and permanency. In many ways we would rather not be a stone. It's good then that Peter changes our common perceptions for he uses the adjectives such as 'precious' and 'living'.

The new temple of God is made up of precious living stones – and those adjectives speak of value, of importance, of movement, of pliability, of connections, of growth. Jesus is the cornerstone, chosen and precious to God, and we are living stones – also chosen and precious. And as we are fitted into Him, we are fitted and connected to one another. And so, the temple, that is the Church of Jesus Christ, will grow, thrive and flourish.

Peter's emphasis is that we begin to see how precious is this new temple – beginning with Jesus as the cornerstone and you and I and all who believe as living stones.

In a strange sort of way, we are reminded here that the church is not merely a building – it is the living, breathing, working, caring, ministering people of God.

Yet Jesus and the church have mostly been rejected, Peter says that, and we see it in contemporary society. But that should not decrease the value of the spiritual temple as we know and experience it. It has been said one often does not recognize the value of something until you don't have it. Examples might be that food is much more valuable to one who has gone hungry for awhile; health is much more valuable to one who has suffered an illness; freedom is much more valuable to one who has been under a forced confinement. To whom then does Jesus and the church become valuable? To those who have come to realize they are poor, helpless, spiritually dying sinners.

“Come to him a living stone...chosen and precious in God's sight”. Jesus is precious to those who believe. The living stones – individually and collectively are precious in that they form the visible representation of Jesus Christ in our world. The call is to come, to come all of us, to Jesus and to the spiritual temple/home where we will find truth, and find worship, and find light, and find belonging, and find mercy.

We find these things in Jesus the Cornerstone but we are also to find them with and in each other.

Come to the full benefits of the spiritual life and home, come by faith, come continually, come together. There is not just one living stone connected to the Cornerstone – that would not be much of a building. Every one of us is a stone - a stone connected and cemented to every other stone – chiselled to fit together.

I don't know about you but in the last 8 weeks, at times I felt like one lonely stone. Peter's metaphor reminds me that I am anchored to the cornerstone – but it also reminds me I am connected to each of you. The church is built and rises up to be a witness with a lot of stones of various sizes and shapes. But not much witness comes when we hunker down and hide. The call of the Government and Health Authorities has been to stay home, to not gather, to keep our distance. The call of the church is to be living stones that in some way communicate how precious is our Saviour, how precious is our faith.

I am challenged by this image for the times we are in - for I also hear Peter describing that one function of living stones is to “**declare the praises**” of Him who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of life and glory.”

How can we become 'declarers of truth and love and light'? The physical house of God may be empty but the spiritual house God has built in us as the faith community of Norman Kennedy Church continues. How then can we continue to do the work of God witnessing to how great and how precious is the life offered to us when we believe in Jesus? The challenge continues – surely we can continue to be

'living stones'. And so, I ask what are the creative ways in which we can praise God and live out this most precious relationship we have as witnesses of His love, grace and mercy? What is God prompting you to do? What might be the creative ways in which we praise him right here on Sherwood Drive and everywhere in our neighbourhoods?

May we be found faithful in these days to Jesus Christ and his Church.

Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

SONG OF RESPONSE: # 349 *My hope is built on nothing less*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhVwVHC6_n0

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.
*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay
*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,

Faultless to stand before the throne.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

INVITATION & PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9:7: God loves a cheerful giver,

Eugene Peterson in his translation of the Bible says,

“God loves it when the giver delights in the giving.”

Let us show such delight....

(your offerings are being received week by week – thank you)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFQ_H4c8WW0

Doxology: ***Praise God from whom all blessings flow***

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you.

All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept our joyful offerings as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world, Amen.

PRAYERS of the People and the Lord’s Prayer:

Heavenly Father, in seeking to know You more and love You better it is helpful that Your Word provides practical and ordinary wisdom. We come to You often wanting the benefits of being your children – for Your love and Your forgiveness gives us such peace and yet we are hesitant to be witnesses and workers in the building up of the Church. Your work in the world is accomplished as we work. Make us more willing to be molded, shaped and changed so that together we do the mission and ministry You set before us. We pray for the specific work and witness of our church in this neighbourhood. Help us to share and care for one another – may we remember that some are lonely and call them; may we know and support those who are anxious and worried either about the COVID 19 or other matters affecting their lives – may we be encouragers; may we notice if and when a neighbour or friend has a specific need and be willing to help.

Today we pray for our collective and individual work and witness during the

pandemic that affects in some way all people – we pray for those who are out of work, we pray that support will come to them and that other employment opportunities might be available. We pray for those who are working but are at risk – either in the nature of their work or because of others not attending to careful measures. We pray for their health physically and emotionally. We pray for those who are in need of medical care for new or on-going health issues and are fearful to go to hospital – may their fears be relieved and may they attend to those other physical and medical issues. We remember also to pray for the wisdom and direction that comes to all of us from our government and health authorities – that their plans will be attended to and move us quickly to resume life in healthy ways. Today we pray also for the needs of our church family – we pray for strength to those who fight the cancer battle – for Janet, for Bonnie, for Ron. We pray for those who live with ongoing illnesses or pain, may there be some relief and cures on the horizon for them. We pray for those who are prone to depression, may even the promise of nicer days help lift their spirits. We pray for those who are overwhelmed by work or responsibilities – give them times of rest for body, mind and soul. Living God, teach us all how to listen for your voice of lovingkindness and mercy, of wisdom and direction, of compassion and comfort – and may we rejoice in the knowledge that we have that You indeed know us and hold us in your strong powerful hands. And we are safe.

Be pleased O God to hear these our prayers which we bring to you this day – and with this prayer as we were taught by our Lord Jesus -

**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.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

THE PARTING HYMN: **#479 'The Church's One Foundation'**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jotNbcFeIX4>

1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word:
from heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

4 Yet she on earth hath union
with the God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

GOD SENDS US . . .

COMMISSIONING:

Go in peace, and may the peace of God, which shines brightly and vanquishes our darkness, always be with you. Go, knowing that God is your rock and your refuge. You are not alone. God is always with you.

**BENEDICTION: Now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.*

***GOING OUT SONG: # 641 'One more step along the world I go'**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PXV3dwaeNU>

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go;
From the old things to the new
Keep me traveling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me traveling along with you.
Round the corners of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn;
And the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me traveling along with you.
As I travel through the bad and good,
Keep me traveling the way I should;
Where I see no way to go
You'll be telling me the way, I know
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me traveling along with you.
Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough;
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me traveling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me traveling along with you.
You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me;
Ever old and ever new,
Keep me traveling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me traveling along with you.



Thank you, dear Lord, for our mothers
Who were brave enough to give birth
Who loved through many growing-up years

Who taught about God and love and being good

Who often got no thanks

Whose ears could hear the slightest cry

Whose eyes didn't miss much either

Whose hands held and bathed and picked up

Whose heart was often broken

Who always forgave and forgot

Who encouraged when things went bad

Who always had time to listen

Who worked so hard to make things go

Who make the world so much better

Who deserve our love on Mother's Day

And Every day

Even for eternity. Amen.