

A Prayer for Mother's Day in the midst of a Pandemic (adapted)
(Rev. Mary Elizabeth Hanchey)

***Creator God, who hems us in behind and before.
Holy God, whose deep and abiding love are beyond our
understanding.***

***Gracious God, who walks with us through hope and joy, grief and
ache, reminding us that we are enough, come and be with us now.***

***In this season when we are raw with grief and anxiety, when
everything is harder, when we find it difficult to imagine what life may
be like in the weeks and months ahead, come and fill us with
remembrances that we are beloved and never alone.***

***On this day when we celebrate mothers, we ask for an extra dose of
wisdom and compassion.***

***We give thanks for all the ways that we have been mothered by so
many – for all the ways that we have been loved fiercely by women
who are related to us, and by women who have walked beside us in
our churches and communities. Bring those who have mothered us
to mind. Protect those who still walk with us.***

***We give thanks for all of the ways that we have been formed, and
challenged and nurtured by women who have chosen to open their
lives to us, again and again...***

***We cry out for those who have lost mothers, who are lost in grief or
whose sorrow remains tender.***

We cry out for those whose mothers caused pain and hurt.

***We cry out for those who have lost children, who carefully navigate
the days and hours so that they are not consumed by the hole in the
middle of their lives.***

***We cry out for those who have not been able to build the families they
had hoped to because of infertility, or the loss of pregnancies, or
death of children, or for any number of things that have made their
dreams more difficult and complicated.***

***We thank you for the strength of women who have often been the
rock of their families, the glue that has kept everyone together, the
compassion that reminds us, whether we are connected by blood or
our humanity, we are related and kin to one another.***

***May these valiant women be blessed and cherished today and all their
days! Amen***