

United Benefice

Online

Harvest Thanksgiving

Service

4 October 2020

Harvest Acclamation

All **The earth is yielding its harvest;
the Lord, our God, has blessed us.**

Leader You visit the earth and nourish it;
All **you make it very plenteous.**

Leader You help us in our work;
All **and bless the increase of it.**

Leader You crown the year with your goodness;
All **and your paths overflow with plenty.**

Leader The meadows are clothed with sheep;
All **the valleys stand so thick with corn,
they shout for joy and sing.**

**The earth is yielding its harvest;
the Lord, our God, has blessed us.**

Hymn **Come, ye thankful people come.**

Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest-home:
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home!

We ourselves are God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear;
Grant, O harvest Lord, that we, wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take his harvest home;
From his field shall purge away all that doth offend, that day;
Give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store, in the garner evermore.

Then, the Church triumphant come,
raise the song of harvest-home!
All is safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
in God's garner to abide:
Come, ten thousand angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!

Leader We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving for the harvest, to celebrate his goodness towards us and acknowledge our dependence on his loving kindness. We come to honour the role of those who farm the land and fish the seas, work in dairies, orchards, factories and shops to provide the food we need.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.

Leader We say sorry for the wrong we have done against God, the whole world, and our neighbour.

As we prepare to celebrate, let us call to mind our sins and the sins of our society in the misuse of God's creation.

All God has blessed us, but still God's children go hungry
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

All God has blessed us, but still the poor cry out for justice
Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

All God has blessed us, but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Leader 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

The Harvest Collect:

Eternal God, You crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being: through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever, **Amen.**

Psalm: Psalm 65

Read by Frank Cookson from Holy Trinity

Hymn: To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise
in hymns of adoration;
to thee bring sacrifice of praise
with shouts of exultation:
bright robes of gold the fields adorn,
the hills with joy are ringing,
the valleys stand so thick with corn
that even they are singing.

And now, on this our festal day,
thy bounteous hand confessing,
upon thine altar, Lord, we lay
the first fruits of thy blessing:
by thee our souls are truly fed
with gifts of grace supernal;
thou who dost give us daily bread,
give us the bread eternal.

We bear the burden of the day,
and often toil seems dreary;
but labour ends with sunset ray,
and rest comes for the weary:
may we, the angel-reaping o'er,
stand at the last accepted,
Christ's golden sheaves for evermore
to garners bright elected.

O blessed is that land of God,
where saints abide for ever;
where golden fields spread far and broad,
where flows the crystal river:
the strains of all its holy throng
with ours today are blending;
thrice blessed is that harvest song
which never hath an ending.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

First Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 9: 6 - end

Read By Ed Wakefield from St Mary's

Hymn: The Earth is the Lord's (Graham Kendrick)

The earth is the Lord's (Men)
And everything in it, (Women)
The earth is the Lord's (Men)
The work of His hands. (Women)
The earth is the Lord's (Men)
And everything in it; (Women)
And all things were made (All)
For His glory.

(Last time)
And all things were made,
Yes all things were made,
And all things were made,
For His glory.

The mountains are His,
The seas and the islands,
The cities and towns,
The houses and street.
Let rebels bow down
and worship before Him,
For all things were made
For His glory.

Second Bible Reading: Luke 12: 16—30

Read by Revd Trish Cope

Reflection: Revd Patricia Robinson

Intercessions: Lead by Chris Stanisstreet (Reader)

Response: Lord of the harvest: **hear our prayer.**

All: Our Father , which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Hymn: We plough the fields and Scatter

We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand:
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.*

He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
he fills the earth with beauty,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.

We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.

Blessing

May God our creator,
who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air
bestow on you his care
and increase the harvest of your righteousness;
and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
remain with you and with those you love
both now and for evermore. Amen.

