**Songs of Praise for Harvest 2025**

Welcome Alison Bradbury Deputy Lord Lieutenant and her husband John.

Presentation of Scarecrow awards/prizes

**Hymn 116** All things bright and beautiful Tune All things bright - Omit v5

Please sit

**Reading** **Genesis 1: 24-end – NIV Alison Bradbury DL**

**24**And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. **25**God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

**26**Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26a)] and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

**27**So God created mankind in his own image,
    in the image of God he created them;
    male and female he created them.

**28**God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

**29**Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. **30**And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

**31**God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

**Hymn 104** For the beauty of the earth Tune Dix

**Reading Psalm 65. Te decet hymnus BCP**

1 Thou, O God, art praised in Sion : and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

2  Thou that hearest the prayer : unto thee shall all flesh come.

3  My misdeeds prevail against me : O be thou merciful unto our sins.

4  Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and receivest unto thee : he shall dwell in thy court, and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

5  Thou shalt shew us wonderful things in thy righteousness, O God of our salvation : thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in the broad sea.

6  Who in his strength setteth fast the mountains: and is girded about with power.

7  Who stilleth the raging of the sea : and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people.

8  They also that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth shall be afraid at thy tokens : thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.

9  Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it : thou makest it very plenteous.

10  The river of God is full of water : thou preparest their corn, for so thou providest for the earth.

11  Thou waterest her furrows, thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof : thou makest it soft with the drops of rain, and blessest the increase of it.

12  Thou crownest the year with thy goodness : and thy clouds drop fatness.

13  They shall drop upon the dwellings of the wilderness : and the little hills shall rejoice on every side.

14  The folds shall be full of sheep : the valleys also shall stand so thick with corn, that they shall laugh and sing.

**Hymn 290** We plough the fields and scatter Tune Wir Pflugen

**Reading Matthew 6: 25-33 – NIV Sarah Flynn**

**25**“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? **26**Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? **27**Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23310e)]?

**28**“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. **29**Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. **30**If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? **31**So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ **32**For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. **33**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Hymn 289** Come ye thankful people come Tune St George

**Poem The harvest Moon by Ted Hughes – Amanda Quince**

**Hymn Sheet** Fair waved the golden corn Tune Holyrood

Fair waved the golden corn J. Watson (1816-80)

1 Fair waved the golden corn
in Canaan's pleasant land,
when full of joy, some shining morn,
went forth the reaper-band.

2 To God so good and great
their cheerful thanks they pour;
then carry to his temple-gate
the choicest of their store.

3 Like Israel, Lord, we give
our earliest fruits to thee,
and pray that, long as we shall live,
we may thy children be.

4 Thine is our youthful prime,
and life and all its powers;
be with us in our morning time,
and bless our evening hours.

5 In wisdom let us grow,
as years and strength are given,
that we may serve thy church below,
and join thy saints in heaven.

**Prayers including the Collect**

**Hymn 291** To thee O Lord our hearts we raise Tune Golden Sheaves

**Offertory For + St Albans Appeal**

**Blessing based on Philippians 4 4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.  Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.  As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you. leading into the Blessing