

Harvest Thanksgiving



A Community Celebration

Please stand for

The Opening Hymn — Praise, O Praise Our God and King

**Praise, O praise our God and King;
hymns of adoration sing:
*for his mercies still endure
ever faithful, ever sure.***

**Praise him that he made the sun
day by day his course to run: *for his mercies...***

**And the silver moon by night,
shining with her gentle light: *for his mercies...***

**Praise him that he gave the rain
to mature the swelling grain: *for his mercies...***

**And has bid the fruitful field
crops of precious increase yield: *for his mercies...***

**Praise him for our harvest-store;
he has filled the garner-floor: *for his mercies...***

**And for richer food than this,
pledge of everlasting bliss: *for God's mercies...***

**Glory to our bounteous King;
glory let creation sing;
glory to the Father, Son,
and blest Spirit, Three in One.**

Please remain standing.

Opening Responses and Welcome

The earth has yielded its harvest;

All God, our God, has blessed us.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Please sit as the minister introduces the service.

Compassion in Action

Confession

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

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly
and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

Absolution

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins
and restore you in his image,
to the praise and glory of God's name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand.

Hymn — In Humble Gratitude, O God

**In humble gratitude, O God,
we bring our best to thee,
to serve thy cause and share thy love
with all humanity.**

**O thou who gavest us thyself
in Jesus Christ thy Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

**A world in need now summons us
to labour, love, and give;
to make our life an offering
to God, that we may live;
the Church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed by Christ-like love,
a life in Christ made new.**

Please sit.

The Gospel Reading: John 6.25–35

The people found Jesus on the other side of the lake. They asked him, "Teacher, when did you come here?" He answered, "Why are you looking for me? Is it because you saw miraculous signs? The truth is, you are looking for me because you ate the bread and were satisfied. But earthly food spoils and ruins.

So don't work to get that kind of food. But work to get the food that stays good and gives you eternal life. The Son of Man will give you that food. He is the only one qualified by God the Father to give it to you."

The people asked Jesus, "What does God want us to do?" Jesus answered, "The work God wants you to do is this: to believe in the one he sent." So the people asked, "What miraculous sign will you do for us? If we can see you do a miracle, then we will believe you. What will you do? Our ancestors were given manna to eat in the desert. As the Scriptures say, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus said, "I can assure you that Moses was not the one who gave your people bread from heaven. But my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. God's bread is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

The people said, "Sir, from now on give us bread like that." Then Jesus said, "I am the bread that gives life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry. No one who believes in me will ever be thirsty."

Address

Choir Anthem — Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Please remain seated or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession

In peace, let us pray to the Father,
through the Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit,
to our God in three persons
who makes, sustains and renews all things.

This response is used

Lord of the harvest,

All in your mercy, hear us.

At the end

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please stand.

Presentation of the Symbols of the Harvest

Give thanks to the Lord
for God's mercy endures for ever;
the Lord satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good things.

Let us bring forward symbols of the harvest:

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of the cornfields,
the oats and the wheat, the rye and the barley.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of roots,
the swedes and mangolds, turnips and sugar beet.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of seeds for next year's crops,
for clover, for hay and for corn.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of vegetables,
peas, potatoes, beans and hops.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of pears and apples,
berries and herbs.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Bring forward the harvest of flowers,
the finest blooms from our gardens and our fields.

All God's mercy endures for ever.

Hymn — To Thee, O Lord, Our Hearts We Raise

**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 earthly 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 garner bright elected.**

**O blessèd 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 blessèd is that harvest-song
which never has an ending.**

The 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 for ever.

All Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Let us bless the Lord of the harvest,
praying with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who 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.**

Please sit.

Song — Thank You, Lord

Please stand.

Blessing and Dismissal

The earth has yielded its harvest;

All God, our God, has blessed us.

God the Father, who created the world,
give you grace to be wise stewards of all creation.

All Amen.

God the Son, who redeemed the world,
inspire you to go out as labourers into the harvest.

All Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation,
help you to bear the fruits of love, joy and peace.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing as the choir and minister process out.

Recessional 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,
and lights the evening star;
the winds and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread:**

All good gifts around us...

**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:**

All good gifts around us...

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Please join us for refreshments after the service



all are very welcome!



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