

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH - MOSCOW

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

11th OCTOBER, 2026



At the start of our service this morning, please join the choir in singing "Thou art worthy"

**Thou are worthy, thou art worthy,
thou art worthy, O Lord.
Thou art worthy, to receive glory,
glory and honour and power.
For thou hast created, hast all things created,
for thou hast created all things.
And for thy pleasure they are created;
thou are worthy, O Lord.**

**Thou art worthy, thou art worthy,
thou art worthy, O Lamb.
Thou art worthy, to receive glory, and
pow'r at the Father's right hand.
For thou hast redeemed us, hast ransomed and cleaned us
by thy blood setting us free.
In white robes arrayed us, kings and priests made us,
and we are reigning in thee.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, for his steadfast love endures for ever.
(Psalm 107:1)

**Opening 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 his garner evermore.**

**Then, thou Church triumphant, come,
raise the song of harvest-home;
all be safely gathered in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there for ever purified
in God's garner to abide:
come, ten thousand angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home!**

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

We 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:

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:

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:

forgive us and help us.

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

Father, in your mercy:

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:

forgive us and help us.

ABSOLUTION

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(All Stand)*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray the Collect together:

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. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (*All Sit*)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹ Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. ¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶ and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 65

¹ Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,

² O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

³ When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

⁴ Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;
 you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
⁶ By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.
⁷ You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,
 the tumult of the peoples.
⁸ Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
 you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.
⁹ You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;
 the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain,
 for so you have prepared it.
¹⁰ You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
 softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
¹² The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
 the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

⁶ The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹ As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
 his righteousness endures for ever.'

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹² for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³ Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: For the beauty of the earth

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

***Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:**

**For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled:**

**For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:**

**For thy Church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
off'ring up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love:**

Gospel Reading - Luke 12: 16-30

¹⁶ Then Jesus told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" ¹⁸ Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." ²⁰ But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

²² He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the

body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (*All Stand*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*All sit or kneel*)

This response is used:

Lord of all creation: **hear our prayer**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

THE PEACE (*All Stand*)

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control. *(cf Galatians 5: 22,23)*

The peace of the Lord be always with you; **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory 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.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer, at your table we present this money, symbol of the work you have given us to do; use it, use us, in the service of your world to the glory of your name. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF RESERVED HOST

Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much
as to gather up the crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*We invite you to receive the bread which has been duly consecrated by Archdeacon Leslie
and is now being used as the reserved sacrament.*

Hymn during Communion: For the fruits of his creation

**For the fruit of his creation, thanks be to God;
for his gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We say together:

Jesus, no words can express our gratitude and amazement that you should die for us. How amazing it is that each of our lives is so valuable to you that you would lay yours down to reach us. May the presence of you through this reserved sacrament remain with us as we seek to take your message of love and grace into the world. Amen.

NOTICES

Closing Hymn: Rejoice, the Lord is King

**Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.**

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

**Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.**

**His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n.**

**He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet.**

**Rejoice in glorious hope;
Jesus the judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.**

***We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound: rejoice!***

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR OUR STRATEGY

Gracious God, you call your Church to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in each generation; guide the Diocese in Europe as we seek to discern your will for us. Give wisdom, courage, and humility to Bishop Robert and Bishop Andrew, and to all who lead and serve in this process. Bless the members of our working groups and all who contribute, that together we may listen deeply for your voice.

In our prayer, our conversation, and our decision-making, help us to recognise your calling and respond with faith and trust. Shape us as a welcoming and diverse people, rooted in Christ and sent out in love to serve your world. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the fruits of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

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

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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