

Harvest Festival

Service



The land has given us its harvest: God our God has blessed us.

Psalm 67:6

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice

Song

Father in heaven all good gifts come from you. You send the sunshine and the rain, and it is through your love and care that we enjoy the harvest time. Thank you for providing so richly for our needs and help us to share the good things we have with those who have little or nothing.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Saying Sorry

Let us confess our forgetfulness of God, our failure to give thanks and the ways in which we have wasted the gifts of creation.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing good things fairly.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May God show us his mercy, restore us in his likeness and give
us generous hearts and lives. **Amen**

Saying Thank You

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it; the world and all
that lives in it. **Thank you, God.**

All the animals of the forest are the Lord's and so are the
cattle upon a thousand hills. **Thank you, God.**

The Lord makes grass grow for the cattle and plants for us to
cultivate. **Thank you, God.**

The Lord brings forth food from the earth, wine that gladdens
our hearts, oil to make our faces shine, bread that sustains our
hearts. **Thank you, God.**

The Lord makes springs pour water into the valleys; it flows
between the mountains. **Thank you, God.**

The birds of the air nest by the waters; they sing among the
branches. **Thank you, God.**

For all who work with God to bring food to our tables,
Thank you, God

For farmers, growers, packers and processors, for breeders,
stockpeople, shepherds and dairy farmers,
Thank you, God

For distributors, hauliers, retailers, stall-holders and cooks,
Thank you, God.

Amen.

First Reading

Second Reading

Song

Offering of Gifts

Presenter: We bring before you the offering of soil from the earth, the precious element that sustains life, and a symbol of God's whole creation and goodness.

The land has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring the offering of wheat and all cereals, the potatoes and all the crops from our fields.

The land has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring the offering of flowers, fruits, berries and vegetables from orchards and gardens.

The land has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring the offering of seeds for next year's crops, symbol of the trust we put in you, O God.

The land has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring this offering from the sea as a symbol of the harvest of the sea, and give thanks for all who work on the water.

The sea has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring this Harvest Loaf as both a symbol of the fruits of our work and of the means by which we have the strength to work.

The land has given us food; our God has blessed us.

Presenter: We bring the offering of an empty bowl as symbol of harvests that fail and of those around the world who suffer from hunger and starvation. Keep us mindful of their needs and may your goodness towards us bear fruits of compassion and generosity.

Almighty and everlasting God, we offer you our hearty thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us the fruits of the earth in their seasons. Give us grace to use them rightly, to your glory, for our own well being and for the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Song

Prayers

After the words: *Lord of all life* Please answer: ***Hear our prayer***

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come; they 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

Song

Blessing

God the Father, who created the world, help you to look after
the world. God the Son, Jesus, help you to do what is right.
God the Holy Spirit, help you carry his fruits of love, joy and
peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you now and for
evermore.

Amen

