

## Service of the Word for Harvest

*Words of Welcome and Opening Prayer*

**Lord, direct our thoughts, help us to pray,  
And lift up thankful hearts to worship you in Spirit and truth,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*Opening Hymn 37 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

All the world is 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  
Lord of harvest, grant 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 in that day  
All offences purge away  
Give his angels charge at last  
In the fire the tares to cast  
But the fruitful ears to store  
In his garner evermore

Even so, Lord, quickly come  
To thy final harvest home  
Gather thou thy people in  
Free from sorrow, free from sin  
There, forever purified  
In thy presence to abide  
Come, with all Thine angels, come  
Raise the glorious harvest home

This is the day that the Lord has made:

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things:

**Let it be known in all the world.**

The Lord is our light and our life:

**Come, let us worship.**

Let us praise God for his mercy.

**And give thanks to him for his goodness.**

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**

### *The Collect*

Eternal God,

You crown the year with your goodness

And 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 our Lord. Amen.

### *First Reading*

*A Reading from the Book Deuteronomy:*

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, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 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. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

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. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, 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, 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, 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. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.'

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.

(Deuteronomy 8:7-18)

*This is the word of the Lord*

*Psalm 65*

- 1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;  
**to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.**
- 2 To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins;  
**when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.**
- 3 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there.  
**We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your holy temple.**
- 4 With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
**O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.**
- 5 In your strength you set fast the mountains  
**and are girded about with might.**
- 6 You still the raging of the seas,  
**the roaring of their waves and the clamour of the peoples.**
- 7 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your marvels;  
**the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise.**
- 8 You visit the earth and water it;  
**you make it very plenteous.**
- 9 The river of God is full of water;  
**you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.**
- 10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
**you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.**
- 11 You crown the year with your goodness,  
**and your paths overflow with plenty.**
- 12 May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness  
**and the hills be girded with joy.**
- 13 May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep  
**and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.**

*Second Reading*

*A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians:*

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

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. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 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, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:6-15)

*This is the word of the Lord*

*Duet- For the Beauty of the Earth*

*Holy Gospel*

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke:*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to the Samaritan, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

Luke 17: 11-19

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Harvest Reflection*

*Hymn 47 - We Plough the Fields and Scatter*

We plow 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 heav'n 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;  
The winds and waves obey Him,  
By Him the birds are fed;  
Much more to us, His children,  
He gives our daily bread.

We thank you then, O Father,  
For all things bright and good,  
The seedtime and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food;  
Accept the gifts we offer  
For all Thy love imparts,  
And that which you most welcome  
Our humble, thankful hearts.

*Prayers and Thanksgivings*

Heavenly Father, Lord of all creation, We thank you for the coming of the harvest and for those who maintain the provision of food. Enable us to become better stewards of your creation, thinking always of our legacy to future generations. Mindful of the unequal burdens borne by the old and the sick in this emergency, inspire us also to be unsparing in giving ourselves in the service of our neighbour and in support of all who continue to work on the frontline in government, in hospitals and care homes, and in the community. All this we ask in the Name of your Son, the servant of all. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our world and all the people in it at this time of uncertainty and distress.

We pray for ourselves as we celebrate the harvest. We are thankful for the good things that have come to us despite our current difficulties. In the city we may not till the fields, but we have been toiling whether in workshops or at workstations, in the office, the shop, the kitchen, the community or the classroom. Our achievements have been both great and small, but all are of value and we thank God for them.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those for whom there is no harvest; those who have no work as a result of the pandemic or who are dispossessed by acts of war or natural disaster. We pray for all those for whom life is a struggle against starvation, disease, terror or oppression. We pray for the wisdom to be careful stewards of the earth's resources and to hand them on to the next generation in good order.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our Church, its clergy and its leaders, that the will of the Lord may be done.

We pray for all people of faith throughout the world that they may live in mutual respect and harmony. May we and be recognised as Christians by our love and not be ashamed to confess our faith.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick in body and mind and for those who care for them; we think especially of all who have been adversely affected by Covid 19: may they be comforted and strengthened in their troubles. We pray especially for any known to us who are in special need of our prayers at this time. We remember them now and lift them to the Lord in a moment of silence...

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died and light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ, which eternally shines and brings hope. We remember especially this day, Dorothy Taylor.

You turn our darkness into light: in your light shall we see light.

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

Summing up all our prayers and praises into one we pray in the words our Saviour Christ taught us, saying:

**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 Blessing*

The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen**

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. **Amen.**

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

The Lord Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit guard you, save you and bring you to the heavenly city where he lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Closing Hymn 361- Now Thank we all our God*

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
in Whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O, may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
and guide us when perplexed;  
And free us from all ills  
in this world and the next

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him Who reigns  
with Them in highest Heaven—  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and Heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.