

**Parishes of Elstead, Thursley,
Shackleford and Peper Harow**

Harvest Festival Service

**St James Church
Elstead**



Sunday 13th September 2020



Welcome and introduction to the service

God is Good
All the time

All the time
God is Good

Hymn

*Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God
And He holds us in His hands.*

He's higher than a skyscraper
And He's deeper than a submarine.
He's wider than the universe
And beyond my wildest dreams.
And He's known me and He's loved me
Since before the world began.
How wonderful to be a part
Of God's amazing plan!

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Baked Beans! Planting Beans

Thanksgiving

Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!

All creation bless the Lord;
and you, angels of the Lord,
praise and glorify the Lord.

Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!

NOTICES

Blessing

May God who clothes the lilies, and feeds the birds of the sky,
who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water,
who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine,
lead us, feed us, multiply us,
and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator
through all eternity;
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be upon you all and remain with you now and forever. **Amen**

Go in peace, with thankful hearts to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen



Hymn

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful,

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky.

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

All things bright and beautiful,

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,
Cecil F. Alexander.

Sun and moon, bless the Lord;
and you, night and day, bless the Lord,
and you, light and darkness, bless the Lord.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**

Praise the Lord all the earth.
Birds of the air, bless the Lord,
all creatures of the sea, bless the Lord.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**

Fire and hail, bless the Lord.
Snow and frost, bless the Lord,
mountains and hills, bless the Lord.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**

Praised be Christ, he is our hope,
he is the joy of our hearts.
Compassionate and gracious is our God.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**

The Lord opens up a way,
and leads us on paths of life,
the earth is full of God's love.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**

The glory of the Lord fills the earth.
Let all peoples bless God's name,
Let everything that breathes bless the Lord.
**Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us sing to the Lord, let us sing to the Lord!**



Confession—We say sorry to God and to our neighbours

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

A short period of silence

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.

May the God of love and power, forgive you and free you from your
sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As we give thanks for all that is good in your creation and all who
bring in the Harvest of the sea and the land, we are conscious of so
much that we get wrong. So we give thanks too for your grace and
patience with us when we fail to look after your world as we should.
Help us to change so that we too become a new creation walking in
the light of your Gospel.

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

At this harvest time we ask for your blessing on our families, friends
and neighbours, on those who are sick and those who have died.
Help us to recognise the interdependence of all of life and the
importance of just relations and responsible stewardship of all you
continue to give us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

this harvest morning and every day. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**



Blessing of our Harvest Gifts

We share the Peace of Jesus Christ

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

We exchange a greeting of peace with others.

Prayers of Intercessions

Father God, At this harvest time we thank you for all the good things you give us everyday.

As we thank you for our food we remember all those who do not have enough for even one proper meal each day. Bless all those, Lord, who suffer because of the greed of others. Help us to share the harvests of the world more fairly so everyone can be fed and there will be no more starvation.

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

At this harvest time we thank you for the hard work of all those who grow, protect and prepare our food; for the shopkeepers, the transport delivery drivers, the processors and the farmers. Bless all those, Lord, who do not earn a fair day's pay for their hard work both at home and in other countries. Help us to want to buy local produce and fairly traded goods wherever we can so that everyone can work with dignity and there will be no more poverty.

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

At this harvest time we thank you for the world we see around us; for the flowers, the trees and the animals. Bless all those who care for them, Lord. Help us to protect your creation by being careful about how we use your resources so that there will be clean water, clean air and plenty of wild birds, mammals and insects to maintain the ecological balance of our countryside.

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

Song

Cauliflowers fluffy and cabbages green
Strawberries are sweeter than any I've seen
Beetroots purple and onions white
All grow steadily day and night

*The apples are ripe and the plums are red
Broad beans are sleeping in their blanket bed*

Blackberries juicy and rhubarb sour
Marrows fattening hour by hour
Gooseberries hairy and lettuces fat
Radishes round and runner beans flat

The apples are ripe and the plums are red....

Orangey carrots and turnips cream
Reddening tomatoes that used to be green
Brown potatoes in little heaps
Down in the darkness where the celery sleeps

The apples are ripe and the plums are red.....
Traditional - Paintbox (Cauliflowers Fluffy)

Collect—the Special Prayer for this Sunday

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness, and you give us the fruits of the earth in their seasons. Help us to use them rightly, to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own wellbeing. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Philippians 4; 4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Video - The Rich Fool

Talk

Hymn

We plough the fields with tractors,
With drills we sow the land;
But growth is still the wondrous gift
Of God's almighty hand.
We use our fertilisers
To help the growing grain;
But for its full fruition,
It needs God's sun and rain.

*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
For all his love*

With many new machines now
We do the work each day;
We reap the fields with combines,
We bale the new mown hay
But still it's God who gives us
Inventive skill and drives
Which lighten labour's drudgery
And give us better lives.



*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
For all his love*

We thank thee then, O Father,
For life so rich and good,
For seedtime and the harvest,
The wealth of daily food
No gifts have we to offer
Such as thy love imparts,
But what thou most desirest:
Our humble thankful hearts.

All good gifts around us....

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of life and love, we offer you our thanks and praise in this season of Harvest. We thank you that you are Creator and Provider, the source of all goodness. We thank you for the sunshine and the rain, for the land and the soil. We thank you for the miracle of fertility and growth, for the rhythm of nature and life.

We thank you for all the crops and livestock. We thank you for our calling to be stewards of all you have created and we pray especially for all who raise awareness of damage done to your world and all its creatures. God of life and love, we offer you our thanks and praise. Amen.