

**St Michael and All Angels,
Thursley**

Harvest Festival Service



Sunday 20th September 2020

Hymn played before the service starts

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;
Grant, O Lord of life, that we
Holy grain and pure may be.

For we know that thou wilt come,
and wilt take thy people home;
from thy field wilt purge away
all that doth offend, that day;
And thine angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store
in thy garner evermore.

Come then, Lord of Mercy, come,
bid us sing thy harvest-home;
Let thy saints be gathered in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
All upon the golden floor,
praising thee for evermore;
come, with all thine angels come,
Bid us sing thy harvest-home.
Henry Alford (1810-1871)

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 gives around us...

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 gives around us...

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but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

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

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;



Welcome

The earth has yielded its harvest
God, our God, has blessed us

Lord, you visit the earth and water it.
You make it very plenteous

You soften the ground with showers
And bless the increase of it

You crown the year with your goodness
And your paths overflow with plenty

The meadows are clothed with sheep
**The valleys stand so thick with corn,
they shout for joy and sing**

The earth has yielded its harvest
God, our God, has blessed it.

THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God,
the God of all peoples of the earth.
For the colour and forms of your creation
and our place within it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.

For our daily food,
and for those whose work and skill
bring your good gifts to us,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.

For the gifts and graces inspired in human minds and hearts;
For insight and imagination,
For the skills of research
which bring healing and fulfilment to the lives of many;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.



For the light and shades of the changing seasons,
and their variety and dependability;
for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.

For new hope and strength in our communities,
especially in your Church and among all you call to serve you,
we bring our thanks, good Lord;
your mercy endures for ever.

For all in whose lives we see
goodness, kindness, gentleness, patience and humility,
and all the fruit of the Spirit,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.

For the life we have been given,
and for all those whom you have given us to share it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:
your mercy endures for ever.

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.

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**

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**

Blessing of our Harvest Gifts

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord, Bless the homeless and the hungry
who will receive these gifts,
let them know a little of the love sent by us
with each precious gift,
give them peace and comfort,
safety and security at this Harvest time.
Amen.

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**

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.**

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: Deuteronomy 8; 7-18

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, 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 wasteland 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 gotten 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.

Second Reading: Luke 17; 11-19

Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers

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 him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Talk

Hymn: *During the playing of this hymn you are invited to come forward and bring your harvest offering to the altar rail and then return to your seat as directed by a Sidesperson*

God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,
God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From farthest east to farthest west, where human feet have trod,
by the voice of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me, you continents, you islands, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.'

All that we do can have no worth, unless God bless the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide, till God gives life to the seed;
yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God,
as the waters cover the sea
Arthur Ainger (1841-1919)

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.**

