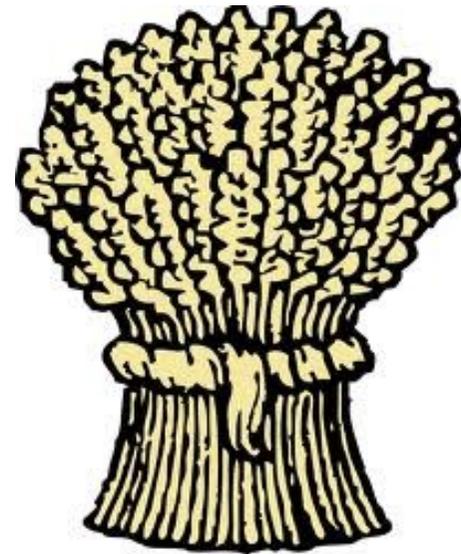


Parishes of Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford and  
Peper Harow

## The Earth is the Lord's



Harvest Festival at St James Church,  
Elstead

# Gathering

## The Greeting

We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit

**Amen**

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all

**And also with you.**

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 us.**

## Welcome and Notices

*The minister welcomes us introduces the service and gives out any notices, and publishes any Banns of Marriage*

*Music as we bring our Harvest offerings to the altar.*

## 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.**

# Dismissal

## Blessing

*Please stand for the 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

## Sending out

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation  
And bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## Confession

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 the earth's bounty fairly.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

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

## Absolution

*The Minister then speaks the word of God's forgiveness*

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

## The Collect

*The Minister prays the special prayer for the day*

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 your 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**

# Liturgy of the Word

## *Bible reading/s*

*At the end of each reading:*

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## The Gospel

*Please stand for the Gospel Reading*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to .....  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

*After the Gospel*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

## Sermon

## Affirmation of Faith

*Please stand*

Do you believe in God the Father.....for whom we exist?  
**We believe and trust in him**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son....and rose again?  
**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit....known in the world?  
**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church  
**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**