

the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food:
accept the gifts we offer
for all your love imparts;
and that which you most welcome,
our humble, thankful hearts.

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.*

Blessing and Sending Out

May God who has called those who work on the land bless them
and us in winter and summer, at the ploughing, the sowing and the
reaping.

May God give sunshine and rain in due season;
May God, who gladdens the face of the earth, give you joyfulness
of heart.

And may the blessing of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you and all those for whom we have prayed, this day
and always. **Amen.**

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.

Parishes of Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford and Peper Harow



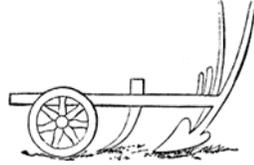
Plough Sunday 'God speed the plow'

PARISHES
OF
ELSTEAD,
THURSLEY,



SHACKLEFORD,
PEPER HAROW

We come on Plough Sunday to offer the work of the countryside to the service of God.



Gathering

Sow for yourselves righteousness;
reap steadfast love;
break up your fallow ground;
for it is time to seek the Lord,
that he may come and rain righteousness upon you. *Hosea 10.1*

We gather on this Plough Sunday to thank God for his provision, to ask for God's blessing on plough, soil, seed and herd and to pray for the farming community we live amongst.

Welcome in the name of the One who made us all- people,
animals and all the earth.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Notices are given

HYMN

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Father, unto Thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light:
Father, unto Thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above;
For all gentle thoughts and mild:

**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.**

Hymn:

We plough 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 heaven 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 wind and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us his children,
he gives our daily bread.

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.*

We thank you, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,

Hymn:

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art;
Be Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word,
Be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord;
Be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be Thou my whole armour, be Thou my true might;
Be Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my strong tower:
O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise:
Be Thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Tr. Mary E. Byrne & Eleanor H. Hull.

Prayers of intercession

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

Father, unto Thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

For each perfect gift of Thine
To our race so freely given,
Graces, human and divine,
Flowers of earth, and buds of heaven:
Father, unto Thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

Folliot S. Pierpoint.

Praise

The earth is the Lord's
and everything that is within it;

the wide extent of the world
and all who live there.

The Lord looked upon the earth
and filled it with blessings.

As long as the earth endures,
seed time and harvest summer and winter will never cease.

When farmers plough for planting, do they plough continually? When they have levelled the surface, do they not plant the seed and look for its growth?

For God instructs them and teaches them the right way.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
with whom we can do everything,
without whom we can do nothing :
open our eyes that we may see you:
open our lips that we may praise you :
open our hearts that we may know you :
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

When we are ungrateful for the rain, sun and frost,
and forget that they are your gifts to us:

O God, forgive us.

When we are blind to the mystery of germination, and forget that it is
your handiwork:

O God, forgive us.

When we are careless with our beasts, and forget that they are your
creatures:

O God, forgive us.

When we are unkind to those who work with us,
and forget that they are your children:

O God, forgive us.

When we are careless about our work, and forget that we are your co-
workers:

O God, forgive us.

When we ill-treat the land and forget that we are your stewards.

O God, forgive us.

May God the Creator forgive our misusing of his creative work;

May God the Son take up into his cross the sufferings of our land, our
animals, our families and ourselves.

May God the Holy Spirit give us the strength and power to overcome our
troubles, weaknesses and temptations.

May God the Holy Trinity forgive us all our sins. Amen.

Declaration of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in His Son Jesus Christ who redeemed human-
kind?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in His Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of

The Blessing of the Plough and Churn

The plough symbolises all the machines on our
farms

and all the tools of the horticulturist.

At the beginning of this new year's work,
we ask for God's blessing on the plough and on
our cultivation of the soil.



O God our Father,
giver of seedtime and harvest,
bless all ploughs, tractors and tools, large and small,
used in the work of our farms.
May they be instruments of fruitfulness;
may all who use them do so to your glory
and in the grateful and hopeful offering of their daily work,
for their own and others' good,
that your people may be fed and all rejoice in your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God speed the plough.

God speed the plough.

As we bless the plough, soil and seed, at the beginning of this new
year's work so we also ask for God's blessing on the livestock that
are bred and graze on the land and all who work in the tending of
animals.

O God, loving creator of all life,
you call us to be grateful stewards of your creatures.
Bless the cattle and horses, the pigs and sheep and poultry
and all the animals we tend in your name,
and strengthen us with wisdom and compassion
to care for them as you would have us do, to the glory of your
name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God guard the animals.

God guard the animals.

Talk

Blessing of Soil and Seed

O Lord, all the earth is yours.
We bring before you this rich and living soil
that you may bless the lands that surround us with
abundant
fertility.

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

You prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

In the name of the creator of heaven and earth,
we dedicate this living soil and this seed with all its potential
that they may be fruitful to his glory.
By the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
may the land that is tilled and tended and the seed that is sown and
nurtured
bring forth good food in abundance, for the birds and beasts and all
people.
Amen.

May the pastures flow with goodness,
and the hills be girded with joy.

May the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall laugh and sing.



God?

We believe and trust in Him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

Collect

O Creator God,
who works through our hands and our minds,
as we strive to renew the face of the earth
and bring closer your kingdom,
help us to feel reverence for the power you give us,
and to love the small part of your creation
which you have entrusted to each of us;
for the sake of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 1:9-13

And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to on place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:6-14

Or is it only I and Barnabas who lack the right to not work for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat its grapes? Who tends a flock and does not drink the milk? Do I say this merely on human authority? Doesn't the Law say the same thing? For it is written in the Law of Moses: "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain." Is it about oxen that God is concerned? Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because whoever plows and threshes should be able to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest. If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more? But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with

anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ.
Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.

Hymn:

All God's creatures got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now

You got to listen to the bass, the one on the bottomus
The bullfrog croaks and the hippopotamus
Moans and groans with a big to-do
The old cow just goes moo

The dogs and the cats are gonna take up the middle
Where the honeybee hums and the crickets fiddle
The donkey brays and the pony neighs
And the old man dingo howls

All God's creatures got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now

Listen to the top where the little birds sing
On the melody with the high notes ringing
The hoot owl hollers over everything
And the magpie disagrees

Singing in the night time, singing in the day
The little duck quacks and he's on his way
The possum ain't got much to say
The porcupine talks to himself

All God's creatures got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now

It's a simple song, a living song everywhere
With the fox and the ox and the grizzly bear
The grumpy alligator and the hawk above
The sly raccoon and the turtle dove

All God's creatures got a place in the choir (a place in the choir)
Some sing low, some sing higher (some sing out loud)
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now

All God's creatures got a place in the choir

Gospel: Matthew 6: 25-34

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

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own.

This is the gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.