

# Eucharist Harvest Festival

4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020

*Before the service:*

*Voluntary: Salix from Plymouth Suite - Percy Whitlock*

Welcome and notices

*'We plough the fields and scatter' is played as the ministers' process in.*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**and also with you.**

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*Words of introduction are used.*

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

*A few moments for quiet reflection are kept.*

Generous God, we are sorry for our lack of care of the world you have given us.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We are sorry for our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

We are sorry that we enjoy the fruits of the harvest but sometimes forget you have given them to us.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**The GLORIA is sung by a small choir.**

*During this Harvest gifts may be brought forward and placed on the nave altar.*

## COLLECT

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.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Corinthians 9:6-end

6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 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. 9 As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.'

10 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. 11 You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; 12 for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 13 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, 14 while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. 15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING

Alleluia, alleluia. *(sung by solo voice)*

Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.

Gather the fruit of eternal life. *Cf John 4:35,36*

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. (Luke 12:16-30)

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. 17 And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" 18 Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." 20 But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" 21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

22 He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. 23For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. 24Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! 25And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? 26If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? 27Consider the lilies, 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. 28But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! 29And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. 30For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Response:*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*At the end:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

## **THE PEACE**

*The priest introduces the peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*The hymn 'Come, ye thankful people come', is sung by the choir while the altar is prepared.*

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest recalls the Last Supper.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Prayer continues.*

*At the end we respond:*

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 forever.  
Amen.**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Jesus is the lamb of God  
Who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

## **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

*You are invited to use the prayer for Spiritual Communion below asking Jesus to be with you now.*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Amen.

*The choir sing 'For the Beauty of the Earth' and 'Bread of Heaven on thee we feed' while the congregation receive the sacrament.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

*A blessing is given.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The ministers depart.  
Final Voluntary: Dialogue on Te Deum - Denis Bédard*

Spiritual Communion.

The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The form of prayer offers Christians an opportunity to give thanks for their communion with him, particularly at times when they would ordinarily be present at the Eucharist.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.