

# 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Christ Church: HARVEST Communion Service

## **Welcome**

God is good **All the time**

All the time **God is good**

**iSing:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
*(during the song Harvest gifts are brought to the front)*

**Flames** – *pray for children and their leaders as they go out*

## **We say sorry to God and one another**

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world. We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.

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.**

Hear the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Alleluia! Amen.**

***Prayer of forgiveness***

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.**

***iSing:*** Let everything that has breath

***We stand to glorify the Lord.***

**Let the earth glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, praise Him and highly exalt Him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, O whales and all that move in the waters.**

**All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, and all you flocks and herds. O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Amen.**

***Collect prayer for today:***

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.

***Old Testament Reading***

Deuteronomy 8:7–18

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

***New Testament Reading***

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

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

***Sermon***

***iSing:*** All heaven declares

***Our belief***

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

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

***Prayers of intercession***

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

## ***The Peace***

Jesus said: 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.'

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

***iSing:*** I cast my mind to calvary

## ***The Communion***

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son. **As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

### ***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 for ever. 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.**

### ***We share bread and wine together –***

*During the sharing of communion we would love to pray with you, or offer a simple blessing. If you would like this then please head to your left where people are ready to pray with you.*

### ***Prayer after communion***

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ***Notices***

***iSing:*** Great is thy faithfulness

### ***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 upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Freely you have received, freely give. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**