

St Mary the Virgin Mortlake

# Harvest Thanksgiving

*Worship for All*

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup, bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen

## THE DISMISSAL

### Notices

Blessing (*Please stand*)

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Hymn: 346 (CH) We plough the fields and scatter

### Sending Out

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

*Do stay for the barbecue in the church grounds.*

*Our next All Age Service is on 17th October.*



## THE GATHERING

Welcome by a Churchwarden of St Mary's

Hymn 55 (CH) Come ye thankful people, come  
(during which the standards may be paraded)

### The Greeting

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.**

*Informal words of greeting may be said*

### Confession

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 sometimes ignore the cry of the hungry.  
Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We are sometimes thoughtless,  
and do not care enough for the world you have made.  
Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

### Absolution

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 Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

Gloria (Please stand)

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord  
Glory to the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come  
Glory, glory to the Lord**

### Collect (Prayer) for Harvest

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**

Agnus Dei (sung):

**Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord  
Worthy is the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come  
Worthy, worthy is the Lord**

### Giving of Communion

*The president invites the people to receive Communion:*

The gifts of God, for the people of God, to the glory of God  
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father**

During Communion, a singing group will sing "Look at the World". by John Rutter

### Hymn

Think of a world without any flowers  
Think of a world without any trees  
Think of a sky without any sunshine  
Think of the air without any breeze.  
We thank you, Lord, for flowers and trees and sunshine  
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.

Think of the world without any animals  
Think of a field without any herd  
Think of a stream without any fishes  
Think of a dawn without any bird.  
We thank you, Lord, for all your living creatures  
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.

Think of a world without any people  
Think of a street with no-one living there  
Think of a town without any houses  
No-one to love and nobody to care.  
We thank you, Lord, for families and friendships,  
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.

Doreen Newport (1927-2004)  
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### Prayers 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.**

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all.  
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.  
May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

*We sit or kneel for:*

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Hymn: 461 For the fruits of his creation

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gospel Reading Matthew 6: 25—33

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

Jesus said '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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Talk (*Canon Ann Nickson*)

Gathering in of Harvest gifts

During which the Music Group will play the Pastoral Symphony from Handel's Messiah

*(Please come forward with your gift as directed by the stewards. Harvest gifts collected today will be distributed to Glass Door working with homeless people)*

Prayer

Loving God, we ask your blessing on all who will receive these gifts, and on those who have given generously. **Amen**

Prayers for Ourselves and Other People

For rain and sun and insects to pollinate crops; for farmers who work with nature and preserve the beauty and diversity of God's creation; and for wild creatures which enjoy the harvest of berries, nuts, grains and seeds.

**We give thanks, O God.**

For the soil, rich and precious, home to countless living creatures which maintain fertility and give us food and life.

**We give thanks, O God.**

For growing awareness that we all depend on the earth for our daily food and fuel; and for the increasing numbers of people who want to eat local food and have closer links with food producers.

**We give thanks, O God.**

For wisdom to live in ways that will slow down climate change and keep the rains falling in their due season.

**O Lord hear our prayer.**

For grace to recognise we are part of God's creation with responsibilities to care for God's earth and our fellow creatures, including farm animals.

**O Lord hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to the killing fields of war, turn scorched earth to green, so that people can sow their seeds and harvest their crops and live in harmony with their neighbours.

Merciful Father,

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

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### The Peace

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.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

*We exchange a sign of peace*

### Preparation of the Table

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

### Hymn

God in his love for us lent us this planet,  
gave it a purpose in time and in space:  
small as a spark from the fire of creation,  
cradle of life and the home of our race.

Thanks be to God for its bounty and beauty,  
life that sustains us in body and mind:  
plenty for all, if we learn how to share it,  
riches undreamed of to fathom and find.

Long have our human wars ruined its harvest;  
long has earth bowed to the terror of force;  
long have we wasted what others have need of,  
poisoned the fountain of life at its source.

Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it,  
ours, as his stewards, to farm and defend.  
From its pollution, misuse, and destruction,  
good Lord, deliver us, world without end.

Fred Pratt Green © 1973 The Hymn Society (admin. by Hope Publishing Co.)

### Taking of the Bread and Wine

With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

Prayer D

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world.  
In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death.  
Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise.  
We join with them in heaven's song

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come  
Holy, holy is the Lord**

Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.  
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love  
and washed the guilty clean

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.  
On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of your people.