



Harvest Thanksgiving Service St Thomas' Watchfield

HYMN

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence to offer him praise and thanksgiving for our harvest, to hear and receive his holy word, to bring before him the needs of the world, to ask his forgiveness of our sins, and to seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves to his service.

Prayers of Penitence

Invitation to Confession

God's whole creation groans. The land produces thorns and thistles and is ready for burning. Our sin affects all around us. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

Confession

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.

+*The president gives the absolution to which all reply Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm

First Reading

HYMN

Second Reading

ADDRESS

HYMN

[During which the collection is taken]

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

PRAISE

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe!

Your word brings on the dusk of evening.

Your wisdom creates both night and day.

You determine the cycles of time.

You arrange the succession of seasons and establish the stars in their heavenly courses.

Lord of the starry hosts is your name.

Living and eternal God, rule over us always.

Blessed be the Lord, whose word makes evening fall.

PRAYERS

The prayers may include this response:

Lord of Creation

In your mercy hear us

COLLECT

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 our 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. 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. Forever and ever. Amen.

Gracious God, you have given us much today; grant us also a thankful spirit. Into your hands we commend ourselves and those we love. Stay with us, and when we take our rest renew us for the service of your Son Jesus Christ.

**In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,**

**help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:

and the day is almost over.

Even the darkness is not dark for you:

and the night shines like the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:

and fill your church with your glory.

Mercy, peace and love be ours for ever:

from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

May God our creator, who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air, bestow on you his care and increase the harvest of your righteousness; and 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.

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

in the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN