



Harvest Festival 2009

**‘For the fruits
of his creation,
thanks be
to God’**

**A special welcome to all who have joined us today
for our special Harvest Festival Service.**

Welcome

Opening Verse

The earth is filled with the gifts of the Lord: wine, and oil, and bread, to strengthen and cheer our hearts. Psalm 104:13,15

Opening Prayer

**Almighty God, our loving Heavenly Father,
You breathed life into the universe, all things come from you.
By your power the sun gives warmth and the earth yields its
harvest of resources.**

**By your power all life is born and your Spirit inspires us to
create beauty, and seek truth and justice in your world.**

**As we worship today, inspire our hearts and minds,
that we might appreciate your goodness
and dedicate our lives to your service.**

Minister: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it

All: Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice

Hymn

For the fruits of his creation 342 (*Ar hyd y nos*)

Confession

Father God, creator of all that there is. We gather today and thank you at harvest time, for the world in which we live. We praise you for all the wonders of creation that we can enjoy. **Lord hear our prayer**

We know that you have given to humanity all that is necessary for our needs. Forgive us when we think only of ourselves, when our greed and the exploitation of our economies deprives others. As we consume the world's produce and enjoy the benefits of science and technology, help us to be mindful of those who do not have food, water or medicine. **Lord hear our prayer**

Forgive us when we think that you love us more than people who live in other parts of the world. Help us to understand that you give life to all people and love equally all you have made. **Lord hear our prayer**

Lord Jesus you healed the sick and fed the hungry, you taught men, women and children. Help us to continue your work across the earth and to make poverty history. May we work to ensure that all are fed, cared for and come to know the truth of your love. **Lord hear our prayer**

The minister will speak words of forgiveness

Offertory

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

Dear Lord, the gifts of the harvest are yours. May we use them wisely to your glory and for the relief of the suffering, as well as for our own needs.



If you are a tax payer please use Gift Aid envelopes to enable us to reclaim tax. Thank you to those who have already presented their gifts by standing order, through the bank.

Hymn

(Tune: Country Garden)

We eat the plants that grow from the seed,
but it's God who gives the harvest.
Cures can be made from herbs and from weeds,
but it's God who gives the harvest.
Ev'rything beneath the sun,
all the things we claim we've done,
all are part of God's creation:
we can meet people's needs
with things we grow from seed,
but it's God who gives the harvest.

We find the iron and turn it to steel,
but it's God who gives the harvest.
We pull the levers, we turn the wheels,
but it's God who gives the harvest.
Ev'rything we say we've made,
plastic bags to metal spades,
all are part of God's creation:
we can make lots of things
from microchips to springs,
but it's God who gives the harvest.

Collect Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, we offer you our grateful thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us your gifts and the fruits of the earth through the seasons. Give us grace to use them rightly, to your glory, for our own well being, and for the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings

(Please follow the readings in Partnership News)

Hymn

Come, ye thankful people, come 355

Address

The Reverend Charles Royden

Hymn

Praise and thanksgiving 350 (Bunessan)

Intercessions

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.**

Hymn

We plough the fields, and scatter 352

The Blessing

May God the Father bless you,
who first sowed the seed of eternal life in your hearts.
May God the Son bless you,
who nurtures you with the rain and
sunshine of love.
May God the Spirit bless you,
who brings us all to fruition;
and may the blessing of God Almighty
be among you and remain with you
always. Amen.

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

*Thank you to all who have helped prepare
our churches for worship today*

