# The Order of Service for Home Worship

## Harvest Thanksgiving



**Hymn 1: 1 Come ye thankful people come.**

1. **Come ye thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home!**
   **All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;**
   **God, our make doth provide for our wants to be supplied;**
   **Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest-home!**

2. **We ourselves are God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;**
   **Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown;**
   **First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:**
   **Grant, O harvest Lord, that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

3. **For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home,**
   **From his field shall purge away all that doth offend, that day;**
   **Give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,**
   **But the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.**

4. **Then, thou Church triumphant, come, raise the song of harvest-home;**
   **All be safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin,**
   **There for ever purified in God's garner to abide:**
   **Come, ten thousand angels, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**.
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace is our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you show us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us into life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;**
**Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;**
**Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;**
**Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

**Collect:**
Lord of all creation, you give us the fruits of the earth in their season and crown the year with your goodness: help us so to receive your gifts with thankful hearts that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in want and to meet our daily needs; through Jesus Christ the Bread of life, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**A reading from the book of Deuteronomy** **8. 7-18**
For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you

out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 65. 9-13**
**Response: Happy are those whom you choose to live in your courts.**

You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it;
The river of God is full of water;
You provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it. **(R)**

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
Softening it with showers and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness. **(R)**

The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy. **(R)**

**A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians 9. 6-15**
The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 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. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.' 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. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 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, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Acclamation:**
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Speak to us, O Lord, You bring the good news of eternal life.
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Luke 17: 5-10**
**Glory to you, O Lord.**
The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you. 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" '
This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Meditation:** Today we give thanks to God for the gifts of his creation as we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving. We thank God for our "daily bread" for all that he provides for us to sustain our physical needs, for all that we have to eat, for all that nature provides for us to clothe and house ourselves. We do so at what is for many a very difficult time. Today we remember those less fortunate than ourselves, those both at home and abroad who find it a struggle to feed and house themselves and their families. Prices are continuing to rise and there has been a huge increase in what is called energy-poverty which will continue for the foreseeable future. As a Christian community, as the family of God, we are called to play our part in reaching out and helping those in need both in our own community and further afield. As we celebrate our harvest festival we are reminded that God calls us to be good stewards of the creation that God has entrusted to our care. He calls on us to love our neighbours as ourselves. He has given us a responsibility to our neighbours, to ensure that all receive what they need to cover their basic needs. As a Ministry Area we have been

playing our part in meeting the basic needs of the most vulnerable in our communities through our food bank based at S. John's and the fair share food scheme based at Holy Trinity. We have recently hired our own hall, S. Catwg's to a community interest company which is providing much needed groups to provide for the well-being of both children and adults. And so today we give thanks for those who give freely of their time to care for the environment and for those in need especially those in our own part of the world. We pray for all who make use of this services we provide. Thank you all for your kind gifts which go bring much needed relief to members of community. As individuals and as a society we have a responsibility not to misuse the gifts God has given us but to use them in a sustainable way so that we hand on our wonderful and beautiful world to the next generation in the best possible condition, while ensuring that the basic needs of all people are met. We all have a part to play, however small. Today as we celebrate our Harvest Festival let us renew our commitment to live both as good stewards of creation and good neighbours who in the coming months may find themselves in real need. Amen..

**Intercessions:**
In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own parish; that the Church may lead the world as good stewards of creation.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; that the leaders of the world, led by the Holy Spirit, may be united in purpose in securing a sustainable, secure and peaceful future for all your people.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; that guided by the Holy Spirit we may be good stewards of creation where God has set us.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our parish intercession books; may they be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and consoled with the love of Christ.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they share the eternal glory of heaven in the company of all the saints.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Peace:**
Jesus said, "Peace I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love. **And also with you.**

**Let us pray:**
**God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water; refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing:**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Hymn 2: We plough the fields and scatter.**

1. **We plough the fields and scatter the good seeds on the land,**
   **But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:**
   **He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,**
   **The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.**
   ***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;***
   ***Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.***

2. **He only is the maker of all things near and far;**
   **He paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;**
   **He fills the earth with beauty, by him the birds are fed;**
   **Much more to us his children, he gives our daily bread.**
   ***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;***
   ***Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.***

3. **We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good:**
   **The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.**
   **Accept the gifts we offer for all thy love imparts,**
   **And what thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts.**
   ***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;***
   ***Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.***

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