



The Anglican Parish  
of Greater Hastings



*Eucharistic Liturgy  
for  
Harvest Thanksgiving*

*23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025*

Presider: This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Opening Hymn: **Praise God for the Harvest**

Words: Brian Wren – SG308

Alt. Tune: **ST DENIO**

- 1 **Praise God for the harvest of orchard and field,  
praise God for the people who gather their yield,  
the long hours of labour, the skills of a team,  
the patience of science, the power of machine.**
- 2 **Praise God for the harvest that comes from afar,  
from market and harbour, the sea and the shore:  
foods packed and transported, and gathered and grown  
by God-given neighbours, unseen and unknown.**
- 3 **Praise God for the harvest that's quarried and mined,  
selected and smelted, or shaped and refined:  
for oil and iron, for copper and coal,  
praise God, who in love has provided them all.**
- 4 **Praise God for the harvest of science and skill,  
the urge to discover, create, and fulfill:  
for plans and inventions that promise to gain  
a future more hopeful, a world more humane.**
- 5 **Praise God for the harvest of mercy and love  
from leaders and peoples who struggle and serve  
with patience and kindness, that all may be led  
to freedom and justice, and all may be fed.**

**The Gathering of the People**

*The people may be greeted informally before the Presider continues*

In the name of God:  
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life.  
**Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,  
the love at our beginning and without end,  
in our midst and with us.  
**God is with us, here we find new life.**

### **A Song of Creation**

- <sup>1</sup> Let the whole creation bless the Lord:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>5</sup> Bless the Lord sun and moon:  
**bless the Lord you stars of heaven;**
- <sup>6</sup> bless the Lord all rain and dew:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>7</sup> Bless the Lord all winds that blow:  
**bless the Lord you fire and heat;**
- <sup>8</sup> bless the Lord scorching wind and bitter cold:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>13</sup> O let the earth bless the Lord:  
**bless the Lord you mountains and hills;**
- <sup>14</sup> bless the Lord all that grows in the soil:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>15</sup> Bless the Lord you springs of water:  
**bless the Lord you seas and rivers;**
- <sup>16</sup> bless the Lord you whales and all that swim in the waters:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>17</sup> Bless the Lord all birds of the air:  
**bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;**
- <sup>18</sup> bless the Lord all you dwellers on earth:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>19</sup> Bless the Lord you people of God:  
**bless the Lord you priests of the Lord;**
- <sup>20</sup> bless the Lord you servants of the Lord:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**
- <sup>22</sup> Let us bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:  
**praise and exalt our God for ever.**

*Song of the Three Young Men, 35–65*

*We sit or kneel*

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist together,  
in a moment of silence, we call to mind our sins.

*Silence*

Jesus, you give justice to those who are suffering  
and bread to those who hunger.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you loose those who are bound  
and open the eyes of the blind.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Jesus, you watch over the stranger in the land  
and uphold the orphan and the widow.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

Loving God:

**We confess that we have often used your gifts carelessly  
and acted as though we were not grateful.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**Forgive us, heal us.**

**Grant us thankful hearts,**

**a loving concern for all people,**

**and for all your creation;**

**through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

*Presider:*

God the Creator brings you new life,  
forgives and redeems you.

Take hold of this forgiveness

and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

**Amen.**

*Sentence:*

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. *Psalms 24: 1*

*Collect of the Day:*

Living God,  
you made heaven and earth and sea  
and everything in them,  
and have provided for all our needs;  
**help us to use the fruits of the earth wisely  
and to share them generously;**  
**through the one who sows with good seed,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.**  
**Hear this prayer for your love's sake.**  
**Amen.**

*First Reading:* **Deuteronomy 24: 19-22**

*After the reading:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 67** (ANZPB)

- 1 Be gracious to us O God and bless us:  
and make the light of your face to shine upon us,
- 2 **that your ways may be known upon earth:  
your saving power among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you O God:  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 **Let the nations be glad, and sing for joy:  
for you judge the peoples righteously,  
and guide the nations on earth.**
- 5 Let the peoples praise you O God:  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 **The earth has yielded its harvest:  
and you our God will bless us.**
- 7 Your blessing O God be upon us:  
and let all the ends of the world revere you.

*Second Reading:* **2 Corinthians 9: 6-15**

*After the reading:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Hymn:* ***As those of old their first-fruits brought***

*Words: Frank von Christierson © Hymn Society / Hope Publishing*

*Alt. tune: TYROL [CP200]*

- 1 As those of old their first-fruits brought  
of vineyard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good,  
the source of bounteous yield,  
so we today our first-fruits bring,  
the wealth of this good land:  
of farm and market, shop and home,  
of mind and heart and hand.**
  
- 2 A world in need now summons us  
to labour, love, and give;  
to make our life an offering  
to God that all may live.  
The church of Christ is calling us  
to make the dream come true:  
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,  
all life in Christ made new.**
  
- 3 With gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best to you,  
not just to serve your cause, but share  
your love with neighbours too.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your son,  
help us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.**

*We remain standing*

*Gospel Reading:* **John 4: 31-38**

The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter four,  
beginning at the thirty-first verse.

**Praise and glory to God.**

*After the reading:* This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ, the Word.**

### **The Sermon**

*Following the Sermon, there may be a time of silence and/or music for personal reflection*

### **The Prayers of the People**

Let us offer our prayers to God for the life of the world  
and for all God's people in their daily life and work.

V: ... in your mercy:

R: **Hear our prayer.**

God of grace,  
you are ever at work in your creation:  
**so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us  
and in all for whom we pray,  
that, with them, and in all that you have made,  
your glory may be revealed  
and the whole earth give praise to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### **The Ministry of the Sacrament**

#### **The Peace**

*All standing, the presiding priest says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

As we sing the next hymn, the altar is prepared with the bread and wine; our offerings of money to support ministry and mission are also collected and presented, along with fruit and vegetables, and symbols of the harvest

**Offertory Hymn: *Beauty for brokenness / [God of the poor]***

SG263 – Words & Music: Graham Kendrick © 1993 Make Way Music

- 1 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,  
Lord in the suffering, this is our prayer:  
bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,  
sunrise to sunset, your kingdom increase.**  
*God of the poor, friend of the weak,  
give us compassion we pray;  
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain,  
come, change our love  
from a spark to a flame.*
- 2 Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,  
work for the artisans, trade for their skills.  
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,  
voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.**  
*God of the poor, friend of the weak ...*
- 3 Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,  
cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.  
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green,  
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for pain.**  
*God of the poor, friend of the weak ...*
- 4 Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,  
plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams.  
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;  
make us content with the things that we need.**  
*God of the poor, friend of the weak ...*
- 5 Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame,  
until your justice burns brightly again;  
until the nations learn of your ways,  
seek your salvation and bring you their praise.**  
*God of the poor, friend of the weak ...*



## *The Preparation of the Gifts*

God of all creation, you bring forth  
bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.  
By your Holy Spirit this bread and wine will be for us  
the body and blood of Christ.

**All you have made is good.  
Your love endures for ever.**

## *A Litany for Harvest Thanksgiving*

God of all Creation, for the harvest of the earth,  
we give you thanks O God;  
**And praise your holy name.**

For the fertile soils of the countryside,  
and our home gardens;  
for good seed,  
and for the crops springing out of the earth,  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

For the warm sweetness of the gentle rain,  
for the hot days of ripening sun,  
for the harvest of fruits, vegetables, and grains,  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

For the yield of the forests, the earth, and the sea,  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

For all who work on the land, in the mines,  
or on the waters, in all weathers;  
for their commitment to care for plants,  
animals, and environment;  
and for their courage in days of difficulty  
and disappointment,  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

For those who work in office, shop,  
processing factory;  
for those in transport, sales,  
and distribution to meet our needs,  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

For the bounty of the harvest,  
and for all your blessings  
we give you thanks O God,  
**And praise your holy name.**

Living God, you made heaven and earth  
and sea and everything in them,  
and have provided for all our needs;  
**help us to use the fruits of the earth wisely  
and to share them generously;  
through the one who sows with good seed,  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*It is recommended that the people stand or kneel throughout the following prayer,  
however you are welcome to sit if needs be.*

The Lord is here.  
**God's 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 offer thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good  
to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

Through him you have created us in your own image,  
and made us stewards of your good creation.

Through him you teach us to exult in the birds of the air,  
the lilies of the field,  
the precious and life-giving crops of the earth.

Through him you free us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to die upon the cross  
and to rise again for our salvation.

Through him, you begin your work of new creation,  
as we look for a new heaven and a new earth  
in which your righteousness dwells.

Therefore, we join with angels and archangels,  
and give voice to every creature under heaven,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory to you, Giver of life  
sufficient and full for all creation.

Accept our praises,  
living God, for Jesus Christ,  
the one perfect offering for the world,  
who in the night that he was betrayed,  
took bread,  
and when he had given thanks,  
broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body  
which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you, and for many,  
to forgive sin.  
Do this as often as you drink it  
to remember me.

Therefore, God of all creation,  
in the suffering and death  
of Jesus our redeemer,  
we meet you in your glory.  
We lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon your name.  
Here and now, with this bread and wine,  
we celebrate your great acts of liberation,  
ever present and living in Jesus Christ,  
crucified and risen,  
who was and is and is to come.

**Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

May Christ ascended in majesty  
be our new and living way,  
our access to you, Father,  
and source of all new life.  
In Christ we offer ourselves  
to do your will.

Empower our celebration  
with your Holy Spirit,  
feed us with your life,  
fire us with your love,  
confront us with your justice,  
and make us one in the body of Christ  
with all who share your gifts of love.

Through Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you  
in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Creator God. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As Christ teaches us, we pray, saying:

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,  
for we all share the one bread.**

The cup of blessing for which we give thanks  
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Bread and wine;  
the gifts of God for the people of God.  
**May we who share these gifts  
be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

*Communion will be served at standing stations at the Sanctuary steps - all are welcome to receive the bread and wine at communion, (however please note that intinction, ie dipping the wafer into the wine chalice, is NOT permitted); although you are welcome to receive the bread only if you prefer, or to come forward for a blessing only.*

*If you need communion served to you in your seat, please indicate to the servers.*

## Prayer After Communion

Jesus said “The harvest is plentiful,  
but the labourers are few;  
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest  
to send out labourers into his harvest”. *Luke 10:2*

Creator and protector of all that lives,  
the riches of the earth are yours;  
**grant that we who use and enjoy your gifts  
may never by folly or greed destroy them.**

Most loving God, creator and redeemer,  
we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.  
**Through Christ, and with all your saints,  
we offer ourselves and our lives to your service.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit,  
to stand with you in your world.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,  
our friend and brother. Amen.**

## The Blessing

May you be a new creation,  
Christ for those to whom Christ shall send you;  
and the blessing of God our Creator,  
Redeemer and Giver of life  
be with you always. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: **Waterfall and Ocean**

SG630 – Words: © Paul Wigmore / Jubilate Hymns

Tune: **ST GERTRUDE** (Onward Christian Solders - CP549)

- 1 Waterfall and ocean,  
canyon, cliff and shore;  
valley, hill and mountain,  
river, rock and moor,  
wonders God created,  
treasures to defend!  
We should love them, work to save them,  
strength and spirit spend:**

*Thank God for this world of wonders,  
priceless treasure stored;  
go in peace and daring,  
love and serve the Lord!*

- 2 Rainbow on a storm-cloud,  
snow in winter's eye;  
rising green of springtime,  
summer sapphire sky:  
blaze of gold in autumn,  
crimson sunset glow;  
out in space more wonders waiting,  
more than we can know;

*Thank God for this world of wonders,  
priceless treasure stored;  
go in peace and daring,  
love and serve the Lord!*

- 3 Earth and sky and water  
all God's creatures share;  
living things may perish  
if we do not care.  
God on earth has shown us  
we must play our part,  
love creation, love each other,  
thinking with our heart:

*Thank God for this world of wonders,  
priceless treasure stored;  
go in peace and daring,  
love and serve the Lord.*

## **The Dismissal of the Community**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

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



Acknowledgements:

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*and*

*Church of England - Harvest Thanksgiving  
[www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/)*

*'Liturgy for Harvest Thanksgiving' adapted from  
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*(encompassing St Matthew's, Hastings, St Peter's, Riverslea, & St Martin's, Mayfair)*

*Provoking faith in our communities*

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