

HARVEST FESTIVAL



**A Service of Thanksgiving
with Holy Communion**

2020

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All And also with you.

Confession

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

God has blessed us,
but still God's children go hungry.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

God has blessed us,
but still the poor cry out for justice.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

God has blessed us,
but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Collect *a gathering prayer*

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.
All Amen.

Readings *please be seated*

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.

2 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!

Hymn to be played while words are read silently/ the tune is hummed

God, whose farm is all creation,
take the gratitude we give;
take the finest of our harvest,
crops we grow that all may live.

Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping,
hopes and fears of sun and rain,
all our thinking, planning, waiting,
ripening into fruit and grain.

All our labour, all our watching,
all our calendar of care,
in these crops of your creation,
take, O God: they are our prayer.

Gospel Please stand

Luke 12.16-30

Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

He said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, 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, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations

of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Presentation: *A Parish Audit* by Boachie Dankwah & Margaret Glover, Pastoral Assistants-in-training

Intercessions

Prayers for the church and the world

The Peace

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

Patience, kindness, goodness,

Faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Song: *I the Lord of sea and sky* sung at home and recorded by Naomi Sutherland

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything on heaven and earth is yours.

All All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Creator God, Source of Life,

We lift our thanks to you in this season of harvest.

The bounty of the earth belongs to you.

The fields that ripen in the sun give praise to your name.

For the colours of the autumn,

the sharpening of the wind,

the gathering of all that nourishes us,

we give you thanks.

We hold the blessings you give us in trust

and praise you, Good Provider,

for our lives, our homes,

and all that we share.

In thanksgiving, we join together in the song of eternal praise:

All

Holy, holy, holy one, God of power and might;

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Glory be to you, O God most high.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord,

Hosanna in the highest!

Gracious, Giving God, you have created us so that we may find rest from our labours,

so that we may find space to spend time with you.

As the days shorten and our earth prepares for the sleep of winter,

we turn to you, searching for peace.

We praise you for the presence of your Spirit

who teaches us to combine labour with rest,

who brings us the cycles of time and season,

who sustains us when we are in need.

For all the good gifts you bring us, we praise your holy name.

We turn now to your table of bounty and sustenance in the name of our Saviour.

By the death and resurrection of Jesus our Redeemer,

through the sharing of this bread and wine,
gifts of your creation, may we be created anew.

As we hear the words in which Jesus invited his disciples to
take bread and wine, and to remember him always,
we give thanks for all that he has done for our sake.

Bless these elements, and our communion with one
another.

Draw us closer to your presence, O Loving God.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and strengthen us in times of hardship and plenty,
as we offer ourselves to you in thanksgiving.

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

This is the body of Christ broken for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance of him.

The Agnus Dei *please hum the words as the organ plays*

All Jesus, Lamb of God,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

grant us peace.

Giving of Communion please stay in your seat to receive

Draw near to this table set before you, which brings God's blessing and grace.

Instrumental: JS Bach Suite no.1 in G major BWV 1007
Sarabande played by Jonny Byers

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

All Amen

Annual Parish Council Meeting *please see agenda and minutes inside Annual Report 2020. The accounts can be viewed at the back of church or a copy requested by mail.*

Blessing

May the soft mists of God's presence wrap us in their gentle folds.

May the light of God's presence lengthen us.

May the warmth of God's presence sustain us.

May all that God has sowed in our life flower and ripen.

May God's harvest in our life be fruitful and abundant.

All Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Instrumental: JS Bach *Suite no.1 in G major BWV 1007 Courante* played by Jonny Byers

Collection for Hackney Food Bank
www.hackney.foodbank.org.uk