**St Paul, Wokingham and St Nicholas, Emmbrook**

**Harvest Eucharist**



*Lord, send out your Spirit*

*and renew the face of the Earth*

**Opening Hymn 262: We plough the fields and scatter**

**We Gather Together**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

**Welcome and Introduction**

**We thank God for all creation**

Lord, we praise you for the harvest of the fields.

For fields of wheat and barley;

for healthy herds, for sheep and pigs

Think about….

What things have you noticed that you want to give thanks to God for?

**We give thanks.**

We praise you for the harvest of local hedgerows,

for the straggling bramble;

for black showers of elderberry,

for mushrooms nestling in the dewy grass

**We give thanks.**

We praise you for the harvest of gardens and allotments;

for earthy roots and crackling cabbage,

for hanging beans and striped courgettes

**We give thanks.**

Lord we praise you for the harvest of talents in this church;

for buildings well maintained,

for flowers and music,

for responsible stewardship, for charities supported,

**We give thanks.**

We praise you for the harvest of fellowship here,

for friends made, for support given,

for people to laugh and weep with

**We give thanks.**

Now, Lord, we dedicate this festival of harvest thanksgiving to you.

Bless us, strengthen us, unite us in your love. **Amen**

**The Confession:**

**we remember that we don’t always treat God’s creation with respect**

*Psalm 126: A Prayer for Deliverance*

*When the Lord brought us back to Jerusalem, it was like a dream!
How we laughed, how we sang for joy!
    Then the other nations said about us,
  “The Lord did great things for them.”
Indeed he did great things for us-  how happy we were!*

For all the times where we have forgotten to give you thanks and sing for joy:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

*Lord, make us prosperous again,
    just as the rain brings water back to dry riverbeds.
Let those who wept as they planted their crops,
    gather the harvest with joy!*

For all the times where we have failed to care for the land as we should have:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

*Those who wept as they went out carrying the seed
    will come back singing for joy, as they bring in the harvest.*

For all the times where we have planted seeds of pain

rather than seeds that bring life:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Absolution**

May God our creator forgive us our sins

and renew in us a sense of joy and delight

at the wonders of this beautiful world.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Our God is a Great Big God (with actions!)**

Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God,
And he holds us in his hands.

He's higher than a skyscraper,
He's deeper than a submarine.
He's wider than the universe
And beyond my wildest dreams.

Think about….

How else could you describe the greatness and wonder of God?

And he's known me and he's loved me
Since before the world began-
How wonderful to be a part of
God's amazing plan…

Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God,
Our God is a great big God,
And he holds us in his hands.

**The Collect: putting things into perspective**

Creator God, through forming the world and all that is in it,

you have shown us how much you care for each creature,

big or small, many or few.

Help us to notice the birds of the air and the lilies of the field,

their beauty, and their joy at singing your praise.

**Amen.**

**Reading – Matthew 6. 25-33**

Jesus said: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, 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, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

** **

*You can colour in your bird and flower, why not design it to be as colourful or beautiful as you can possibly make it?*

**Talk**

**Hymn 264: All things bright and beautiful.**

*During this hymn, please bring up any gifts to be auctioned after the service*

**Intercessions**

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

**The Peace**

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*During the peace we hold out Christ’s peace to one another, picturing the whole people of God gathered together in this moment. Do please put your message in the comment box on YouTube.*

**Hymn 353: Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

**The Preparation of the Altar**



As the grain once scattered in the fields,

and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside

are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,

so, Lord, may your whole Church

soon be gathered together into your Kingdom. **Amen.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his Name, for our good and the good of all his Church.**

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**



Lift up your hearts: **we lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

**it is right to give 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 singing:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and as we obey his command,

send your Holy Spirit,

that broken bread and wine outpoured

may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.



On the night before he died he had supper with his friends

and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, 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 for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,

in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice

made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,

we proclaim his death and resurrection

until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,**

**rising you restored our life,**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,

gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,

St Paul and St Nicholas and all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Together with all creation,

which in its own way loves its Lord and Creator;

together with the whole Church,

celebrating the Eucharist in different places around the world,

let us pray as Christ the Lord has taught us:

**Our Father, which 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**

Notice…

When the priest breaks the bread and then holds it back together again, how does this make you feel?

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith and receive this sacrament of love,

and let it rekindle in your heart the blessing of peace.

*Anyone who has been baptised is welcome to receive communion today. Please come forward as you are guided, keeping 2m away from others. The wafer will be placed in your hand in silence and then you are invited to return to your seat by going along the side aisle. If you would prefer to receive a personal blessing please bow your head when you get to the altar step.*

*If you are joining in at home you might find this a helpful prayer to use:*

Thanks be to you, Lord, Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,

for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you

more clearly, love you more dearly

and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen

**Post-Communion Prayer**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us**

**with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls**

**and bodies to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**

**to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**The Notices & Banns of Marriage**

**The Dismissal**

**The Blessing**

May God the Creator, who trusted us with this earth and all the land,

water and animals who live on it, bless us as we share our gifts of the harvest. **Amen.**

May God the Son, who trusted us to love one another

and to always be mindful of the needs of our neighbours,

bless us as we proclaim the joy of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, who trusts us to listen

to the holy whispers of gratitude for all that has been provided,

bless us as we show our appreciation for the harvest. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God….

 **Hymn 413: Now thank we all our God**

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

Tend the earth, care for God’s good creation,

and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

*After the service people usually stay to listen to the organ piece.*

*The collection plate to support the work of the Church,*

*along with the card reader, are by the door as you leave.*

*You’re then warmly invited to share in coffee and chat in the Parish Rooms*

*and also to be part of the auction of Harvest Gifts, which will raise money*

*for the three Charities we support-*

*USPG, the Children’s Society and Soulscape.*

*And don’t forget to come back for the Harvest lunch at 1pm.*

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright the Archbishops’ Council 2000. Music license under CCLI 97309 or performed by kind permission of the copyright holder.*

*Our God is a Great Big God – Jo and Nigel Hemming*

[*United Society Partners in the Gospel | Harvest (uspg.org.uk)*](https://www.uspg.org.uk/harvest)

*Bird photography by The Revd Dr Grant Bayliss*

*God bless, strengthen and inspire you in the week that lies ahead.*

*If you’d like to find out about everything that is happening in the parish,*

*please email* *church.office@spauls.co.uk*

*and we will happily put you on our regular mailing list.*