

St. Paul's Church, Wokingham

# Harvest Thanksgiving All Together Mass *with Soulscape*

Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2023

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A very warm welcome to St. Paul's for our Harvest Thanksgiving. The service is especially designed for people of **all ages** because it's amazing when we listen to God and worship God together. God's love is for everyone and we are all his children.

We aim to keep silence in preparation before the service. Where it is customary to sit or stand during worship, this is noted in the order of service. If it helps you to worship God, please stand/sit/kneel for these parts of the service - if standing is hard then please remain seated.

If you're putting money in the collection plate today, thank you: if you use a white Gift Aid envelope and fill in the information on the front then your £10 becomes magically worth £12.50.

Communion can be received either at the altar rail or in your pew. Please tell the priest if you need a gluten-free wafer. If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing please come forward with everyone else and keep your head bowed at the rail.

If you would like to receive communion or a blessing in the pew, please tell one of the welcomers (wearing name badges).

After the service there are refreshments in the Parish Rooms—do come along— and the legendary St Paul’s Auction which raises money for our three charities— Soulscape, Home Start and USPG.

It’s a great chance to catch up with old friends and to make new ones as well.



**Genesis 2.8-15** (read from the front of Church)

**Hymn: We plough the fields and scatter (262)**

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.**

Creator God, thank you for the wonder  
of the life that is around us,  
**the land that sustains us, that gives us food and beauty.**  
Thank you for the life-giving water,  
**essential for growing crops, animals and ourselves.**  
Thank you for the beauty of the wildflowers,  
**buzzing with insects, a haven for tiny creatures.**  
Thank you for the farmers and shop assistants,  
**who provide food for ourselves and food to share.**  
Creator God,  
**thank you for the gift of your amazing creation.**  
Now, Lord, we dedicate this festival of harvest  
thanksgiving to you.  
Bless us, strengthen us, unite us in your love. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration  
of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Confession**

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

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

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

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

For all the times where we have planted seeds of pain rather than seeds that bring life:

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

Almighty God, who makes saints out of sinners, who comes to us in Christ Jesus and makes us whole, who calls us to live full and generous lives, show you his generous face, fill you with his love, forgive you your sins and grant you his peace. **Amen.**

### **The Gloria (we thank God for his goodness)**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To Him be glory for ever. **To Him be glory for ever.**

Alleluia. Amen. **Alleluia. Amen.**

**Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus.**

To Him be glory for ever. **To Him be glory for ever.**

Alleluia. Amen. **Alleluia. Amen.**

**Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.**

To Him be glory for ever. **To Him be glory for ever.**

Alleluia. Amen. **Alleluia. Amen. (x2 more)**

## **The Harvest Collect**

**Creator God, you made the goodness of the land,  
the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons:  
as we thank you today for the Harvest,  
may we always cherish and respect this planet  
and its people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# **Stewards of God's Creation**

**New Testament Reading:** Revelation 21.1-5

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 17.11-19

Alleluia, alleluia. Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting. Gather the fruit for eternal life.  
**Alleluia.**

## **The Talk, by Soulscape**

**The Prayers:** *we pray for the needs of the world (We sit/kneel)*

## **The Peace**

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The peace of the Lord be always with you: **and also with you.**

## **Offertory Hymn**

### **All things bright and beautiful (264)**

*(during which a sample of the Harvest collection is received to support the work of Soulscape, Home Start and USPG)*

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.**

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,  
the splendour and the majesty,  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you  
and of your own do we give you.**

## **The Gift of God himself**

### **The Eucharist (Prayer One)**

**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.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy.**



It is always right to give you thanks,  
God our Father, holy and strong, King for ever.  
You made us and the whole universe.  
and filled your world with life.

*Holy, Holy, Holy.*

You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus, Saviour,  
Mary's child. He suffered on the cross;  
he died to save us from our sins;  
he rose in glory from the dead.

*Holy, Holy, Holy.*

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world,  
and fill us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

**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.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take this and eat it; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you. This is my blood,  
the new promise of God's love.  
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died. **Jesus Christ has died.**  
Jesus Christ is risen. **Jesus Christ is risen.**  
Jesus Christ will come again. **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit, that the bread and wine we bring  
before you may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Amen, *Amen*, **Amen.**

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another,  
as we work for the peace of the earth,  
and wait for Jesus to come in glory.

Amen, *Amen*, **Amen.**

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen, *Amen*, **Amen.**



## **The Lord's Prayer** (*We sit*)

Together with all creation, 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, 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.**

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.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
grant us peace.**

*Please come forward as the sidespeople direct to receive communion, or a prayer of blessing. During Communion the Choir sing hymn 276 and a Harvest anthem.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

**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 and Banns of Marriage**

### **The Blessing**

May God who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplied loaves and fishes and changes water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us, and change us to reflect the glory of our generous Creator, now and through all eternity: and the blessing of God almighty...

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

# Small changes, big difference

Freely you have received: freely give.

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord:

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

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

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## **Our Regular Events**

*We traditionally sit and reflect in silence while the organ  
is played at the end of the service. Do please talk to people around  
you after the music is finished, and then carry on that  
conversation over coffee and biscuits in the Parish Rooms.*

*There are lots of groups for people of all ages happening during  
the week and on a Sunday. In particular, if you'd like to find out  
more about groups for pre-school children, and primary school  
children, and secondary school children then please speak to  
a member of the clergy or one of our Children's Advocates.*

*And if you have any questions at all, about anything to do with  
St Paul's, then ring Fr Richard on 0118 979 2122  
or look at the website [www.spauls.org.uk](http://www.spauls.org.uk).*



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