

# HARVEST FESTIVAL

## ST.MARY'S CHURCH, ALDERLEY

### Opening Greeting

God is good:

**All: all the time.**

All the time:

**All: God is good.**

- **We sing our first hymn**
- **We hear a reading from the Bible**
- **The first short talk**

### From the canticle: **Benedicite, omnia opera**

1 O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

2 O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

3 O ye Heavens, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

4 O ye Waters that be above the Firmament, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

5 O all ye Powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

6 O ye Sun and Moon, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

7 O ye Stars of Heaven, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

8 O ye Showers and Dew, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

over .....

9 O ye Winds of God, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

10 O ye Fire and Heat, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

11 O ye Winter and Summer, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

12 O ye Dews and Frosts, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

13 O ye Frost and Cold, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

14 O ye Ice and Snow, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

15 O ye Nights and Days, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

16 O ye Light and Darkness, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

17 O ye Lightnings and Clouds, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

18 O let the Earth bless the Lord : yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.

## **The Collect for Harvest Festival**

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

## **The second short talk**

### **The introduction to the General Confession**

We confess our sin and the sins of our nation  
in the misuse of God's creation.

Let us confess our sin in penitence and faith.

### **The General Confession**

God, our heavenly Father, we are sorry  
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,  
and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

**All: forgive us and help us.**

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,  
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

**All: forgive us and help us.**

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,  
but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

**All: forgive us and help us.**

We are thoughtless,  
and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

**All: forgive us and help us.**

We store up goods for ourselves alone,  
as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

**All: forgive us and help us.**

### **Absolution**

- **We sing a hymn**
- **The second reading from the Bible**
- **The third short talk**

## **The Affirmation of Faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

- **We sing a hymn.** While we sing, your offering will be received: the collection will be taken.

## Prayers

Let us pray to God,  
that he will bring to fruition all that he desires  
for his creation.

Father, Lord of creation,

**All: in your mercy, hear us.**

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,  
and have blessed humankind in making us  
stewards of the earth.

We pray for your world,  
that we may share and conserve its resources,  
and live in reverence for the creation  
and in harmony with one another.

Father, Lord of creation,

**All: in your mercy, hear us.**

You have given the human race a rich land,  
a land of streams and springs,  
wheat and barley,  
vines and oil and honey.

We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow.  
We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction,  
that they may come to share the life of wholeness  
and plenty.

Father, Lord of creation,

**All: in your mercy, hear us.**

In Christ you call us to a new way of life,  
loving our neighbours before ourselves.  
Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is  
as we live in hope and anticipation of the world  
as it will be  
when your kingdom comes and your will is done.

over .....

Thank you for those, living and departed,  
who have shown a true respect for your creation ...  
Help us to follow in their footsteps,  
until, with them, we see you face to face,  
where all is made new in Christ our Lord.

Merciful Father,  
**All: accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

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

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in 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,  
now and for ever.  
Amen

- **We sing a hymn**

## **The Blessing**

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is the source of all goodness and growth,  
pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon you his children,  
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
be with you now and always.

Amen.