

The Bride Valley Harvest Festival

Gathering Prayer

We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The world is alive with your goodness, O God, it grows green from the ground and ripens into the roundness of fruit. Generously given, profusely displayed your graces of goodness pour forth from the earth.

As we have received so free us to give.

As we have been granted so may we give.

Amen

Opening Hymn

Confession (Please be seated or kneel)

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.**

May God who is both power and love forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Psalm 65.8,10,11,13; 67.7

The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.

You visit the earth and water it; **you make it very plenteous.**

You soften the ground with showers; **and bless the increase of it.**

You crown the year with your goodness; **and your paths overflow with plenty.**

The meadows are clothed with sheep;

the valleys stand so thick with corn, they shout for joy and sing.

The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.

Harvest gifts are brought forward

Hymn 2

Harvest Thanksgiving

We share a moment of silence and thank God for his provision in our lives.

For this gift of life, and for the harvest to come

We thank you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Readings

Address

Hymn 3

Creed (Please stand)

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

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

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray to God, the Lord of the harvest:

Dear Lord of the harvest, Lord of us all, we thank you for all of your creation which we see in abundance around us in Dorset.

Help us to reflect on your generosity, never taking it for granted and holding before you all those whose harvests have failed through drought, natural disaster or war.

The cycle of sowing, growing and reaping is once again complete, but the cycle starts again and continues, like your never-ending love for us all.

We ask you to bless new sowing, especially we ask you to bless those who have moved into new pastures in school, college or university, government, monarchy and diocesan roles, be their guide as they grow new roots, be their support as they reach out into new situations and be their comfort when clouds form.

Lord grant us all new growth in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

... ending with 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

Closing Hymn (during which an offering is taken)

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer, at your table we present this money, symbol of the work you have given us to do; use it, use us, in the service of your world to the glory of your name.

Amen.

**God of power,
May the boldness of your Spirit transform us.
May the gentleness of your Spirit lead us.
May the gifts of your Spirit equip us to service and worship you now and
always. Amen.**

Blessing

Go into a hungry world to give the bread of life.
Go into a thirsty world to offer a cup of water.
Go into a violent world to bring Christ's peace.
Go into a waiting world to share the blessing of God
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Freely you have received, freely give.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen



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