



***All Age Eucharist
for Harvest Thanksgiving***



St Alphege Parish Church, Solihull
Sunday 13th September 2026 at 9.30am

The people are welcomed and the hymn announced.

GATHERING HYMN – HON 705 We plough the fields and scatter

- 1 We plough the fields, and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand:
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft, refreshing rain.**

Refrain

**All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.**

- 2 He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
he fills the earth with beauty,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.**

Refrain

- 3 We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.**

Refrain

Matthias Claudius (1740-1815) tr Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-1878)

THE GREETING

We begin by making the sign of the cross upon our bodies,
joining together in the words and actions on-screen:

All **In my head** (*touch head*)
 in my heart (*touch heart*)
 and all around me (*touch shoulders one by one*)
 Jesus is here (*open hands in front, facing upwards*)
 Amen.

Please take a seat

The President introduces the service.

WE SAY SORRY

Harvest makes us aware of how much we have to enjoy, but it also makes us aware of how often we fail to take care of the world and those around us. It's also autumn, a time when the leaves fall, reminding us that sometimes we need to let go of things so that new things can happen.

So let us this morning be quiet for a minute and think of the wrong choices we have made, the things we have not bothered to do, and the things we did on purpose that have hurt other people, hurt ourselves and hurt God.

We keep a moment of stillness.

Remembering God's mercy and compassion, let us confess our sins, using the words and actions on-screen.

(Hands held out in front of us, palms facing outwards.)

Loving God, for the times we have kept others at arms' length,

All Forgive us and help us.

(Hands curled into fists.)

For the times we have refused to share what we have,

All Forgive us and help us.

(Hands placed over heart.)

For the times we have only thought of ourselves,

All Forgive us and help us.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

(Hands with palms facing upwards.)

May the God of love and power have mercy on you,

✚ pardon you

and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven

and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness

and keep you in life eternal.

All Amen.

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.

All Amen.

GRADUAL SONG – HON 186 Give thanks with a grateful heart

**Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.**

Repeat

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong,'
Let the poor say 'I am rich,'
Because of what the Lord has done for us.**

Repeat

Last time

Give thanks.

Henry Smith (born 1952)
© 1978 Integrity Music/Adm. by Kingswaysongs

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you, O Lord.

22 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. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. 24 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! 25 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? 26 If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? 27 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. 28 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! 29 And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. 30 For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ

Choristers and Band move to sit in the nave of the church

THE TALK

“One and a million” by Toby Callen sung by Songsquad

*I am a seed in a meadow,
I am a leaf on a tree,
I am a rock in a mountain,
I am them and they are me.*

*We are the rays of the sunshine,
We are the waves of the sea,
We are all one and a million,
Together stronger than just me.*

*Ah_, united we are strong,
Ah_, feel the power in our song,
Ah_, we can achieve our dreams,
Ah_, if together we all believe.*

*One and a million, join us today,
Building tomorrow, leading the way.*

*I am a rose in the garden
I am a star in the sky
I am a note in an anthem,
You are them and so am I.*

Let us all stand and affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ using the Makaton signs on the starred words:

**We believe in God* the Father*,
from whom every family*
in heaven* and on earth* is named.**

**We believe in God* the Son*,
who lives in our hearts* through faith*,
and fills* us with his love*.**

**We believe in God* the Holy* Spirit*,
who strengthens* us
with power* from on high*.**

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

PRAYERS

[Note for Ben:

a basket of harvest produce, a school bag, and a packet of seeds or a small plant.]

To the bidding, **“God of every season,”**
we respond, **“Hear our prayer.”**

Harvest Festival

Invite everyone to pretend to hold a tiny seed in one hand.

Loving God,
we thank you for seeds that grow,
rain that waters the earth,
sunshine that ripens the crops,
and farmers who work to provide our food.

Place some produce in the harvest basket.

Help us to care for your wonderful world,
to be grateful for everything we have
and to share generously with people who do not have enough.

God of every season,
Hear our prayer.

Welcoming Mr Carr

Invite everyone to wave towards Mr Carr.

Welcoming God,
today we give thanks for Mr Carr,
our schools' new Headteacher.
May he quickly feel at home among us.
Give him wisdom when decisions are difficult,
patience when days are busy
and joy as he gets to know the children, staff and families.
Help us all to welcome him with kindness,
encourage him in his work
and work together to help our school flourish.

God of every season,
Hear our prayer.

Blessing the Children

Place the school bag on the altar.

Loving God,
we pray for all our children
as they begin a new school year.
Bless them as they learn and grow.
Give them curious minds to discover new things,
courage to have a go,
kind hearts to notice anyone who feels lonely
and good friends with whom they can laugh and learn.

When school feels exciting, share their joy.
When it feels difficult, give them strength.
When they make mistakes, help them remember
that every day brings another chance to begin again.
Invite the adults to stretch out a hand towards the children.
Bless all who teach, guide, help and care for them.
May our school be a place where every child is known,
every child is valued
and every child has the opportunity to flourish.

God of every season,
Hear our prayer.

New Beginnings

Hold up the seeds/ plant. Invite everyone to close one hand like a seed, then slowly open it like a growing flower.

God of new beginnings,
we pray for everyone starting something new:
a new school, a new class, a new job,
a new friendship or a new chapter in life.
Some beginnings make us excited;
others may make us nervous.
Remind us that you are with us in every change.
Give courage to those taking their first steps,
comfort to those leaving something familiar behind
and hope to anyone who needs a fresh start.
Help each one of us to grow in love,
just as a tiny seed grows towards the light.

God of every season,
Hear our prayer.

Closing Prayer

Invite everyone to join the actions.

Hold out both hands.

For the gifts of the earth—
we thank you.

Point upwards.

For the people who guide us—
we thank you.

Make a growing action with both hands.

For children learning and growing—
we ask your blessing.

Place a hand over the heart.

For every new beginning—
we ask for courage.

Gather all our prayers, loving God,
spoken aloud and held quietly in our hearts,
and help us to grow together in faith, hope and love.

God of every season,

Hear our prayer.

Amen.

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

We remain in our places and offer one another a sign of peace.

Choristers and Band return to their places under the tower.

OFFERING OUR HARVEST GIFTS

We invite you to bring up any harvest gifts during the offertory song. Please come up the main, central aisle, leave your gift at one of the side altars and then return to your seat via the side aisles.

Revd Nick receives gifts at one side altar, Revd Sue at the other side altar.

OFFERTORY SONG – Sing a new song to the Lord

Chorus

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord:

Sing a new song to the Lord.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord:

Sing a new song to the Lord.

Be glad, rejoice, be glad, rejoice

Because of your King, because of your King.

Chorus

Play drum and harps, play drum and harps

In praise of him, in praise of him.

Chorus

Be glad, rejoice, be glad, rejoice

And sing joyfully, and sing joyfully.

Chorus twice

Children are invited to come forward and gather around the altar table.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed be God,
who feeds the hungry,
who raises the poor,
who fills our praise.

All Blessed be God for ever.

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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**All You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**All He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

All **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

All **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

All **As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:
heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory,
your pow'r and might.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

Please sit

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As God's children, loved and cherished, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

All join in singing:

**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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Come to this table, not because you must,
but because you may,
not because you are strong,
but because you are weak.

Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
but because you need mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little
and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you
and gave himself for you.

We receive communion. We are all invited to draw near to God today. If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church, you are most welcome to do so today. If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today, you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer so that we know your intention.

SONG DURING COMMUNION – HON 662 Think of a world

- 1 Think of a world without any flowers
Think of a world without any trees
Think of a sky without any sunshine
Think of the air without any breeze.
We thank you, Lord, for flowers and trees and sunshine
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

- 2 Think of a world without any animals
Think of a field without any herd
Think of a stream without any fishes
Think of a dawn without any bird.
We thank you, Lord, for all your living creatures
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

- 3 Think of a world without any people
Think of a street with no-one living there
Think of a town without any houses
No-one to love and nobody to care.
We thank you, Lord, for families and friendships,
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

Doreen Newport (1927-2004)
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and 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 all the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

*The President gives out any notices and banns of marriage.
There will also be a short Project Turnaround update.*

FINAL SONG – SONG – Harvest Samba “Cabbages and greens”

- 1 Cabbages and greens,
broccoli and beans,
cauliflower and roasted potatoes,
taste so good to me!**
- 2 Apricots and plums,
ripened in the sun,
oranges and yellow bananas,
good for everyone!**
Refrain
**It's another harvest festival
when we bring our fruit and vegetables,
'cause we want to share
the best of all the good things we've been given.
It's another opportunity,
to be grateful for the food we eat,
with a samba celebration to say
“Thank you” to God the Father.**
- 3 Golden corn and wheat,
Oats and sugar beet,
Fluffy rice and tasty spaghetti,
Wonderful to eat!**
- 4 Coffee, cocoa, tea,
growing nat'rally,
herbal plants and all kinds of spices,
very nice indeed!**
Refrain
**Repeat verses 1 and 2 and refrain and add at the end:
To God the Father.**

THE BLESSING

May the God of grace
guard your going out and your coming home,
keep you as you work and as you play,
as you think and as you act,
as you listen and as you talk,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, this day and always.

All Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives

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