

St Mary's, Wick



HARVEST PRAISE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

(Please join in all the words in bold type.)

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all **And also with you**

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease. *(Genesis 8:22)*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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 Christ our Lord. Amen

HYMN – (719) *We Plough the fields and scatter..*

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

God's whole creation groans. The land produces thorns and thistles and longs to be set free. Our sin affects all around us:

We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

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 Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God, we offer you our humble thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us the fruits of the earth in their seasons: grant us grace to use them rightly, to your glory, for the relief of those in need, and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING – Philippians 4.4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN – (133) *Come, ye thankful people, come*

GOSPEL READING – John 6.25-35

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of

God?’ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” ’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’

Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Lift up your eyes and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting – gather the fruit for eternal life **Alleluia**

REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FAITH

We say together:

We believe in God the Father,

Who created everything in heaven and on earth

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

THANKSGIVING FOR HARVEST

Harvest gifts are brought to the Altar

Let us give thanks to God, the God of all peoples of the earth.

For the colour and forms of your creation and our place within it;

We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

For our daily food, and for those whose work and skill bring your good gifts to us;

We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

For the light and shades of the changing seasons, their variety and dependability; for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;

We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

For new hope and strength in our communities, especially in your Church and among all you call to serve you;

We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

For all in whose lives we see goodness, kindness, gentleness, patience and humility, and all the fruit of the Spirit;

We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

For the life we have been given and for all those whom you have given us to share it We bring our thanks, good Lord: **Your mercy endures for ever**

THE PEACE

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

May the peace of the Lord be with you **And also with you**

(We share the peace in whatever way feels comfortable)

We offer God our PRAYERS and THANKS

*At the end of each prayer when you hear 'Lord in your mercy' please respond with **Hear our prayer***

We end by saying together The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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 forever. Amen

HYMN – (474) *Now thank we all our God*

BLESSING

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, accompany us in this day's journey.

Dawn on our darkness, open our eyes to praise you for your creation and to see the work you set before us today. Take us and use us to bring to others the new life you give in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

And now let us go in the joy and love of Christ **Thanks be to God**

New Patterns for Worship, material from which is included in this service,
is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002

Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New

Printed September 2023