



## Harvest Festival

20<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Collect

Eternal God,  
you crown the year with your goodness  
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their  
season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need and for our own  
well-being;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### First Reading

*A reading from Paul's letter to the Corinthians*

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,  
and the one who sows bountifully will also reap  
bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made  
up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to  
provide you with every blessing in abundance, so  
that by always having enough of everything, you may  
share abundantly in every good work. As it is  
written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;  
his righteousness endures for ever.' He who supplies  
seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and  
multiply your seed for sowing and increase the  
harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched  
in every way for your great generosity, which will  
produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the  
rendering of this ministry not only supplies the  
needs of the saints but also overflows with many  
thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this  
ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the  
confession of the gospel of Christ and by the  
generosity of your sharing with them and with all  
others, while they long for you and pray for you  
because of the surpassing grace of God that he has  
given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable  
gift!

*This is the Word of the Lord...*

### The Gospel

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Luke...*

Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man  
produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself,  
"What should I do, for I have no place to store my  
crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down  
my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store  
all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul,  
Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years;  
relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him,  
"You fool! This very night your life is being  
demanded of you. And the things you have prepared,  
whose will they be?" So it is with those who store  
up treasures for themselves but are not rich  
towards God.' 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. For life  
is more than food, and the body more than clothing.  
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! And can any of you by worrying add a  
single hour to your span of life? <sup>\*</sup>If then you are not  
able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry  
about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow:  
they neither toil nor spin; <sup>\*</sup>yet I tell you, even  
Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of  
these. 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! And do not keep striving for what you  
are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not  
keep worrying. 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...*

### Post Communion Prayer

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

**Amen**