

HARVEST THANKSGIVING EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 3 OCTOBER 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

The celebrant introduces the service.

HYMN 282

- Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home: all be safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin; God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest-home!
- All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield; wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown; first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear: grant, O harvest Lord, that we wholesome grain and pure may be.
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home; from his field shall purge away all that doth offend, that day; give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

Then, thou Church Triumphant, come, raise the song of harvest-home; all be safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin, there for ever purified in God's garner to abide: come, ten thousand angels, come, raise the glorious harvest-home!

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

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.

CONFESSION

Consider the birds of the air; they do not sow or gather into barns, yet our heavenly Father feeds them. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they do not toil nor spin, yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. How little faith we have.

Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed: forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

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.

LESSON Joel 2:21-27

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel:

²¹ Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! ²² Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. ²³ O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴ The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵ I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. ²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 126

- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.
- Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert.
- 6 Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, will come back with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves with them.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen. **GOSPEL** Matthew 6:25-33

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The appointed preacher offers a sermon.

BLESSING OF THE PRODUCE

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. The peace of the Lord be always with you, and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

HYMN 290

- 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.

 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; the winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed; much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

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

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

EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks because all things are of your making, all times and seasons obey your laws, but you have chosen to create us in your own image, setting us over the whole world in all its wonder. You have made us stewards of your creation, to praise you day by day for the marvels of your wisdom and power: so earth unites with heaven to sing the new song of creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. [Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.]

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again. Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

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.

INVITATION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

The celebrant distributes communion.

SOLO

'Auf starkem Fittiche' from Die Schöpfung Joseph Haydn Martina Neubauer, Soprano Und Gott sprach: Es bringe das Wasser in der Fülle hervor webende Geschöpfe, die Leben haben, und Vögel, die über der Erde fliegen mögen in dem offenen Firmamente des Himmels.

God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl, that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

GABRIEL Nr. 15 Arie

Auf starkem Fittiche
Schwinget sich der Adler stolz
Und teilet die Luft
Im schnellesten Fluge
Zur Sonne hin.
Den Morgen grüßt
Der Lerche frohes Lied,
Und Liebe girrt
Das zarte Taubenpaar.
Aus jedem Busch und Hain erschallt
Der Nachtigallen süße Kehle.
Noch drückte Gram nicht ihre Brust,
Noch war zur Klage nicht gestimmt
Ihr reizender Gesang.

On mighty pens uplifted soars the eagle aloft, and cleaves the air in swiftest flight to the blazing sun. His welcome bids to morn the merry lark, and cooing, calls the tender dove his mate. From ev'ry bush and grove resound the nightingale's delightful notes. No grief affected yet her breast, nor to a mournful tale were tun'd her soft enchanting lays.

Three soloists – the number always used by Haydn himself for this piece – portray three archangels and later Adam and Eve.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

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.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

NOTICES

BLESSING

The celebrants gives a suitable blessing:

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon us his children, that we may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 287

1 Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer, for all things living thou madest good; harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

- 2 Bless thou the labour we bring to serve thee, That with our neighbour we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with thee; harvesting, milling, for daily bread.
- 3 Father, providing food for thy children, thy wisdom guiding teaches us share one with another, so that rejoicing with us, our brother may know thy care.
- 4 Then will thy blessing reach every people; freely confessing thy gracious hand. Where thy will reigneth no one will hunger: thy love sustaineth; fruitful the land.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Currently we are not taking a collection during any of the services in the church building, because of Covid-19 restrictions. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.