

St. Mary Bromley

*Harvest
Festival*



Family Service
10.30 a.m. 9 October 2022

Welcome and Introduction

Song - We plough the fields and scatter

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 heav'n above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

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.

All good gifts around us...

We thank you, 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...

Opening Prayers

Our Heavenly Father we have gathered to give you thanks.

We praise you for having made this wonderful world,

We love the beauty with which we are surrounded.

We are fed by a wonderful provision of food.

We ask you to keep our bodies healthy with what we eat.

We ask you to inspire our souls as we know you more.

Amen.

Confession

God our father, we enjoy the fruits of the harvest

But sometimes we forget that you have given them to us

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

We are sorry for being selfish

and taking your gifts for granted

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

God you have blessed us but we still see inequality
And the poor going hungry so help us to do your will
In sharing with others. **Amen**

Absolution

The Lord knows your voice.

The Lord hears your cry for mercy.

The Lord turns his ear towards you.

He is kind, caring and knows your need to be saved.

God forgives you and gives you his peace
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Birthdays

*Everyone who has had a birthday since our last Family Service
is welcome to join us at the front and receive a candle.*

We then sing the following:

**Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you,
may God bless you and keep you, happy birthday to you.**

BIBLE READING - Mark 4.26-32

Jesus also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

Song - All things bright and beautiful

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.*

Each little flow'r that opens, each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours, he made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful...

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

All things bright and beautiful...

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them, ev'ry one.

All things bright and beautiful...

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful...

We ask our younger members to prepare lunch

TALK – Food for the body and the soul

Our younger members serve up some treats

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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.**

SONG - Come, ye thankful people, come

(During which harvest gifts, received)

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home!
All is 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!

We ourselves are 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.

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!

PRAYERS

Concluding with:

**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.**

Song - Greatest is thy faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see:

all I have needed thy hand hath provided

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!...

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!...

Blessing

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use them to his glory
and the welfare of all peoples.

And the blessing of God Almighty
the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon us and remain with us forever. **Amen.**

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