



Harvest Festival

20th 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. ¹⁷And 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? ^{*}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; ^{*}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