

Parish of Sanderstead

Sunday 11 October 2020, Parish Praise

Extending God's Welcome to All. Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

This is the day that the Lord has made. **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Creator God, breathing your own life into our being, you give us the gift of life. You placed us on this earth with its flowers and fruits, minerals and waters, living creatures of grace and beauty. At harvest time the earth reaches the peak of its fruitfulness.

And now we come in worship to you. We bring our gifts to you, and sing our praises to you, for you have given us care of the earth. Of your own do we give you this morning.

HYMN: We plough the fields and scatter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccVEjKfKAV4>

(As we listen to this song being sung, we bring forward any harvest gifts that we have brought, and lay them before the altar).

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.*

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.

We thank Thee, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,
The seed time and the harvest,
our life, our health, and food;
No gifts have we to offer,
for all Thy love imparts,
But that which Thou desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.

Matthias Claudius (1740-1815)

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Let us confess our sins and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

Lord, you give justice to those who are suffering, and bread to those who hunger. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you release those who are bound, and open the eyes of the blind. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you watch over the stranger in the land, and uphold the orphan and the widow. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COLLECT FOR HARVEST

**God our creator,
you have made us one with this earth,
to tend it and to bring forth fruit;
may we so respect and cherish
all that has life from you,
that we may share in the labour
of all creation
to give birth to your hidden glory,
through Jesus Christ,
Amen.**

(Janet Morley, *All Desires Known*, 1988)

PSALM 100

A psalm. For Thanksgiving.

Shout to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come before him with joyful songs!

**Know that the LORD is God.
It is He who made us, and we are His.
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.**

Come into His gates with thanksgiving
and His gates with praise.
Give thanks to Him and bless his name.

**For the LORD is good and His love endures for ever
and His faithfulness through all generations.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever.
Amen**

LUKE 12:13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

¹⁴ Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" ¹⁵ Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

¹⁸ "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I'll

say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."

²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

²¹ "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

REFLECTION

"One thing leads to another": a short, pictorial reflection by JG

POEM: *Good Ground by Malcolm Guite*

I love the simple story of the sower,
With all its close attention to the soil,
Its movement from the knowledge to the knower,
Its take on the tenacity of toil.

I feel the fall of seed a sower scatters,
So equally available to all,
Your story takes me straight to all that matters,
Yet understands the reasons why I fall.

Oh deepen me where I am thin and shallow,
Uproot in me the thistle and the thorn,
Keep far from me that swiftly snatching shadow,
That seizes on your seed to mock and scorn.

O break me open, Jesus, set me free,
Then find and keep your own good ground in me.

SERMON [Martin Greenfield]

INTERCESSIONS

We offer our grateful thanks to you O God for your bounty and goodness to us. For the seeds and fruits of the earth, for the rains on which they depend for their growth, for the ripening warmth of the sun to pollinate crops, and for those who labour to work with nature, reaping and gathering in the harvest.

ALL: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord

Give us a growing awareness that we all depend on the earth for our daily food and sustenance. Help us always to walk gently upon this earth, nurtured by your love, taking only what we need and giving back to the earth in gratitude.

Teach us to share what we have, to recognise our proper place as part of your creation, honouring with reverence the gift of the natural world.

May our attitude be one of reconciliation and healing, ever mindful of those who will come after us

ALL: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord

Grant us wisdom, we pray, to live in ways that will slow down climate change.

Grant us grace to recognise our responsibilities to care for the world you have made, and to safeguard the beauty of your creation.

Grant us the courage to speak out for justice, for fair trade as well as free trade, to avoid the need for farmers to grow harmful and illegal crops, and to end wasteful and damaging agricultural practices.

ALL: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord

Bring peace to the killing fields of war, so that scorched earth is made green again, and people can sow their seeds, harvest their crops and live in harmony with their neighbours.

ALL: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

BLESSING

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all, and remain with you always. Amen

FINAL HYMN: Beauty for brokenness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kVHKuldZyw>

BEAUTY FOR BROKENNESS

Hope for despair
Lord, in the suffering
This is our prayer
Bread for the children
Justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset
Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives,
Cures for their ills
Work for the craftsman,
trade for their skills,
Land for the dispossessed
Rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

[Cont.]

*God of the poor
Friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame*

Refuge from cruel war
Havens from fear
Cities for sanctuary
Freedoms to share
Peace to the killing-fields
Scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness
His cross for the pain

God of the poor...

Rest for the ravaged earth
Oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned
Our future, our dreams
Lord, end our madness
Carelessness, greed
Make us content with
The things that we need.

God of the poor...

Lighten our darkness
Breathe on this flame
Until your justice
Burns brightly again
Until the nations
Learn of your ways
Seek your salvation
And bring you their praise

God of the poor...

Graham Kendrick