



HARVEST SUPPER

prayers and readings 2020

2020 has been a difficult year for many in the farming community as it negotiates the challenges from changeable weather, new agricultural policy and COVID-19. And so, this year, perhaps more than ever, the farming community here and across the UK needs our support!

As we're not able to gather together in the 'usual' way to celebrate Harvest Festivals in church, we are inviting people to hold their own **HARVEST SUPPER AT HOME** by sharing a meal with those in their household group, whether that's just you or a maximum of 6 people together.

The idea is that we use as much produce that we've grown ourselves or sourced as locally as possible for this meal, and that we take this opportunity to say 'Thank you' to farmers and all involved in the production and distribution of the food we eat.

The following prayers and readings will, we hope, help make this meal a time of celebration and thanksgiving with God.

Pool MA Shared Ministry Team

BEFORE YOU EAT:

You may like to find a recording of a harvest hymn to use as you begin.

Either:

O give thanks to God, for God is gracious
God's steadfast love endures for ever

or:

Diolch i Dduw, oherwydd mae Duw yn raslon
Mae cariad diysgog Duw yn para am byth

The earth has yielded its harvest.
God, our God has blessed us.

Bible Reading:

And God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with seed in it. And it was so. And God said, See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit: you shall have them for food.

And to every beast of the earth, every bird of the air, every creeping thing, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food. And it was so. God saw that it was good, very good.'

Genesis 1

Thanks be to You, Lord God, for Your word.

Prayer:

Let us pray:

Loving God,

we give thanks for those who produce our food:

for farmers and fishermen, factory and shop workers.

We pray for those for whom this has been a difficult year:

farmers who have battled the weather to grow food,

delivery drivers and shop workers

who kept working despite the pandemic.

Help us to value and support each other.

In Jesus' name. Amen

GRACE:

Creator God, thank You for this food.

Bless those who have produced and prepared it.

Help us/me to enjoy it

and learn to share Your goodness and bounty.

In Jesus' name. Amen

TAKE TIME TO ENJOY YOUR MEAL😊

AFTER YOUR SUPPER:

Prayers:

Let us pray:

Creator God, the whole earth proclaims Your glory.
Field and forest, farm and garden all sing Your praise!
As we gaze at the world around us
we see Your handiwork; Your fingerprint is everywhere.
This is Your world; help us to enjoy it gently.
In Jesus' name. Amen

Now may God who gives seed to the sower and corn to the reaper, give to us/me all that is needed to produce a good harvest from my/our lives.

May God make us/me fertile in faith, love and goodness,
take me/us onward with joy, and lead us/me in peace,
as signs of the fruitfulness of heaven. Amen

Either:

Our God has blessed us; God has richly blessed us.
All praise to God's name for evermore. Amen

or:

Mae ein Duw wedi ein bendithio;
Mae Duw wedi ein bendithio'n gyfoethog.
Pob clod i enw Duw am byth. Amen

*image and prayers from the Arthur Rank Centre
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