

**Offertory Hymn:** All creatures of our God and King

**Offertory prayer:**

In your provision for our own needs

**We thank you**

In your desire to provide for the needs of all

**We honour you**

Let a full measure of your provision flow

To meet the needs of all Gods people. **Amen**

**Notices**

**Hymn:** Fill your hearts with joy and gladness

**Blessing**

May God the Father bless you,  
who first sowed the seed of eternal life  
in your hearts.

May God the Son bless you,  
who nurtures you with the rain  
and sunshine of love.

May God the Spirit bless you,  
who brings all things to fruition;  
and may the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Freely you have received, freely give.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**



Acknowledgments:

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Confession: Angela Ashwin's Book of 1000 prayers

Offertory Prayer : Harvest for the World, Christian Aid

Harvest Blessing: thisischurch.com

## A Somerset Harvest Service (Year B)



**Greeting**

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it

**Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice**

**Hymn** We plough the fields and scatter

**Confession**

In a world whose web of life is intricate and beautiful  
**Save us, Lord, from carelessness and blindness,**  
In a world whose creatures are so varied and  
vulnerable

**Save us, Lord, from plundering and cruelty.**

In a world where waters are fresh and whose oceans  
should cleanse,

**Save us Lord from wanton pollution.**

In a world where forests protect our air and wildlife  
**Save us, Lord, from systems that drive us to destroy  
them.**

In a world whose fruits are rich and plentiful

**Save us, Lord, from waste and greed.**

**Harvest Prayer**

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 wellbeing; 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 forever. **Amen**

**Bringing of Harvest Gifts**

*Gifts brought forward:*

Harvest loaf

We celebrate the gift of cereal crops – wheat,  
barley, oats and more.

**Thank you Lord, for the corn safely gathered in  
Basket of local vegetables and fruit**

We celebrate the gift of our climate and soil here in  
Somerset, helping us grow vegetables and fruits in  
our fields and gardens

**Thank you Lord, for our local 5 a day**

### Churn or Jug of milk

We celebrate the daily gift of cows, goats and ewe's milk from which we make our cheeses, butter, yoghurts, ice-cream and more

**Thank you Lord, for our dairy products**

### Bag of seed(s)

We celebrate seed for the future, gathered today so we can eat tomorrow

**Thank you Lord, for the Harvest of seeds**

*(adapt for local produce eg coastal fish, lamb, withies etc)*

**Hymn of Thanksgiving** God whose farm is all creation

### **Interview with a local producer**

*(an insight into the year of a farmer)*



**Reading** Joel 2:21-27

**Hymn:** The king is among us

**Reading** Matthew 6.25-33

### **Harvest address**

#### **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.**

**Hymn:** Lord for the years or Seek ye First

### **Harvest Prayers**

1. Lord God, we thank you for the land that surrounds us, the rich soil, the pastures and the orchards, the rivers and hills. Thank you for the men and women who work on the farms, caring for the livestock and the crops. We pray for a fair return on their labours, and safety and well being for them and their families: Lord of the Harvest; **Hear our prayer**

2. Loving God, We thank you for the plenty and variety of our food in this country. We pray for justice in the food chain, both at home and abroad. Especially at this time we pray for our dairy farmers and the particular pressures they face with low prices and late milk payments. We also pray for those who process, prepare and pack our food; those who transport and sell it, those who cook and serve it for us, day by day: Lord of the Harvest; **Hear our prayer**

3. Lord God we thank you for the bio-diversity on our farmland; we pray for a love of creation in farm policy and practice. We thank you for the contribution to sustainable energies that our farms are making. Give us wisdom and discernment in our care and stewardship of the land in this way: Lord of the Harvest; **Hear our prayer**

4. Father God. We thank you for our gardens and allotments, our greenhouses and potting sheds, and the joys of raising our own food. Help us to be good neighbours and share our harvest with those who have less. In a land of plenty help us to remember those whose crops have failed, those who are hungry, and give us generous hearts: Lord of the Harvest; **Hear our prayer**

5. Father God, you who clothe the lilies and feed the birds of the sky, who lead the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us, and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator : Lord of the Harvest; **Hear our prayer**

Gathering our prayers into one, we pray as our Lord Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

