

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
LOWESTOFT



Harvest Festival

Sunday 29th September 2024

Holy Communion



WITH

The Dean of Norwich

The Very Revd. Dr. Andrew Braddock

Welcome to St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft

Please feel free to sit or stand as you feel most comfortable.
Congregational responses are usually shown in **bold type**, where these
are also in *italics* they are normally sung.



WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Deacon: Gerda
Presiding: Canon Simon
Preacher: Dean Andrew

The Lord of the Harvest be with you
And also with you.

HYMN: 282 - Come, ye thankful people, come

***Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all be 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.***

***All the world is 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, forever purified,
in God's garner to abide:
come, ten thousand angels come,
raise the glorious harvest home!***

Invitation to CONFESSION

Let us come before our God with thanksgiving,
And sing to him joyfully with songs
For he tends the earth and waters it,
He makes it rich and fertile.

Lord of the Harvest, all is yours,
The rains that fall, the sun that shines,
The seed once hidden in the ground,
The skill that makes the harvest grow.

Therefore, let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and be good stewards of all that he has given us.

Confession

When we enjoy the fruits of Harvest but forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy.
Forgive us and help us.

When we are full and satisfied but ignore those who are hungry.
Father, in your mercy.
Forgive us and help us.

When we are thoughtless, and do not care for the world you have made.
Father in your mercy.
Forgive us and help us.

May the Lord of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand to sing the Gloria

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, Heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take
away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; You are seated at the right
hand of the Father: receive our prayer.***

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.***

THE COLLECT (*Prayer of the week*)

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

All-age talk

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING – 1 Timothy 6: 6-10 *Read by Samuel*

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

At the end

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: 777 - *Sing of the Lord's goodness*

During the hymn, the harvest gifts are invited to be brought forward. The harvest gifts will then be blessed after the hymn.

Sing of the Lord's goodness,

Father of all wisdom,

come to him and bless his name.

Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever,

faithful to the end of days.

***Come then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.***

***Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.***

***Power he has wielded,
honour is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.
Come then, all you nations,
sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.***

***Courage in our darkness,
comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary,
pardon for the sinner,
splendour of the living God.
Come then, all you nations,
sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory,
praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.***

***Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing,
praise God till the end of days.
Come then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.***

Blessing of the Harvest gifts

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING – Matthew 6: 25-33**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lift up your eyes and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.
Gather the fruit for eternal life.

Alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, 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, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – The Very Revd. Dr. Andrew Braddock

*Please stand for a **Harvest Affirmation of faith***

Look at the flowers in the gardens
we did and we saw your beauty

look at the birds of the air
we did and we saw your freedom

look at the grass of the moorland
we did and we saw your endurance

look at the fish of the oceans
we did and we saw your diversity

look at the trees in the woods
we did and we saw your strength

look at the harvest in the fields
we did and we saw your provision

look at the world, at this creation
we did and we saw your handiwork

Take a look at the cross on the hillside
we did and we saw such love

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Led by Sarah

Please sit or kneel

These responses may be used

Your Kingdom come

Your will be done

At the end:

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Notices and time of sharing

THE PEACE (*please stand*)

Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of love.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN 284 - For the fruits of all creation

During the hymn the bread & wine are brought forward and the altar is prepared

For the fruits of all creation,

Thanks be to God;

For the gifts to every nation,

Thanks be to God;

For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,

Silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future needs in earth's safe keeping,

Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour,

God's will is done;

In the help we give our neighbour,

God's will is done;

In our world-wide task of caring

For the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing,

God's will is done.

*For the harvests of his Spirit,
Thanks be to God;
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God;
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.*

Words: F Pratt Green (1903-2000), © Stainer & Bell

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
you bring forth bread from the earth.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
you create the fruit of the vine.

Blessed be God for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

[Please sit or kneel - The choir may remain standing]

*The Lord be with you
and also with you*

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks
because you make us stewards of your creation,
to praise you day by day for the marvels of your wisdom and power.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *singing*:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with St Margaret and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

The Lord's Prayer

Being made whole by the generous love of Christ,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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 forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
Though we are many, we are one body
Because we all share in one bread.

The Agnus Dei

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

All are welcome to come forward to receive the bread and the wine or a blessing, it is helpful for us if you say your name when you come to the front.

An anthem is usually sung by the Choir and then a **HYMN** is also sung during Communion. (Please remain seated)

Anthem: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord - Evans

Hymn : 287 - *Praise and thanksgiving*

*Praise and thanksgiving,
Father, we offer,
For all things living
you have made good;
Harvest of sown fields,
fruits of the orchard
Hay from the mown fields,
blossom and wood.*

*Bless thou the labour
we bring to serve thee,
That with our neighbour
we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling,
we would work with thee;
Harvesting, milling,
for daily bread.*

*Father, providing
food for thy children,
They wisdom guiding
teaches us share
One with another,
so that, rejoicing,
with us our brother
may know thy care.*

*Then will thy blessing
reach every people;
Freely confessing
Thy gracious hand:
Where thy will reigneth
no one will hunger;
Thy love sustaineth;
fruitful the land.*

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

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN: 290 - *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 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.*

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.*

*We thank thee, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,
the seed time and the harvest,
our life, our health, and 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
are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*

THE BLESSING

God the Father, who created the world,
give us grace to be wise stewards of his creation. **Amen.**

God the Son, who redeemed the world,
inspire us to go out as labourers into his harvest. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit
whose breath fills the whole of creation,
help us to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Thank you kindly for your Harvest gifts
which will be donated to the Foodbank.

Thank you for worshipping with us today,
You are welcome to join us for Tea & Coffee
in the Church Centre afterwards.