# HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE

### **GREETING**

Blessed be our God for all time, now and for evermore.

Amen.

Glory to you, our God, glory be to you, Holy Spirit, Comforter, treasure of all goodness and giver of life, come and dwell in us, cleanse us from all sin, and in your love bring us to salvation. Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

#### Psalm 150

1. Praise God in his holiness;

praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts;

praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the blast of the trumpet;

praise him upon the harp and lyre.

4 him with timbrel and dances;

praise him upon the strings and pipe.

5 Praise him with ringing cymbals;

praise him upon the clashing cymbals.

6 everything that has breath

praise the Lord.

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.

# HARVEST THEME - GOD'S PROVISION

**SCRIPTURE**: Genesis 8: 22

God said, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

Opening Hymn: 37 "Come, ye thankful people, come" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3n7IUCdqAM

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all is 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 are to joy or sorrow grown; first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear; Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home; from the field shall in that day all offences purge away; give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring thy final harvest home; gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin; there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide: come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest-home.

Henry Alford (1810-71) altd.

# HARVEST THEME — JOURNEY OF LIFE

**SCRIPTURE**: Psalm 34: 1

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**2nd Hymn: 372** "Through all the changing scenes of life" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ox1r0OzIwoo&t

Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy, the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.

O magnify the Lord with me, with me exalt His Name; when in distress to Him I called, he to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around the dwellings of the just; deliverance He affords to all who on His succour trust. O make but trial of His love; experience will decide how blessed are they, and only they, who in His truth confide.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear; make you His service your delight; your wants shall be His care.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore, be glory, as it was, and is, and shall be evermore.

> Nahum Tate (1652-1715) and Nicholas Brady (1659-1726) New Version, 1696 based on Psalm 34

# **HARVEST THEME - CREATION**

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 1: 31

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

3rd Hymn: 25 "All things bright and beautiful" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPMA5I3-0Jw

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colours, he made their tiny wings:

The purple headed mountains, the river running by, the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky:

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

Cecil Frances (Fanny) Alexander (1818-95)

# **HARVEST THEME - GROWTH**

**SCRIPTURE:** Ephesians 4: 15-16

But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

**4th Hymn: 39** "For the fruits of his creation" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0He7zI7kasE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0He7zI7kasE</a>

For the fruits of his 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 the 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!

F Pratt Green (1903-2000)

# **HARVEST THEME - WORK**

**SCRIPTURE:** Galatians 6: 9-10

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

**5th Hymn: 47** "We plough the fields and scatter" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWHMZsf-Ano">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWHMZsf-Ano</a>

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, our food: Accept the gifts we offer for all thy love imparts, and that which you most welcome, our humble, thankful hearts.

Matthias Claudius (1740-1815) tr. Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-78) altd. Refrain based on James 1:17

# **HARVEST THEME - JOY**

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 15: 13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

6th Hymn: 570 "Give me joy in my heart" vs. 2-4 Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=030Yq4bSRkM

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising, give me joy in my heart, I pray; give me joy in my heart, keep me praising, keep me praising till the break of day.

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King of kings! Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King!

Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving, give me peace in my heart, I pray; give me peace in my heart, keep me loving, keep me loving till the break of day.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving, give me love in my heart, I pray; give me love in my heart, keep me serving, keep me serving till the break of day.

**Traditional** 

# **HARVEST THEME - COMMUNITY**

# **SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 25: 34-36

Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

7th Hymn: 499 "When I needed a neighbour"
Listen to and sing along with this hymn at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fExR7eOhJO0

When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there? When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

And the creed and the colour And the name won't matter Were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, Were you there, were you there? I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there? I was cold, I was naked were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there? When I needed a shelter were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there? When I needed a healer were you there?

Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there. Wherever you travel, I'll be there. And the creed and the colour And the name won't matter I'll be there.

*Sydney Carter* (1915-2004)

### HARVEST THEME - MUSIC

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 96: 1-3
O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous works among all the peoples.

**8th Hymn: 360** "Let all the world in every corner sing" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f NoW2Hz52w

Let all the world in every corner sing, 'My God and King!' The heav'ns are not too high, his praise may thither fly: the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, 'My God and King!'

Let all the world in every corner sing, 'My God and King!'
The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
but, above all the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, 'My God and King!'

*George Herbert* (1593-1633)

#### HARVEST THEME - REAPING

**SCRIPTURE:** Deuteronomy 24: 19

When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings.

**9th Hymn: 41** "God, whose farm is all creation" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkP0BybUfgc

God, whose farm is all creation, take the gratitude we give; take the finest of our harvest, crops we grow that all may live.

Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping, hopes and fears of sun and rain, all our thinking, planning, waiting, ripened in this fruit and grain.

All our labour, all our watching, all our calendar of care, in these crops of your creation, take, O God: they are our prayer.

John Arlott (1914-91) altd.

# **PRAYER**

Let us pray to the Lord with all our heart and with all our soul.

#### Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all Christian people, that they may live in love and truth.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all ministers of the Church, and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for peace throughout the world, and for all governments.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for our neighbours and for all our friends.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for those who hate us as we pray for those who love us.

### Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for refugees and prisoners, and for all who are exposed to the dangers of travel.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all sick people, for the sorrowful and the dying.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and that the poor and hungry may receive a just share.

# Lord, have mercy.

Let us remember our brothers and sisters who have entered into eternal rest.

# Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Let us continue praying in silence

Silence is kept.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory

for ever and ever. Amen.

#### COMMON COLLECT

Lord Almighty,

come and scatter the darkness of our hearts

by the light of your presence;

that we may know you

the Light of the world and the one true God,

blessed this night and for evermore. Amen.

# HARVEST THEME — THANKSGIVING

**SCRIPTURE**: Ephesians 5: 19-20

Be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Closing Hymn: 361 "Now thank we all our God" Listen to and sing along with this hymn at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7gMDXylzW8

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessèd peace to cheer us, and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills of this world in the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven; the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

> Martin Rinkart (1856-1649) tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-78)

BLESSING Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

May the Almighty and merciful God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. **Amen.**