**Hymn No. M.P.200 Great is thy faithfulness**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,

there is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;

as Thou hast been Thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness,*

*morning by morning new mercies I see;*

*all I have needed Thy hand hath provided,*

*great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

sun, moon and stars in their courses above,

join with all nature in manifold witness

to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is Thy faithfulness....*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is Thy faithfulness....*

T. O. CHISHOLM (1866-1960) CCLI 150801

**Westfield Harvest** **10.30 am** **4th October 2020**

**Call to worship**  Mark 4 v 26-29

**26**Jesus said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. **27**Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. **28**All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. **29**As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

**Hymn No. M.P. 106 Come you thankful people come**

Come, you thankful people, come,

raise the song of harvest-home!

Fruit and crops are gathered in,

safe before the storms begin:

God, our Maker, will provide

for our needs to be supplied;

come, with all His people, come,

raise the song of harvest-home!

All the world is God's own field,

harvest for His praise to yield,

wheat and weeds together sown,

here for joy or sorrow grown:

first the blade, and then the ear,

then the full corn shall appear;

Lord of harvest Lord, grant that we

wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come

and shall bring His harvest home;

He himself on that great day,

worthless things shall take away,

give His angels charge at last

in the fire the weeds to cast,

but the fruitful ears to store

in His care for ever more.

Even so, Lord, quickly come

to Your final harvest-home;

gather all your people in

free from sorrow, free from sin

there together purified,

ever thankful at Your side -

come, with all Your angels, come,

bring that glorious harvest home!

HENRY ALFORD (1810-71) altd.\* CCLI 150801

**Prayer and Lord’s Prayer**

Creator God ,

We come today to praise and worship you

And to give thanks for all you created

you provide for our wants year by year and generation by generation.  
You love us and you give us food and shelter.  
You give us people to care for us and to be cared for by us.  
You give us community, and you call us to be part of the one world community.

**Prayer of commitment**

Lord we would grow with you

New shoots reaching out

Hands stretched upward

Like leaves newly formed

Soaking up your light and warmth

**Lord we would grow with you**

Lord we would grow with you

In sunshine and rain

In darkness and light

In cold days and summer days

From springtime to winter

**Lord we would grow with you**

Lord we would grow with you

And bring forth fruit

That is pleasing to you

Fed by your living water

Giving sustenance to others

**Lord we would grow with you**

**Amen**

Matthias Claudius (1740-1815) tr. Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-78) altd. © 1986 Horrobin/Leavers CCLI 150801

**God’s provision challenges us to respond to provide for the less fortunate - foodbank and commitment for life**

However, not everyone has enough

Not everyone can simply go to a supermarket where there is a vast choice of food and other goods and buy what they need.

While some of us have more than we need, some cannot afford the food their family need.

Some go hungry because there isn’t enough food to go round and they rely on Aid Agencies to provide what they need.

God calls us to love our neighbour at home and abroad so today we are supporting the Wyke Food Bank and Commitment for Life.

The box for the foodbank is in the Ellis Room and is there every week and there is a piece about Commitment for Life in the newsletter as well as the booklet and thermometer in your pack to remind us each day how fortunate we are and should always give thanks by sharing what we have with those who have less.

You enrich our lives with the miracle of growth

the wonder of life

the variety of harvest

We bring you our thanksgiving

For the beauty of the seasons

The daily changes through day and night

your vital gifts of rain and sunshine

But especially today

We celebrate the gathering up of your harvest

In order that we can share what is produced

With each other and those in greater need.

Bless our time together this morning

In the name of Jesus

our Saviour , guide and example,

who shows us how you intend life on earth to be.

Amen

We say together the prayer Jesus taught us ….

**Notices and Mission Prayer & Offering and Prayer of Dedication**

Dear God, Bless our gifts of money, produce and time – we dedicate all our harvest giving to further your work and witness in our world. Amen

**Praise God for His provision in the beaty and bounty of creation.**

God has given us a beautiful world to live in

We will be watching a video at church. If you are able to watch it at home here is how you can find it. Go into You tube and type in ‘god’s beautiful world’

1st video – God’s beautiful creation awesome scenery – picture of towering rocks with clouds over time 6.23 minutes.

We live in a world of beautiful and amazing places:

Pyramids at Giza in Egypt

Canadian Rockies

Machu Pichu

Great Barrier Reef

Looking down on Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives as Jesus did.

Where is the most beautiful place you have been?

I find it hard to believe that when he talks about how marvellous nature is David Attenborough sees it all having happened by chance where as I find it harder to believe there cannot be a divine hand in it.

It is not just beautiful but designed to meet our physical needs too so at Harvest we celebrate every year the bounty which the world produces for us and thank God for His provision.

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...*

We thank You 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 Your love imparts,

we come now Lord to give You

our humble, thankful hearts:

*All good gifts around us...*

tiny mustard seeds of new growth,

grains of yeast that activate change.

As we identify signs of hope give us your energy

to keep searching for more.

Guide us with your grace

To bring your hope to each other

And those you place on our life journey

**Generous God,**

**give us vision for life.**

God, the Holy Spirit, new life of all,

you blow away our excuses

and overcome our defensiveness.

Help us to keep in tune with your promptings –

glimpses of what could be,

hints of new outcomes we didn’t expect.

Ways to share your generous harvest

So all in our world have enough for each need

**Generous God,**

**give us vision for life in all it’s fullness and the confidence to share your good news day by day in all circumstances.**

**Amen**

**Hymn No. M.P 732 We plough the fields and scatter**

We plough the fields, and scatter

the good seed on the land,

**Hymn Join the harvest celebration (tune MP 83)**

*Join the harvest celebrations,*

*Let us all give thanks today;*

*Let us shout and tell the nations,*

*There’s enough for everyone!*

See them laughing,

when the crops are harvested,

join them, singing,

knowing now that no one need be hungry.

*Join the harvest celebrations....*

Harvest gladness

fills us all with hope and joy,

food in plenty

makes us glad to share the earth’s resources

*Join the harvest celebrations....*

Greed and envy,

prejudice and selfishness,

have no place where

bread and wine proclaim the love of Jesus

*Join the harvest celebrations....*

Children waiting,

let them all be satisfied;

feed them, tell them

they are born to be God’s sons and daughters.

*Join the harvest celebrations,*

*pray God’s holy time will come,*

*with the children of the nations,*

*celebrating! – every day!*

**Reading John 15 1-8 The true vine**

1"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

**Connected to the vine –**

We do believe it is God’s world and it feeds our physical needs.

However, in Jesus God revealed himself and showed how he wants to provide us with the spiritual food we need to be his children, his people.

Just as that reading reminds us that if you break a branch off a plant it will die so our spiritual strength relies on us making sure we remain in a right relationship with Jesus by reading and studying the bible, praying and following the wonderful examples of how to live out our Christian life day by day.

We need to keep our lives rooted in Him so that we can grow to be more like him and more like the people he wants us to be.

**Vision Prayer**

Life-giving God, creator of all,

you spoke the world into being

and saw that it was good.

Help us to see the world through your eyes –

messy yet full of potential,

incomplete yet perfect in parts.

When our view is distorted

may we refocus it through your lens of love.

May we always give you thanks

For all your provision.

**Generous God,**

**give us vision for the life you provide**

Jesus Christ, Saviour of all,

you live alongside us and show us

life in all its fullness.

Help us to look with you for hidden possibilities –