

The Blessing

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

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

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills all of creation,
help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Be amongst you and remain with you always
Amen.

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Notice Board

The Christmas Fair is on Sat 16 Nov at 2.00pm. If you are able to offer any help, please speak to Rosie Ellis.

Today's harvest donations will be split between people in the village, Stowmarket Foodbank and Gatehouse.

The week ahead

Tonight 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Rectory.

Mon 23 Sep 10.00am Coffee Break at the Rectory.

Thu 26 Sep 9.30am Mums the Word at the Rectory.

Fri 27 Sep 3.50pm Messy Church
(drinks/biscuit from 3.30pm, includes tea).

Sat 28 Sep 9.00am to 12.30pm Church and churchyard Tidy Up,
starting with a short time of prayer.
Coffee and cake at 11.00am.

Diary Dates

Sat 5 Oct 9.00am Prayer meeting in the church room.

Sat 5 Oct 7.00pm Variety and Spice – an evening of music,
poetry and comedy to suit all ages. Include a glass of
Prosecco and nibbles. Suggested donation: £8.00.
All proceeds to church funds.

Next Sunday
10.30am Holy Communion / Healing Service

St John's Church, Elmswell



HARVEST CELEBRATION

Sunday 22nd September 2019 10:30am

If you are here for the first time, a warm welcome to you.

Tea and coffee is available following the service, after which everyone is invited to our bring and share lunch.

Thank you to the Friends of St John's for organising.

Welcome and Greeting

The Lord of the harvest be with you.

All And also with you.

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.

Genesis 8:22

Hymn 152 - For the beauty of the earth

Confession

O God our Father, we confess that we
have often used your gifts carelessly,
and acted as though we were not grateful.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy

All forgive us and help us.

When we enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but forget they come from you -
then, Father, in your mercy,

All forgive us and help us.

When we are full and satisfied, but
ignore the cry of the hungry and those in need -
then, Father, in your mercy

All forgive us and help us.

When we are thoughtless, and do not treat with
respect or care the wonderful world you have made -
then, Father, in your mercy,

All forgive us and help us.

**Grant us thankful hearts
and a loving concern for all people:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleans you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Harvest food quiz

A Harvest Poem

We thank you Father God each year,
For the bounty You provide,
For the farmer and the fishermen,
And the joy of harvest tide.

With the harvest moon above us,
And the corn beneath our feet,
And the well-stocked supermarket shelves,
At the Co-op down the street.

But we are just a third they say,
Who have enough to eat;
For the other two thirds of our world,
There's no shop down the street.

Through climate change and war and greed,
There's no joy in their lives,
No food to feed the family,
Or the baby when he cries.

Inspire us Lord to share our wealth,
Like Your love flowing free,
For Jesus said, "All those you help
You give it as to Me."

Pam Millyard

Song 170 Give thanks with a grateful heart

As we sing, please bring forward any harvest gifts

Bible reading: Luke 8:4-8, 11-15 Derek Folkard

Short Prayer for Harvest (Collect)

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.

All Amen

Song Do you believe in the Father God?

Do you believe He's true?
Do you believe He made the world
And He made both me and you?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
Do you believe He's true?
Do you believe He died on a cross
And He died for me and you?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
Do you believe He's true?
Do you believe He's alive today
And He lives in me and you?

Do you believe it? Yes I do! (x3)
I believe it's true.

*Andi Markham
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Talk Revd Ernest Okeke

Song The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;

He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And I will trust in You alone ...

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust in You alone...

*Stuart Townend
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Prayers Revd Peter Goodridge

**All 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 for ever.
Amen.**

Hymn 106 Come you thankful people come

A collection will be taken during this hymn