

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

Let's spend a moment to thank God for His provision. For placing us in a country of plenty, of good harvests, and bountiful rain and sunshine. Let's thank Him for His season of harvest.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease. Genesis 8:22

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for this season of harvest. Thank you for those who tend the ground to grow our food. Thank you for providing us with fruit and vegetables in a rainbow of colours, textures and tastes and for the variety and vastness of your creation. Thank you for supplying seeds, for heat and rain to make the plants grow and for giving us the promise of harvest time. We pray your blessing upon all who labour to produce our food, and all those involved in its packaging, delivering and selling. Give us hearts to share all we have, so that no-one need to go hungry. In Jesus Name. Amen

WORDS FROM SCRIPTURE

There is a right time for everything² ...A time to plant, a time to harvest Ecclesiastes: 3 v 1-2

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

2 Corinthians 9:10

Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky. Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way. Psalm 85:11-13

WORDS FROM THE HYMN

Come, you thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home!
fruit and crops are gathered in
now, 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!

Words: Henry Alford

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

As we thank the Lord for our harvest, let's also think about those who sadly will go hungry today; for all who serve in food banks across our land and for all who so willingly share by donating food so others may eat.

Heavenly Father, we pray that you will give us listening ears and receptive hearts to give to others without counting the cost. Thank you for all those who willingly give their time working in the food banks across our country. We pray your blessing upon them and all who will receive nourishment from their hands this day. In Jesus Name.

Let's think about the seeds we sow daily through our words and actions. What kind of harvest can we expect? Let's ask the Lord to keep us faithful in sowing seeds of kindness and patience so that others may eat its fruit. *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap”.* Galatians 6:7

CLOSING PRAYER

O Lord, how good you are to us! How faithful you are. Through your faithfulness we have all that we need. We are thankful for all we receive from you daily. We pray for countries where climate change may cause a poor harvest. We ask that you will provide food for them. We ask you to breakthrough in their distress that they may flourish but also cause our ears to be open to their cries. Enable us to be aware of the seeds we are sowing daily by the words we speak and acts of kindness shared that we may partake in a fruitful harvest in our own lives.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

BLESSING

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:11

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

HOME PRAYER CARD



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

1 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.*

2 He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
the wind and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us his children,
he gives our daily bread.
All good gifts...

3 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;
and that which you most welcome,
our humble, thankful hearts.
All good gifts...

Words: Matthias Claudius, Jane Campbell

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves;
Bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Author: Knowles Shaw (1874)

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