

I wonder what differences we can make in our lives to ensure that the harvest provides for everyone. Here are a few ideas for prayer & action:

- Buy extra for the local foodbank
- Decrease your food waste
- Grow some of your own vegetables
- Use our energy resources wisely
- Conserve water
- Support a charity such as:
 - Tearfund
 - Woodland Trust
 - WaterAid

FINAL PRAYER

Creator God, You made a world of intricate beauty and declared it very good, yet we have exploited its resources and harmed our neighbours.

Lord of the vulnerable, we pray for communities bearing the heaviest burdens of a changing climate despite contributing the least to its cause.

Healer of all creation, grant us the courage, wisdom, and resolve to stand with the oppressed and drive change for a balanced, just world.

AMEN

Prayers from TearFund, Compassion UK and Christian Aid.

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Caraway
Spiritually Resourcing the Older Person



Care for Creation

OPENING DECLARATION

*What a wildly wonderful world, GOD!
You made it all, with Wisdom at Your side,
made earth overflow
with Your wonderful creations.
Psalm 104:24 (The Message)*

OPENING SCRIPTURE

*God saw all that He had made, and it was
very good. And there was evening, and there
was morning—the sixth day.
Genesis 1:31*

*As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, day and night
will never cease.
Genesis 8:22*

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Creator God, we give You thanks for the abundant beauty in the world around us, from the grandeur of a mountain vista, to the smallest detail of a flower on our windowsill. Thank you for the gift of creativity, for the skills of carpenters, artists and musicians, to those with the imagination to develop technology in engineering and science. Loving God, help us to love and care for this world as You do, taking responsibility for our role as stewards of this world. Amen

A PARABLE

*Jesus told them another parable: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”
Matthew 13:31-32*

PAUSE

Take a moment to imagine this story unfolding; the wonder of a tree slowly growing from a tiny seed, for the shelter the fully grown tree provides for birds, animals and insects. And then perhaps take a moment in your imagination to rest under the tree, as dappled sunlight ripples through the leaves and you listen to the birdsong.

What would you like to say to Jesus?

What do you think Jesus might say to you?

We have perhaps just tasted something of the Kingdom of Heaven!

WORDS FROM A HYMN

Read these verses as a prayer:

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best Gift Divine,
to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of Thine,
peace on earth, and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

CHALLENGE

*When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.
Deuteronomy 24:19*