

# **LANCASTER PRIORY**

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

## **THE EUCHARIST**

Harvest Festival

**3 October 2021**

**10.00am**

## **Welcome to Lancaster Priory**

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

In the book of Genesis we are told that God created the world and “saw that it was good”. Rich, diverse and fragile, the creation reflected something of God’s glory. We are then told that humanity was created in God’s image as stewards of God’s creation. Reflecting in a particular way God’s creativity, wisdom and compassion, we are called to care for God’s creation.

At Harvest Festival we celebrate Creator and Creation and our worship encourages us to reflect on our responsibility for the environment. We also confess our abuses of creation and seek inspiration to find ways of living in balance with the world God reconciled to himself through Christ. Today we will seek to make a commitment not just to be thankful for the gifts of God’s creation but to join in with God’s work in caring for it through making commitments to living in ways which impact the environment in our everyday lives. Please take home with you today the Harvest Challenge leaflet which gives ideas as to how we can change small things in our everyday lives and make our own contribution in response to the climate emergency.

The restrictions under which our services are being conducted at the moment are part of our responsibility to ensure that all who worship and visit the priory feel safe and valued. These are available on an additional flyer at the back of church. Thank you for your patience.

### **Today’s services (Harvest Festival/Trinity 18):**

President/Preacher: The Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, Vicar of Lancaster

The Readers: Sally Bushall, Dylan Bushall Intercessor: Michael Fielding

Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist Choir: Girls and lower voices.

Setting: *Mass of St Cedd* (Nardone) Final Voluntary: *Postlude on 'All creatures of our God and King'* (Mansfield)

### **6.30pm Choral Evensong (BCP)**

Officiant: The Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, Vicar of Lancaster

*Before the service starts, look around at the things in the building. What can you see from your seat? Can you see...*

*a cross   a brass eagle   a crown   organ pipes   candles*

## The Welcome and Notices

**Hymn** (262) *Please stand.*

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 heav'n 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 ev'ning star.  
The winds and waves obey him,  
by him the birds are fed:  
much more to us his children,  
he gives our daily bread:

3. We thank thee then, O Father,  
for all things bright and good:  
the seed-time and the harvest,  
our life, our health, our food.  
No gifts have we to offer  
for all thy love imparts,  
but that which thou desirest,  
our humble, thankful hearts:

*M Claudius 1740-1815*

## The Greeting

*The priest welcomes us saying*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

## The Prayers of Penitence

*We are invited to say sorry to God.*

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor,  
and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

*The priest pronounces God's forgiveness and all respond Amen.*

*Watch how some people move their hands in front of them during this prayer. What shape are they making?*

## The Gloria *We sing*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## **The Collect** *The priest says the special prayer for the day.*

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. **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## **The First Reading** Joel 2:21-27

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things!  
Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.


You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Psalm** *The choir leads the psalm, we join in the response*

**PSALM 126**



The Lord has done great things for us and we re-joiced.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter  
and our tongue with songs of joy.

Then said they among the nations,  
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us,  
and therefore we rejoiced.

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,  
as the river beds of the desert.

Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,  
will come back with shouts of joy,  
bearing their sheaves with them.

**The Lord has done great things for us and we have rejoiced**

## **The Second Reading** 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Reading** Matthew 6:25-33

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the cantor sings*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting. Gather the fruit for eternal life. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

*The deacon says*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*During these words, some people make the sign of the cross with their thumbs on their heads, mouth and chest. This reminds us that the words in the gospel should be in our minds, on our lips and in our hearts.*

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** *Please sit. Together we learn about what the Bible readings mean.*

**The Affirmation of Faith** *Please stand*

**We believe in God the father; from whom every family in heaven and earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*What do the choir do during these words? Can you guess why?*

**Prayers of Intercession**

*Please sit. This response is used* **God, our Creator hear our prayer.**

*And at the end.* **Creator of all the World, hear our prayer and help us to work with you for the good of all your children, young and old and for the flourishing of our planet. Amen.**

## **The Peace** *Please stand*

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you.**

*The deacon says* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We wave and nod at one another as a sign of peace.*

## **The Offertory Hymn** (285) *The congregation bring their harvest gifts to the Altar. The younger members of the congregation are invited to stand near the altar.*

1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour,  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light:

3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and brain's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight:

4. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild:

5. For each perfect gift of thine,  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of  
heaven:

Words *FS Pierpoint 1835-1917*

*What is happening on the altar during this hymn? Can you see all of the things that we are offering to God with thanks?*

*Look out for the person with smoke (this represents our prayers rising to God). Listen out for the bell ringing too!*

*The priest gives thanks for all God's good gifts in a harvest prayer to which we respond* **Amen.**



## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise**

*The priest gives thanks to God for his mighty acts and all sing*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The priest recalls the last supper and the deacon says* Great is the mystery of faith  
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

*The priest continues and ends with the doxology to which all respond by saying*  
Blessing and honour and glory and power, be yours forever and ever. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

As children of God, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

## **The Agnus Dei** *Please sit*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

## **The Giving of Communion**

*The priest invites us to receive communion or a blessing.*

*The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.*

## **Communion Anthem** *The choir sings Look at the World (Rutter)*

Look at the world: Everything all around us. Look at the world: and marvel everyday.  
Look at the world: So many joys and wonders. So many miracles along our way:  
*Praise to thee O Lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see. All the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee*

Look at the earth: Bringing forth fruit and flower. Look at the sky: The sunshine and the rain. Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains. Valley and flowing river field and plain:

Think of the spring, Think of the warmth of summer. Bringing the harvest before the winters cold. Everything grows, everything has a season. Til' it is gathered to the Father's fold:

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish. Comes from the lord in token of his love. We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty. His is the earth and his the heavens above:

*Whilst we wait quietly for everyone to receive communion or a blessing, have another look around. Look at the stained glass windows. What else can you see?*

## **Communion Hymn** (LP39) *We remain seated*

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair  
Lord, in Your suffering world this is our prayer.  
Bread for your children, justice, joy, peace,  
Sunrise to sunset Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,  
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills;  
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,  
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,  
Give us compassion we pray;  
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain;  
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,  
Cities for sanctuary, freedom to share.  
Peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to green,  
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams  
Plundered and poisoned – our future, our dreams.  
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;  
Make us content with the things that we need.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak...*

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame  
Until Your justice burns brightly again;  
Until the nations learn of Your ways,  
Seek your salvation and bring You their praise.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak...*

*Graham Kendrick*

## Prayer After Communion

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn** (265) *Please stand.*

1. Lord of beauty, thine the splendour  
shown in earth and sky and sea,  
burning sun and moonlight tender,  
hill and river, flower and tree:  
lest we fail our praise to render  
touch our eyes that they may see.

2. Lord of wisdom, whom obeying  
mighty waters ebb and flow,  
while unhasting, undelaying,  
planets on their courses go:  
in thy laws thyself displaying,  
teach our minds thyself to know.

3. Lord of life, alone sustaining  
all below and all above,  
Lord of love, by whose ordaining  
sun and stars sublimely move:  
in our earthly spirits reigning,  
lift our hearts that we may love.

4. Lord of beauty, bid us own thee,  
Lord of truth, our footsteps guide,  
till as Love our hearts enthrone thee,  
and, with wisdom purified,  
Lord of all, when all have known thee,  
thou in all art glorified.

Words *C A Alington 1872-1955*

## The Blessing and Dismissal

*The priest prays for God's blessing and we respond* Amen.

*The Deacon says*

We go into the world to walk in God's light, care for God's creation and share God's good gifts with all.

**Amen.**

### Acknowledgements

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