

as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We read from the Bible: Matthew 6.25-33

‘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.

We sing together:

**He’s got the whole world in his hands
He’s got the bright shining sun...
He’s got the sea and the sky...
He’s got the moon and the stars...
He’s got the mountains and the hills...
He’s got the plants and the flowers...
He’s got the fishes and the birds...
He’s got all his creatures...
He’s got all the people
AND SO
He’s got you and me in his hands ...**

We read from the Bible: 1 Timothy 6.6 – 10, 17 – 19

A devout life does bring wealth, but it’s the rich simplicity of being yourself before God. Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it

penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that’s enough. But if it’s only money these leaders are after, they’ll self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after. ...

Tell those rich in this world’s wealth to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money, which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage—to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. If they do that, they’ll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life.

We confess the things that separate us from God and from each other

As sisters and brothers in God’s family, we come together to ask our Heavenly Father for forgiveness for all that separates us from God and puts barriers between us and other people.

God has blessed us,
but still God’s children go hungry.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
God has blessed us,
but still the poor cry out for justice.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
God has blessed us,
but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

We affirm our faith in God

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on 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 God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn: For the fruits of His creation" (AH 185)

Talk (Cher Smith from the Food Collective)

Presentation of the gifts from organisations in the village

We offer our gifts to God

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven
and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

We pray for the world, and for ourselves:

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer

We sing together

Hymn: "Praise and thanksgiving" (AH 558)

We say the Collect for the day:

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We sing the blessing to each other:

**May God's blessing be upon you now;
May you know of his great love for you.
May God's blessing be upon you now,
Right where you are.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ, Amen

Please stay
for refreshments,
and help to carry
the gifts out to the
Food Collective van
if you are able!



St Michael's Church, Aldbourne

10TH OCTOBER 2021

"GRATEFUL GENEROSITY"



**A United Harvest Service of
Community Celebration for A-Ha!
(the Aldbourne Harvest appeal)**

in aid of the Swindon
Food Collective,
co-ordinated by



Welcome and introduction

We sing together:

**God is here with us,
God is in the light,
Now there is no dark,
Candles burning bright.**

We come together as a community to meet with
God. Let us recognise his presence with us here
today, as we give thanks for our village and for all
that we share, and as we remember the needs of
those who are less fortunate.

As God's people we have gathered here today.
Let us worship him together

Hymn: "We plough the fields and scatter"
(AH 719)

A special harvest prayer

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;