

Sunday 4th October
Harvest Service

Today's Collect

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship you here: and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you, and, being filled with the Holy Spirit, may become a living temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace, an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem: grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven, and united in the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, the place of your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week Services: Sunday 11th October

10am	Norton & lenchwick	Church @10
11am	Harvington	Harvest Eucharist
11.00am	Church Lench	Lay Led (Church @ 11)
8.30am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion
Mid Week Eucharist: 11:00 am Wednesday, St James, Harvington		

Events

Harvest Festival Celebrations!

4th Oct – Church Lench 11am service, Harvest Lunch 12:15pm.

Norton 10am service, Harvest Lunch 12:30pm.

11th Oct – Harvington 11am service + Bring and Share lunch.

16th Oct – Abbots Morton Harvest Supper 6:30pm

Tina Hill or Pippa: pippa@p1g.co.uk.

18th Oct – Abbots Morton 11am service.

This Week's First Reading: *Deuteronomy 8.7-18.*

⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper.

¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. ¹¹ Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.

¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶ and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.

¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

This Weeks Psalm: *Psalms 65.*

This Week's Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 9.6-end.*

⁶ The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

⁹ As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.' ¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase

Continued: 2 Corinthians 9.6-end.

the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us;¹² for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

¹³ Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others,¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you.¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Luke 12.16-30.*

¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly.¹⁷ And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?"

¹⁸ Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." ²⁰ But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?"

²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.' ²² He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ Consider the lilies, 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. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you-you of little faith!

²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Next Weeks Readings: *Isaiah 25. 1-9, Psalm 23, Philipians 4. 1-9, Matthew 22. 1-14.*

Prayer of Intercession

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things in heaven and earth, we come before you at this traditional season of harvest thanksgiving with hearts full of praise. You have ordered the succession of the seasons and crowned the year with your goodness. We thank you for the fertile earth, the gentle rain, and the sun that brings the crops to maturity.

Lord of the harvest,
In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray today for all who labour in the fields, the orchards, and the seas. Bless the farmers, agricultural workers, and all who face the uncertainties of weather and economic hardship to provide our daily bread. Grant them safety in their daily work and a just reward for their arduous labours. Inspire us to support local producers and promote fair trade, ensuring everyone who feeds us may live in dignity.

Lord of the harvest,
In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for your holy Church throughout the world. May we who gather in your name be faithful stewards of the gospel, planting seeds of love, peace, and justice. Help us to grow the fruits of the Spirit in our lives—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and faithfulness. Fill us with the energy to do your will and be a beacon of hope to those around us.

Lord of the harvest,
In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have no harvest to celebrate this year. We pray for areas of our world devastated by drought, famine, flood, or war. Open our hearts to the cry of the hungry. Forgive our wastefulness and teach us to share your abundance generously so that no one may suffer want.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**