

CAVERSHAM PARK
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Holy Communion Service order
(Sunday 1st October 2023)
Trinity 17 - Year A

**Trinity Sunday service with Holy Communion
at Caversham Park URC (Forth Order)**

Opening Hymn: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

(On Screen)

Let us worship God.

This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord;
for God's love endures for ever.

Our service today looks at stories from the Bible that teach us about the harvest and our thanksgiving.

Let us pray - Gracious God - Loving God, Creator of heaven and earth, you confer healing and wholeness upon your people. You lift us from the dust and make us little less than the angels. You forgive our sins and grant us new life each day. Truly your steadfast love endures forever - and we thank you for it. Grace us, we pray, on this special day with hearts and minds that embrace the truth you have revealed in your Holy Word and with Souls that seek your presence and rejoice in the wonders you have created. Give us to, lips that celebrate the mercies you bestow and hands that are as generous and as open as your own. We ask it for today - and for every day - through Christ Jesus our Lord and our Saviour. **Amen.**

Hymn 2 – We Plough The Fields And Scatter

The God to whom we make our confession is the God who loved us so much that God took on mortality, choosing to limit the divine, in order to understand us and be with us. Trusting in that love, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

Silence

On screen

Gracious God, you sow good seeds in the field to make the world blossom and grow, but we lay waste to your crop. We toss other seeds into the field that only choke the life you share. We pull up the weeds when the time is not right and destroy the good wheat in our world. And sometimes we would rather even destroy the whole field than claim the good crops that you have given us. Forgive us for tending your field with such carelessness and bad judgment. Show us your intentions for us and our world once again, and so open us to the good harvest that you share with us and all creation. Amen

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and strengthen us to live in the power of the Holy Spirit, all of our days. **Amen.**

On screen

Thanks be to God

Lord, have mercy on us.

**Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

**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**

Presentation of gifts:

Dear Lord, the gifts of the harvest are yours. May we use them wisely to your glory and for the relief of the suffering of your people. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, we offer you our grateful thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us your gifts and the fruits of the earth through the seasons. Give us grace use them rightly, to your glory, for our own well-being, and for the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading 1 - Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (NRSV)

Reading 2 – Psalm 65 (NRSV)

Hymn 3 – Sing To The Lord of Harvest.

Gospel – Philippians 4:4-9 (NRSV)

Sermon – Harvest

Hymn 4 - For The Fruit of All Creation

Intercessions

Gracious words

Hear the gracious words of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. *John 6:35*

Anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away. *John 5:37*

The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you.

Hymn 5 – For The Beauty of The Earth

The Narrative of the Institution of the Lord's Supper

Hear the narrative of the institution of the Lord's Supper as it was recorded by the apostle Paul.

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

The Taking of the Bread and wine

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and following his example, we take this bread and this cup, and give thanks to God.

The Thanksgiving (On Screen)

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With joy we give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, Source of all life and love, that we live in your world, that you are always creating and sustaining it by your power, and that you have so made us that we can know and love you, trust and serve you. We give you thanks that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life.

We praise you that he is the light of the world through whom we are brought out of darkness into light, and that by him your glory has been revealed to the nations.

Therefore with all the company of heaven, and with all your people, of all places and times, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise.

(On Screen)

**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.

Holy Lord God, by what we do herein remembrance of Christ we celebrate his perfect sacrifice on the Cross and his glorious resurrection and ascension; we declare that he is Lord of all; and we prepare for his coming in his kingdom. We pray that through your Holy Spirit this bread may be for us the body of Christ and this wine the blood of Christ. Accept our sacrifice of praise; and as we eat and drink at his command unite us to Christ as one body in him, and give us strength to serve you in the world. And to you, one holy and eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we give praise and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*On Screen*)

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed
took bread and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and said, 'This is my body which is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way also the cup saying
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.'

If the narrative of the institution has been used earlier in the service, as the bread is broken the minister may say:

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

And as the cup is raised the minister may say:

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Distribution of the Bread and Wine then follows with the following hymn:

Hymn 6 – Broken for you

The Acclamation *(On Screen)*

Let us praise the Lord.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Blessing and honour and glory

and power be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

(On Screen)

Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service.

Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Offerings

O God, we bring to you our tithes and our offerings, symbols of the work you make it possible for us to do, that they may be used in works of love and obedience. We present to you the food of your earth, food that you gave to sustain our life in this place, that it may be used to feed and encourage others. We dedicate to you our lives, lives that can only be made whole by your holy presence, that you may use us as your grateful servants, to bless one another and the world you have made. Amen

Dismissal and Blessing:

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfil our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ.

Go in peace and may the Lord grant unto you an ever-grateful heart, indeed, may our God bless you with eyes that see his wonders and ears that hear his loving word, and may all the blessings of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit fill you and flow forth from you, both now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Hymn 7 – Now Thank We All Our God