

Old Hills Malvern Churches

Intercessions for the Harvest Season

Almighty and everlasting God, creator of all that is seen and unseen, of all we can understand and all that is yet to be revealed.

You have placed us in a universe with breath taking splendour and with an ability to constantly surprise and amaze us; and so hear us as we humbly come before you to seek your help and guidance in our lives.

At this special thanksgiving time of the year, we pray for all who work so that we have food to eat and share. Lord bless all who labour to satisfy our needs and we pray that all trade between peoples may be done openly and fairly and with due regard for the environment and for human dignity. **Lord hear us.**

We pray now for areas of our world where the climate and human struggles make the efforts of daily life even more difficult. We especially pray for Afghanistan and our link diocese, Morogoro in Tanzania, as the farmers there tend to their maize and pea harvests. May all hear and respond to the words of Jesus, who spoke of peacemakers being blessed and of treating our neighbours as ourselves. **Lord hear us.**

We pray for this, our own country and for all in authority, that they will govern wisely and with due regard for the needs of all people Lord hear us. We pray for those that are working to find solutions to the Energy crisis, on top of what we are contending with the pandemic. Lord hear us

We pray for all families represented here today. Each one is made up differently and faces the normal ups and downs of family life in different ways. We are especially mindful of families who are deeply affected by the current economic situation, where there is unemployment or fear for the future as the furlough comes to an end. We pray that each family finds a place in it for the love of Jesus Christ and that special peace which it brings. **Lord hear us**

We pray for the sick, both at home and in hospital, or hospice. We think of the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes, especially the residents and staff at Severn Heights. And we pray for all who minister to their needs. Lord Jesus who responded to the needs of all those who had faith; comfort and sustain those who are in need of your grace at this time. **Lord hear us.**

We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones, whether recently or long ago. Let the knowledge of your resurrection in glory be comfort to all those who mourn. We especially pray for those families mourning the loss of a loved one so dear, or remembering a sad anniversary at this time. We hold before you the families of the following:

James Tustin, Cherry Gray, Kathy Hallam, John Bartlett, Hiliary Roberts, Hazel Harris

Lord hear us.

God of the Harvest, we thank you and praise your name for your creating, loving power. Give us insight to see your hand at work in our lives and enable us to taste the goodness which comes from knowing you in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for the Harvest Season

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth
in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need
and for our own wellbeing;
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.
Amen.

Grace for the Harvest Season – for use at meal times

The five finger prayer. *Counting off on your fingers give thanks for:*

1. God the giver of life
2. Farmers who brought in the harvest from land and sea
3. Food processors who add variety and longevity
4. Distributors and retailers who make it available
5. The person who shopped for and cooked the food.

May God, the Creator and provider of all now laid before us
fill us with a sense of gratitude, not only for his provision
but also for the work and commitment of all who have grown and prepared this food. **Amen**

May the food that we eat bring us contentment and sustenance, May the wine that we drink bring us pleasure and refreshment. May the company we share bring us friendship and laughter and may all we enjoy make us humble and grateful to God, the Creator and giver of all that is good. *(From the FCN Resources for Harvest)*

Amen

Your Prayer Becomes our Prayer - *The grace season* returns after the Harvest festival services