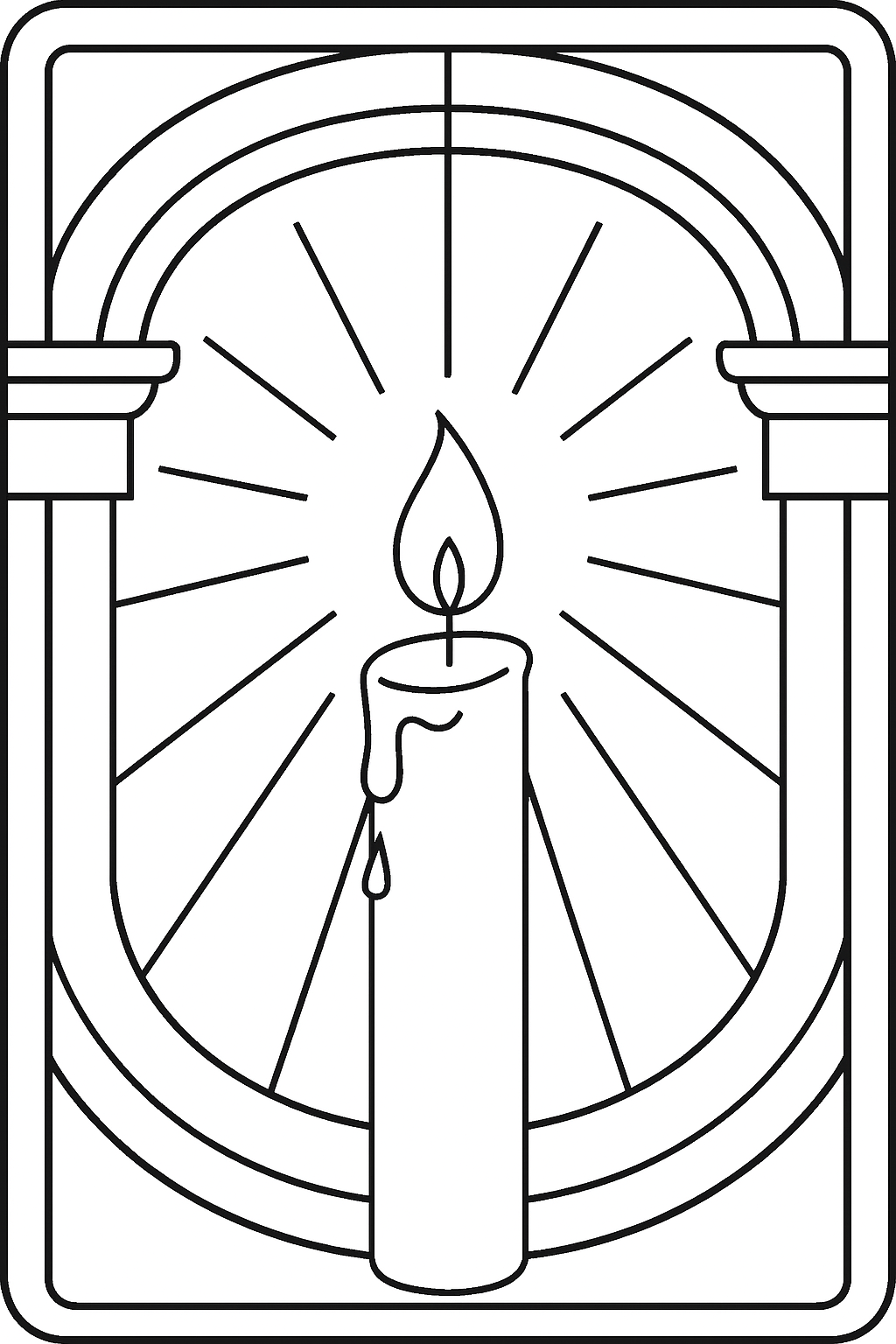
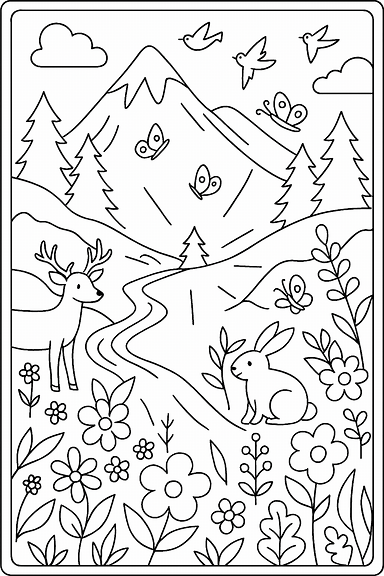
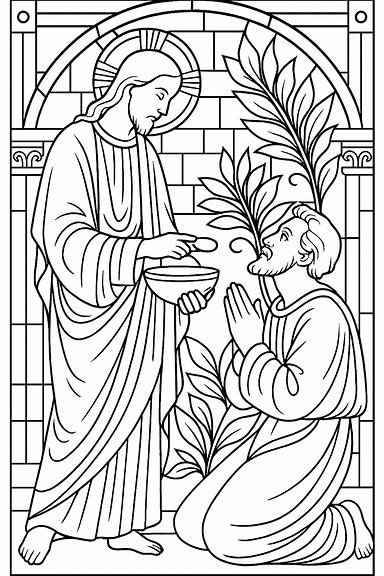
**A logo of a baby person

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**The Parish Church of**

**St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford**

Charity No: 245456



**Sunday 12th October 2025**

**10am**

**Parish & Family Communion service**

**“Creation, Compassion and Music”**

*A warm welcome to our Family Eucharist this morning. We are joined by the children throughout the service and are looking forward to their participation. The front cover can be coloured in.*

#### Please stand to sing as the choir processes

#### **OPENING HYMN** **– How great thou art**

#### **O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder Consider all the works, Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow’r throughout, The universe displayed.**

#### **Refrain: Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

#### **When through the woods, And forest glades I wander And hear the birds Sing sweetly in the trees, When I look down From lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook And feel the gentle breeze.**

#### **Refrain: Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee;**

#### **And when I think That God, His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in – That on the cross, My burden gladly bearing, He bled and died To take away my sin!**

#### **Refrain: Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee;**

#### **When Christ shall come With shout of acclamation And take me home, What joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow In humble adoration And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!**

#### **Refrain: Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee;**

#### Carl Boberg; Translator: Stuart K. Hine. Tune HOW GREAT THOU ART

**THE WELCOME AND GATHERING**

*The president says*

We meet in the name of God:

**All**    **Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*The president greets the people and invites them to sit*

Today we are using music to help us to tell the story of harvest and God’s creation and gifts to us.

The music is telling the story as well as the words.

Music connects us with God, with creation and with each other.

The Lord be with you

**All**    **and also with you.**

**MUSIC AS BEAUTY WHICH DRAWS US TO GOD**

We come into the presence of God.

God is awesome, look at the wonderful things God has created. Think of harvest last week.

Take a moment to listen to some beautiful music and watch some flowers unfurl. As the music plays drop the curled up flower into the water and watch it grow.

Music: Chopin Nocturne with a flower activity

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*The President says*

We confess our sin and the sins of our society in the misuse of God’s creation,

Let us work to keep God’s commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

*Please sit or kneel to pray*

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;

yet we have misused the earth

and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

You have brought order out of chaos,

light in darkness, good out of evil,

but we have preferred darkness

in words and deeds which dishonour God’s holy name.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You have showered us with blessings,

but we have been grudging towards others

and lacking in generosity in word and deed.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you the things you have done wrong,  
and bring you to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**THE COLLECT**

*Please stand for the Collect*

**All Gracious God, you call us**

**to the fullness of life:**

**deliver us from unbelief**

**and banish our anxieties**

**with the liberating love**

**of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

#### Please remain standing for the Gospel reading.

**THE GOSPEL – The Bread of Life**

Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All Glory to you O Lord**

Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. *John 6. 35*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise to you O Christ**

Through our music we thank God for the beautiful world we live in, the harvest which brings us food and produce enabling us to live well.

**Hymn 285: For the beauty of the earth**

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:**

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

1. **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:** *Refrain*

1. **For the joy of ear and eye,**

**For the heart and brain's delight,**

**For the mystic harmony**

**Linking sense to sound and sight:** *Refrain*

1. **For the joy of human love,**

**Brother, sister, parent, child,**

**Friends on earth and friends above,**

**For all gentle thoughts and mild:** *Refrain*

1. **For each perfect gift of thine,**

**To our race so freely given,**

**Graces human and divine,**

**Flowers of earth and buds of heaven:** *Refrain*

*F.S.Pierpoint.* [*Tune: DIX (Kocher)*](https://hymnary.org/text/for_the_beauty_of_the_earth#tune)

#### Please sit

**READING FROM RUTH 2. 5-12**

*It is harvest time in Bethlehem. Ruth, a Moabite widow, has come with her mother-in-law Naomi from Moab to Bethlehem after both of their husbands died. Naomi is returning to her hometown, where she has family support. Ruth, however knows no one apart from Naomi. Ruth is sent by Naomi to meet Boaz, a relative overseeing the harvest.*

Then Boaz spoke to his servant who was in charge of the workers. He asked, “Whose girl is that?”

The servant answered, “She is the Moabite woman who came with Naomi from the country of Moab. She said, ‘Please let me follow the workers and gather the grain that they leave on the ground.’ She came and has remained here. From morning until just now, she has stopped only a few moments to rest in the shelter.”

Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Listen, my daughter. Stay here in my field to gather grain for yourself. Do not go to any other person’s field. Continue following behind my women workers. Watch to see which fields they go to and follow them. I have warned the young men not to bother you. When you are thirsty, you may go and drink. Take water from the water jugs that the servants have filled.”Then Ruth bowed low with her face to the ground. She said to Boaz, “I am a stranger. Why have you been so kind to notice me?” Boaz answered her, “I know about all the help you have given to Naomi, your mother-in-law. You helped her even after your husband died. You left your father and mother and your own country. You came to this nation where you did not know anyone. The Lord will reward you for all you have done. You will be paid in full by the Lord, the God of Israel. You have come to him as a little bird finds shelter under the wings of its mother.”

**REFLECTION** – Music can draw us toward God, it can connect us with the natural world and it draws out our compassion for others which mirrors God’s care for us.

#### Please sit or kneel to pray

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

#### Music of the Lord’s Prayer is played

Father God, Creator of all, we pray for our world and its people. Guide us as we care for Creation, and let your will be done in everything.

#### Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

#### Pause as music of the Lord’s Prayer is played

#### We pray for all those who take part in the production of our food.

#### We pray for farmers and agricultural workers;

for distributors and supermarkets.

You have created humanity with a dependence on one another.

Help us to love our neighbour and your Creation as you love us.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer

#### Pause as music of the Lord’s Prayer is played

Lord of all life, we pray for all those engaged in research to safeguard crops against disease, and to produce food for those who hunger.

We thank you for Christian Aid who provide vital support to those in war-torn or in-impoverished countries.

Help us to be generous with our resources,

And to reduce waste and the strain on your world.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer

#### Pause as music of the Lord’s Prayer is played

#### We pray for the sick, lonely, and those who are housebound. We remember with thankfulness those who have died, and we pray for those who mourn.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer

God of grace, as you are working in your creation,

so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us

and in all for whom we pray,

that in all that you have made, your glory may be revealed

and the whole earth give you praise.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER *Sung***

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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 sins**

**as we forgive each other**

**Our Father, who art in heaven.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.   
For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever for ever**

**Amen, So let it be**

**Our Father, who art in heaven. Amen, so let it be. *Emily Lund***

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Please stand as the President says*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All**   **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.**

*Please stand*

**THE PEACE**

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.

Patience, kindness, and goodness.

Faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All** **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

Please stand to sing the offertory hymn which brings together both the idea of God’s bountiful creation and invites us to have compassion for people and for the earth.

**THE OFFERTORY HYMN** **– Lord of the harvest**

1. **Lord of the harvest, Lord of the field,  
   Give thanks now to God in nature revealed.**

**Give thanks for the sun, the wind and the rain,  
And thanks for the crops that feed us again.**

**The corn safely cut is gathered inside  
We thank you, oh Lord, that you can provide.**

*Refrain:* ***Lord of the harvest, Lord of the field,  
Give thanks now to God in nature revealed.***

1. **The trees ripe with fruit stand proud in the sun,  
   We gather them now that summer is gone.  
   For yours is the wonder, yours is the power  
   Yours is the glory of fruit and of flower.** *Refrain:*
2. **So in all our plenty, help us to see,  
   The needs all around whatever they be.  
   With food for the body, strength for the soul,  
   It’s healing and caring, making them whole.** *Refrain:*

*Jancis Harvey Tune LORD OF THE HARVEST*

**THE EUCHARIST**

*Please stand as the President says*

With this bread that we bring.

**All We shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring.

**All We shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**All We shall remember Jesus.**

The Lord is here

**All His Spirit is with us.**

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

Let us give thanks to God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is always right to give you thanks,

Father, Lord of all creation.

You made us and the whole universe,

and filled your world with life.

**All Holy, holy, holy.**

When we turned away, you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**All Holy, holy, holy**

In Christ your shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**All Holy, holy, holy**

Father, on the night before he died,

Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this to remember me.

  After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.

He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you.

This is my blood, the new promise of God’s unfailing love.

Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith

**All Jesus Christ has died.**

**Jesus Christ is risen.**

**Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts

may be fed by Christ’s body and his blood.

And now we give you thanks  
because he was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin.  
By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil,  
and to live no longer for ourselves alone,  
but for him who died for us and rose again.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,

with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:

one God, for ever and ever.

**All Amen**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The president breaks the bread*

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

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

**AGNUS DEI**

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**grant us peace.** *D.Thorne*

**GIVING OF COMMUNION**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,

and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*If you are used to receiving communion in your church, you are welcome to do so here. Gluten-free bread is available - please ask. If, for any reason, you cannot take from the common cup, please do not try to intinct (dip) your wafer - wafers with wine are available, please ask. If you would like to receive a blessing, please bring this leaflet.*

**COMMUNION HYMN** **– Gifts of bread and wine**

1. **Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we’ve offered,**

**Fruits of labour, fruits of love,**

**Taken offered, sanctified,**

**Blessed and broken, words of one who died:**

*Refrain* ***‘Take my body, Take my saving blood.’***

***Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our Lord.***

**2. Christ our Saviour, living presence here,**

**As he promised while on earth:**

**‘I am with you for all time,**

**I am with you in this bread and wine.'** *Refrain*

**3. To the Father, with the Spirit,**

**One in union with the Son,**

**For God’s people, joined in prayer,**

**Faith is strengthened by the food we share.** *Refrain*

*Christine McCann. Tune GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE(McCann)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Eternal God,  
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,  
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:  
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,  
that all the world may acknowledge  
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

**All 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.**

**NOTICES (& Mary Mouse)**

#### Please stand to sing

**CLOSING HYMN*****–* I, the Lord of sea and sky**

**1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.**

**All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.**

**I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.**

**Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

*Refrain*  ***Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?***

***I have heard you calling in the night.***

***I will go, Lord, if you lead me,***

***I will hold your people in my heart.***

**2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peoples pain.**

**I have wept for love of them. They turn away.**

**I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone**

**I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?** *Refrain*

**3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.**

**I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.**

**Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.**

**I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?** *Refrain*

*Daniel L Schutte. Tune HERE I AM, LORD*

**THE BLESSING**

*Please remain standing as the President says*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be among you, and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

**THE DISMISSAL**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**All Thanks be to God.**

***You are warmly invited to join us for refreshments in the Community Room after this service.***

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