

St. Peter's Church, Swettenham

FAMILY COMMUNION FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL

20TH SEPTEMBER 2015



A very warm welcome to the community here at St. Peter's where worship has been offered on this site since Saxon times. The present Church building has its origins in the late 13th Century and has been the place of worship for the village of Swettenham since then. An induction loop system operates here. If you make use of a hearing aid please switch to "T" for enhanced sound.

All stand to sing THE ENTRANCE HYMN: We plough the fields and scatter

1 We plough the fields with tractors,
with drills we sow the land;
but growth is still the wondrous gift
of God's almighty hand.

We add our fertilisers
to help the growing grain;
but for its full fruition,
it needs God's sun and rain.

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.*

3 He only is the maker
of galaxies and stars;
of birds and beasts and flowers,
and any life on Mars.

Atomic power obeys him,
yet still the birds are fed;
by him our prayers are answered;
give us our daily bread.

All good gifts around us...

2 With many new machines now
we do the work each day;
we reap the fields with combines,
we bale the new mown hay.

But still it's God who gives us
inventive skill and drives
which lighten labour's drudgery
and gives us better lives.

All good gifts around us...

4 We thank the then O Father,
for life so rich and good,
for seedtime and the harvest,
the wealth of daily food.

No gifts have we to offer
such as thy love imparts,
but what thou most desirest:
our humble, thankful hearts.

All good gifts around us.....

All remain standing for THE GREETING:

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The President introduces the service and invites us to reflect on the world and to say sorry for our failure to care for it as we should, saying together THE CONFESSIOIN:

President: We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

President: We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

President We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

President Almighty God, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

All remain standing for THE COLLECT

President Let us pray.

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies; you have blessed the works of our hands and have given us the abundance of fruits of the earth. We humbly give you thanks for providing us with the bread of life to nourish our bodies and souls; and give us grace so to share the same with those in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All stand for THE GRADUAL HYMN: 288 Praise, O praise our God and King during which the children bring forward their harvest gifts.

All remain standing for THE GOSPEL READING John 6.25-35

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.'

For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." 'Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which* comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Remain seated for the choir to sing

All stand for THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

President Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

President Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

President This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

All kneel or sit for THE INTERCESSIONS

Leader Let us pray. For all the rain and sunshine that helps the crops to grow, let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Leader For the vegetables and fruit, the corn, barley and wheat God provides for us, let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Leader For the hard work of farmers at seed-time and harvest, let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Leader For all places where the harvest is ruined by bad weather or natural disaster, Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Leader For people who are hungry in our country and across the world, Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Leader For ourselves, that we may always be grateful for the food we eat and never selfish about sharing, Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer

Leader We pray for all those who are sick or suffering at this time, we especially today remember.... Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer

Leader We remember all those who have gone before us in the peace of Christ, especially... Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer

Leader Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Please stand for THE OFFERTORY HYMN 116 All things bright and beautiful omit verse 5 during which a COLLECTION is taken. Please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes as this adds 25% to the value of your offering – thank you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

President As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen**

All kneel for THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

President Lift up your hearts

All **We lift them to the Lord**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord

All **It is meet and right so to do**

President Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels raising you, and saying:

All **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.**

President We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and Wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with Confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory. Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

President Lord of all life help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Peter, Luke and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

All remain kneeling for THE LORD'S PRAYER

President 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 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.

President 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.**

President Christ is the bread which has come down from heaven.

All **Lord, give us this bread for ever.**

COMMUNION:

If you receive communion in your own church (including if you have been admitted to communion as a child) you are welcome to do so here. Those who do not wish to receive communion or who do not normally receive it are invited to come for a blessing. Please carry this booklet with you to indicate to the priest that you are asking for a blessing.

All kneel or sit for the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. Amen.

All remain kneeling for THE BLESSING

President God the Father, who created the world, give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation. **Amen.**

President God the Son, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest. **Amen.**

President God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation, help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

President And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All stand to sing POST-COMMUNION HYMN: 459 Give me joy

Please remain standing for THE DISMISSAL:

President: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ Amen.



This Week

Wednesday 23rd 8.00pm W.I. Committee Meeting in The Swettenham Club

Next Sunday
Evensong 6.30pm

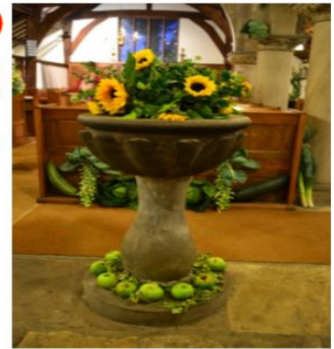


Refreshments will be served in the Lovell Suite at The Swettenham Arms after the Harvest Evensong this evening by kind invitation of Frances & Jim Cunningham, all welcome!

SIDDINGTON CHURCH will be holding a special Service on **Friday 9th October at 7.30pm** as part of their Harvest Weekend and to celebrate 50 years of Raymond Rush's corn dollies decorating the Church. There will be over 1,000 of these ancient rural symbols on display and the Church will open on **Saturday 10th October from 10am to 4.00pm** refreshments will be available.



A very special thank you to all those who have worked very hard to decorate the Church with flowers & vegetables for our Harvest Festival.



THE STOREHOUSE FOODBANK CONGLETON

We will be collecting items to give to The Storehouse Foodbank in Congleton for those in need. If you could supply any non perishable food items: tins, pasta, biscuits etc. toiletries and household items such as washing powder/fabric conditioner it would be very much appreciated.

The green box is in the front pew by the font for you to place your donations. It will be taken to the Storehouse on a regular basis depending upon amount received. Thank you for your support for families in need.