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Please put a note in the 'reference' box for online banking so treasurers know what the payment is for and/or from whom, if that is important. Thank you.

September 19th, 2022

Dear friends of St Clement and St Nicholas,

This is the time of year when we think about harvests. To reap a harvest you have to plant seeds. On that theme a volunteer has kindly gathered the tiny seeds from the wild flowers in the Meadow and we will be giving out little packets for people to plant. Several of us planted the seed last time and reported different varieties according to our soil and planting season. Thanks to a lot of watering many of the trees in the new Len's Wood next to the Meadow have survived the drought and any which have died will be replaced. More trees will be available to plant this winter - see the Parish Hall for a form.

Around the Meadow and Len's Wood will be new oak benches and a few tables made from thick slices of an oak tree about six feet long and supported by tree trunk sections. There are about a dozen left to sponsor which can have a plaque in memory of a loved one. Any surplus raised will be used to help provide porridge for the hungry children at St. Clement Malindi. Contact me if you are interested.

We are asking for people to bring this Sunday (or drop off at the church or Rectory during the week) gifts of food or money to help the work of the Grace Trust and Women's Refuge. This is a thank you to God for the food we eat and harvest.

Martin is also coordinating donations to plant spiritual seeds much further away as we try to help sponsor the fees of the next generation of church ministers at the theological college in Mombasa. Rising food costs are hitting the poorest of the World harder than anywhere and this makes it even more difficult for the church communities the students come from, to raise the funds needed. Do give thanks for harvest and support a harvest appeal.

With best wishes,

David

**Welcome to St Clement Harvest Family Service
with baptism and welcomes
September 25th, 2022**

The Lord be with you
All: And also with you.

All things come from you, O God
All: And of your own do we give you.

All: Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A&M 287

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father we offer,
for all things living thou madest good;
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**Bless thou the labour, we bring to serve thee
That with our neighbour we may be fed
Sowing or tilling, we would work with thee;
Harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father providing food for thy children,
thy wisdom guiding teaches us share
one with another, so that, rejoicing,
with us, our brother may know thy care.**

**Then will thy blessing reach every people
freely confessing thy gracious hand:
where thy will reigneth no one will hunger,
thy love sustaineth' fruitful the land.**

Psalms 67.6 The land has yielded its harvest. God, our own God, has blessed us. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth ;
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come before him with joyful songs; Give thanks to him and praise his name! Amen

God has redeemed us, called us by name and made us his own, and yet we forget that all we have is gift. Let us confess our desire to place ourselves at the heart of creation:

We keep a moment of quiet for reflection

You delight in creation 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
All: 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 **All: Lord have mercy**

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

Children bring gifts to the altar during the hymn.

CA236

**God, whose farm is all creation,
take the gratitude we give;
take the finest of our harvest,
crops we grow that all may live.**

**Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping,
hopes and fears of sun and rain,
all our thinking, planning, waiting,
ripened in this fruit and grain.**

**All our labour, all our watching,
all our calendar of care,
in these crops of your creation,
take, O God: they are our prayer.**

The Readings:

The First Reading is taken from 1 Timothy, Chapter 6, beginning to read at the sixth verse (1 Timothy 6 6-19)

But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. ¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Response after reading: For the gift of the Word of life **Thanks be to God**

The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (Luke 16 19 – 31)

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection: David Harvest seems a bit old fashioned now . How many of us think eating apples which appear freshly picked in March or tender green beans in December is strange ? Just a few generations ago we would have been glad to have dried beans or wrinkly apples which had defied rot and insects. For anyone living in a poor rural area of Africa with periods of hunger expected when harvests fail or reserves begin to run out a visit to even our simplest corner food store would reveal an array of food quite beyond their imagining. Harvest has lost its meaning because we have moved off the land and we have become used to an abundance of food. Few of us have any connection with farms and many don't have a garden where they could grow things. Harvest festival for the Israelites took place several times a year to reflect different harvests we would need one every week for coffee in several countries and tea in even more. Jersey's potato harvest is long gone.

Harvest was more than a focus on wheat or animals it was looking away from themselves to God. It was a shift in attitude and focus, from thinking “ Look how well I have done , my barns are full thanks to my skill” (or in today's world look at my car or home or investments) to one of “thank you God for the wonderful world in which we live and the provision of food from the harvest”. That is why they brought the very first and the best the perfect crops and animals to the Temple . This harvest time let us bring our offerings and our attitude, our focus and our thanks and give in gratitude for all the good gifts of the earth we enjoy. We will be distributing harvest gifts of money and food that people bring to St. Nicholas and St. Clement to the Grace Trust so they can help people who struggle to buy food and we thank God for the food we have.

Some will go to Women's Refuge and we thank God for our homes, family and friends. We are also appealing for help to support students in training at the theological college in Mombasa, Kenya. Their fees have to be raised by the often very poor church communities they come from. This is always a struggle made doubly so by the rise in world food prices. We complain about increasing supermarket bills and maybe trade down or stop buying some things - when all you eat is maize flour, beans and oil the only option is to buy and eat less, so as well as supporting the ministers in training we continue to raise funds to buy daily porridge for the hungry children at St Clement Malindi .

Let's join in celebrating the harvest and give generously in thanks to God.

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

We believe and trust in him.

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

We believe and trust in him.

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?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church

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

Parents and godparents come to the font

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit; and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome this child and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

All: With the help of God we will.

Parents and godparents the church receives this child with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him and walk with him in the way of Christ and draw him by your example into the life and worship of Christ's Church.

All: With the help of God, we will.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore, I ask you the parents and godparents:

Do you turn to Christ? **I turn to Christ**

Do you repent of your sins? **I repent of my Sins**

Do you renounce evil? **I renounce evil.**

Prayer over the Water:

Heavenly Father now sanctify this water that by the power of your Holy Spirit he may be cleansed from Sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may he walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Baptism

I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Signing with the cross: Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

After the Baptism Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen**

A Candle is presented.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

All: Shine as a light in the world to the glory God the Father.

The Welcome and Bibles

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith. We are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom
Might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
Knows and names them as they shine.
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Sing and praise your God and mine!

Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
Wounded souls his comfort know;
Those who fear him find his mercies
Peace for pain and joy for woe
Humble hearts are high exalted
Human pride and power laid low
Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
Wounded souls his comfort know;

Praise the Lord for times and seasons.
Cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
Spring to melt the snows of winter
Till the waters flow again
Grass upon the mountain pastures
Golden valleys thick with grain
Praise the Lord for times and seasons.
Cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Peace and plenty crown your days
Love his laws, declare his judgements;
Walk in all his words and ways;
He the Lord and we his children
Praise the Lord, all people praise!
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Peace and plenty crown your days.

The Collect for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity:

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

Prayers ending: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

In our prayers today:

Give thanks for our faith in God that upholds us through the ups and downs of life.

Pray for King Charles and his family as they begin to take on new responsibilities after the death of Queen Elizabeth.

Pray for everyone who holds responsibilities to govern and for all who support and encourage them. Pray they will be sensitive to God's guiding hand.

Pray for the creation and for people who remind us of the importance of looking after it. Pray that we might learn to live sustainably.

Pray for harvests around the world and for people who gather so that the world might eat. Spend time praying for places where harvests have failed and where people go hungry.

Pray for our young people as they learn and develop new skills. Pray for those in further education and undergoing apprenticeships. Pray for our young people beginning university life with all the challenges that face them.

Pray for our young people debilitated by poor mental health and for those who are tasked to help them.

Pray for friends and loved ones in their need ... give them to God one by one and ask for God's healing presence to be with them.

Give thanks for loved ones parted from us and ask God's blessing of love and peace to be with them. Pray for all who mourn, that they might know the comfort God gives.

The Lord's Prayer

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

CA719

**We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand:
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft, refreshing rain.**

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

**He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
he fills the earth with beauty,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread. Refrain)**

**We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good;
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.**

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

The Blessing

Lord of the seedtime and the harvest, you have blessed us with many things.
Send us from this place further blessed and strengthened so that we might live and grow and bear
good fruit to your praise and glory.

**May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen**

KENYAN BLESSING

All our problems
We send to the cross of Christ

All our difficulties
We send to the cross of Christ

All the devils works
We send to the cross of Christ

All our hopes
We set on the risen Christ