

# **DALMENY KIRK AND QUEENSFERRY PARISH CHURCH**

## **MIDWEEK SERVICES**

### **SEPTEMBER 2022**

During September the theme of the Sunday services will be Seasons of Harvest. This year, more than for many years, we have seen the concern of farmers because of the unusually dry weather. We will follow these themes in Midweek services as well.

Inconveniently there are 5 Thursdays in September and only 4 Sundays. So, we'll look at Lammastide in Week 1.

#### **Week 2      Joseph and his brothers in Egypt**

##### **Leader:**

Gold the sunlight, gold the harvest, warm and ripe and full of food;

Eat and laugh and share together and give thanks that God is good.

Red the earth, ground of all growing, red the blood of deeper hue,  
red the cross, the cost of knowing of God's love for you.

##### **OPENING RESPONSES – spot the words which come from HARVEST**

When we think of HARVEST

**WE REMEMBER AND GIVE THANKS FOR ALL WE HAVE**

When we think of HARVEST

**WE REMEMBER ALL WHO DO NOT HAVE AS MUCH AS  
WE HAVE AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO STARVE**

When we think of HARVEST

**WE REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SHARE**

When we think of HARVEST

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR REST WHEN THE HARVEST IS  
SAFELY GATHERED IN.**

**Hymn or song:** You might like to listen to a recording of, or read the words of, Hymn 181: "For the beauty of the earth."

**Read** Psalm 96

### **Prayer**

Loving God, as I look around the supermarket, what colours crowd my sight – red shiny apples, acid-yellow lemons, bright orange carrots and purple aubergines. If I close my eyes and sniff, my nose is filled with the rich smell of coffee and the comforting smell of freshly baked bread.

Here, Lord, are the fruits of your creation gathered in abundance, and telling of your generosity.

Here too is the work of human hands, as people have ploughed and sowed, nurtured and harvested in all weathers to harness the miracle of your creation to produce our food.

So, let us, in this season of harvests, give thanks to our creator for the gifts of creation. Let us remember with

gratitude the hard work of women and men all over the world that bring us this rich bounty. As we celebrate, let us remember those whose plates are empty, those whose crops have failed.

And now hear us as we pray further in the words Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

### **OUR FATHER**

**Read:** Genesis 41 v. 53 – Chapter 8 v. 17

Mark 4 verses 26 - 29

### **Reflection**

There's a lot in the passage where Joseph's brothers come to Egypt to buy grain. What you say may depend on your view of Joseph!! This part of the service might involve music or something visual; it might involve silence.

### **Prayer**

This is a time for prayers for the world; for the communities in which we live; for the Church and those who minister here in any capacity; for those known to us to be in particular need of our prayers; for ourselves.

### **CLOSING RESPONSES**

Loving God, forgive us for taking your many gifts for granted – forgetting, squandering and even abusing them.

**HELP US TO REJOICE IN ALL YOU HAVE GIVEN AND TO STEWARD IT WISELY. AMEN.**

