

2. Prayers: The Price we pay for Food

Approach

We come to worship remembering God's care and provision.

We come to worship recognising that we have made poor choices in our use of God's abundance.

We come to worship realising that God can change us and bring us into a right relationship with him and the whole creation.

We come to worship to love and to serve our God.

Confession

For our part in the breaking of the relationship between people and the land as production chains become longer and more unfamiliar, Dear Lord, we are sorry.

Help us to remember your great love.

For our part in the breaking of the relationship between people and place as we become less and less aware of where and how our food is produced, Dear Lord, we are sorry.

Help us to remember your great love.

For our part in the breaking of the relationship between people and the natural world as we have increased specialisation and demanded food out of season, Dear Lord, we are sorry.

Help us to remember your great love.

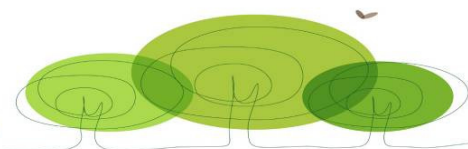
For our part in the breaking of the relationship between people and livestock as the poor conditions of animals in factory farms are overlooked, Dear Lord, we are sorry.

Help us to remember your great love.

May the living Lord Jesus, who came to earth to reconcile all relationships in creation and to restore the broken, grant us full forgiveness and the power to effect positive change. **Amen.**

Collect

Jesus' parable of the rich landowner shows that it is much better to acquire a right relationship with God than to store up earth's treasures in our greed. So may the Lord Jesus help us to foster right attitudes to the land, its creatures and its produce and may our behaviour demonstrate our love for our Creator God. In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Intercession

(based on Psalm 147:9)

We pray today for fair and just agricultural systems across the world that small and larger farmers will be able to carry out their work sustainably and work with honour and respect.

Lord, reveal your steadfast love for creation,
As we put our hope in your unfailing love.

We pray today for fair and just economic structures across the world that low price/high profit initiatives will not be allowed to dominate over righteous treatment of labourers and livestock. May we all take account of the true cost of our food on creation.

Lord, reveal your steadfast love for creation,
As we put our hope in your unfailing love.

We pray today for fair and just resource management across the world that serious steps will be taken to reduce waste, pollution and energy inefficiency and to prevent the squandering of earth's precious materials.

Lord, reveal your steadfast love for creation,
As we put our hope in your unfailing love.

Thanksgiving

Based on Psalm 136

Let us lift up our hearts to the Lord our God, the source and provider of all good things – our food, our daily bread, water to drink and our shelter.

Give thanks to the God of Heaven.
His love endures for ever.

Let us lift up our hearts to the Lord our God, the creator and maker of all good things – the soil, the sun, all plants that grow and for every living thing.

Give thanks to the God of Heaven.
His love endures for ever.

Let us lift up our hearts to the Lord our God, the reconciler of all broken relationships and the restorer of all good things – the signs of bread and wine, the empty cross and for Jesus our redeemer.

Give thanks to the God of Heaven.
His love endures for ever.



Blessing

May the Holy Spirit send us out in righteousness, peace and joy as we seek to live out the Kingdom of the living God. May the power of Christ equip us to live sustainably so that our eating and drinking does not destroy our brothers and sisters across the world and so that we make fair use of the earth's resources. **Amen.**

