

Harvest Festival Cafe Church on Zoom

Sunday October 4 09:30

A Celebration of God's goodness

The idea of a Harvest Festival comes from the Old Testament, when God set out plans for His people to celebrate with Him three times a year.

Firstly the harvest of the barley in the spring
Secondly the wheat harvest six weeks later
And thirdly the gathering in of all the fruits of the year in the autumn.

Even before He gave the command to hold these celebrations, God made them special by showing His love to His people at these exact same times.

In the Spring by rescuing them from slavery in Egypt (Passover)
Six weeks later by giving them His Word (Pentecost)
And during forty years of wandering in the desert, He cared for them, providing for all their needs when the only homes they had were temporary shelters known as sukkot.

Hence the final celebration in the autumn is known as Sukkot, or Tabernacles, when the goodness of God, and our dependance on Him, is celebrated as the final harvest is gathered in.

So at Cafe Church we want to have a real celebration of God's goodness to us, both in good times and bad. Knowing that however difficult life may be, God is there and cares for us.

One part of the celebration of Sukkot is for each household to bring two loaves of bread, as a reminder that - after years of eating manna in the wilderness - they could now eat bread made from their own crops.

So we are asking every household to bring a loaf (or two) of bread to Cafe Church
This could be
a model of a Harvest loaf (directions as attached)
a simpler model using salt dough or play dough
a home baked loaf, of any design.
A bought speciality loaf

Another part of the celebration was to bring samples of the harvested fruits
so, if you have the time and inclination, please also bring either:
A small basket of fresh fruit or
A jar of jam you have made from harvested fruits or
A harvest collage using foodstuffs (pasta, lentils, rice etc)

During the service
we will have recordings of children saying thank you for the good things they enjoy (Mike and Natasha Doherty will head this up) and
Rosemary will introduce some crafts to be done on the day.
Templates for these will come with the invitation during the week before, as usual.

Please do join us and make this a real celebration!

Zoom will open at 9:00 for a 9:30 start
The usual Cafe Church Meeting ID: 894 0549 1046
Passcode: 627753

Harvest loaf model



Salt dough

2 cups of all purpose flour

1 cup of salt

1 cup of cold water.

Mix flour salt together in a bowl. Slowly mix water, a few drop at a time into the flour and mix to a smooth dough and easy to handle.

Knead dough for 10minutes and let it rest for 20minutes.

To make a Harvest Sheaf

On a piece of A4 draw a shape like a tree (a circle on the top of an oblong) this is the base of the harvest sheaf.

Pre heat oven to 250F /120C

Roll out a circle about 50-60 centimetres thick and then an oblong to fit the pattern on the A4 paper.

Place on a baking tray.

Cut thin strands of dough to look like spaghetti, enough to cover the oblong part of the sheaf, damp the area with water and cover with the strands.

Roll out 3 more shapes like spaghetti to make a rope and lay over the stalks.

Break off thumb size pieces of dough, in your fingers roll to look like an egg, flatten and mark with 3 little V's, (these are the ears of the corn) damp the area of the sheaf and from the out side of the circle, slightly overlapping the edge, place the 'ears' around the circle filling the circle.

Break off a little egg shape piece of dough to make a mouse, pinch one end to form a nose, pinch up 2 ears, & using a pencil poke to eyes. Form a tail with another long spaghetti for the tail.

Insert 2 paper clips into the top of the top of the sheaf to allow for string to hang when finished (optional)

Bake in the preheated oven for 2hours until hard & dry allow to cool.