



Harvest Thanksgiving Services

The annual thanksgiving services for the blessings of the harvest were held here on Sunday last. The church was very tastefully decorated with choice flowers, fruit, and foliage. Experiencial care had been bestowed up on the pulpit and font. The panels of the former what filled in with flowers embedded in Moss, whilst the top was covered with flowers, grapes and other fruit, call hopes and foliage, from which hung graceful trails of Crimson Virginia creeper, giving an extremely pretty effect to the whole at the foot were placed flowers in pots, fruit, and vegetables of all kinds. The font was dressed with a groundwork of Moss and ferns, upon which were white dahlias, and other choice flowers. Edgings with formed of wheat, oats, and barley. The hole was crowned with a miniature wheat sheaf, fastened to which were bunches of purple grapes, and fruit. The windows were filled in with moss, flowers, and fruit, and around the pillars were entwined sprays of foliage, with flowers of all kinds. Beautiful plants in pots were placed near the Communion table, and the choir desks were one mass of flowers. The services commenced with a celebration of the Holy Communion in St. Andrew's Church 8:00 a.m. At matins in St. John's church the service, which was full choral, was intoned by the Rev. C. W. Townsend. There was a choral celebration of the Holy Communion at conclusion. In the evening the church was crowded in every part, and although chairs were placed in all the Isles, many were unable to obtain seats. The processional hymn was "Come Ye Thankful People Come" (A. and M., 382). The service was again full choral, and was intoned by the Rev. S. H. Lushington. The lessons were read by Mr. H. L. Dawson. The anthem was "Praise the Lord, O my soul." The Rev. E. B. Ottley, Principle of the Salisbury Theological College, preached a very eloquent and appropriate sermon from the text "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it." After the Benediction, the Te Deum was sung as a special Thanksgiving to Almighty God. The processional hymn "Now Thank We All Our God (A. and M., 379) was sung at the close of the service. The offertories during the day, which amounted to £6 3s. 1¼d, was given to the fund for providing a new organ for the church, which is much needed. The fruit and vegetables were sent to the children's orphanage at Kilburn, London.

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