

Beaminster Area Team

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily serve joyfully and grow abundantly rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Week: 11th October, Harvest Festival, 18th Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Reading:	Deuteronomy 8: 7-18
Psalm:	Psalm 65
New Testament:	2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Gospel Reading:	Luke's Gospel 12: 16-30

Reflection on the Gospel reading:

Our harvest festival this year is a chance for us to give thanks to God and remember all that we have been given; everything that sustains life is a gift from God and freely given. In today's Gospel parable, the farmer had an abundance of good things. His land was productive and brought forth a series of exceptional crops.

So then what's the problem? Outwardly, nothing. However inwardly, there was a fatal flaw in his attitude. Instead of seeing his abundance as a gift from God, the farmer considered them to be the result of his own labour. As far as he was concerned, he had no one to thank but himself for his wealth.

The farmer's problem is called idolatry. He made his material goods his idol, which meant that there was no room left in his life for God.

So the question for us today, is where do we place our allegiances? Is it in the material possessions we have around us or is it with our Heavenly Father, through his Son, Jesus Christ, who is ever faithful, and gracious in the gifts he abundantly gives? Therefore the most important thing in this life for us is having a right relationship with God the Father, which brings with it, the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of eternal life. Amen.

Harvest collect 18th Sunday after Trinity:

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out into that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy 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 forever. Amen

Worship to enjoy at home

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am Sunday Morning Worship
Songs of Praise BBC1 1.15pm

A Useful Telephone Link from The Church of England. This is a free number where you can listen to prayers, reflections and hymns and join in worship with others.

