

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: 14th November 2021, Remembrance Sunday

Old Testament: Daniel 12: 1-3
Psalm: Psalm 16
New Testament: Hebrews 10:11-14
Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12

Reflection on the Gospel reading, by Revd. Chris Luckraft

The inscription on the Cenotaph in Whitehall reads simply "The Glorious Dead". Understood 100 years ago, that those who died were in the glorious presence of God but we wouldn't read it like that nowadays. Rather we see death as a tragedy, particularly those killed in war. And whilst it is right to remember those who died it is just as important to remember those who survived. More people were affected than the list on a war memorial. Those who lost loved ones, those who lost limbs, were blinded, deafened, or mentally so traumatised that they literally lost their minds. The cost of war is so more than the roll of those killed.

Jesus said blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. And that is well worth thinking about. To be called into that close relationship with God, so close that you can be called a son. And actually it is difficult, very difficult to be a peacemaker. Because peace, true peace, is more than the absence of war, it is a state of mind, it is acceptance and welcoming of other views and lifestyles, of other religions, it is something we should feel in our hearts. That is the way of true peace - the peace of God which passes all understanding.

Collect for Second Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship to enjoy at home

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am, Sunday 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.

 **0800 804 8044**
DailyHOPE
A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers