

Sunday 8th October 2017

HARVEST FESTIVAL ALL AGE

Notices

Welcome

Opening prayer Psalm 65:1, 9-10 (GNT)

LEADER: O God, it is right for us to praise you in Zion
and keep our promises to you,

A: You show your care for the land by sending rain;
you make it rich and fertile.

B: You fill the streams with water;
you provide the earth with crops.

A: This is how you do it:
you send abundant rain on the ploughed fields
and soak them with water;

B: You soften the soil with showers
and cause the young plants to grow.

EVERYONE: What a rich harvest your goodness provides!

2 Songs – at least one of the Harvest ones??

People bring their donations forward during the first song.

TALK 1

We meet Farmer Palmer – who is considerably capable at cultivating cauliflowers, cabbages, courgettes and cucumbers and finds himself in need of a couple of builders.

CONFESSION

Leader: God our Father,

We are sorry for the times when we take your gifts without thanking you.

We are sorry for the times when we are greedy and take more than we need.

Everyone: Father, forgive us and help us.

We are sorry for the times that we ignore people who are hungry.

We are sorry that we feel we cannot make a difference to their need.

Father, forgive us and help us.

We are sorry that the world is being damaged in so many ways.

We are sorry for the times when we add to this damage.

Forgive us for the times that we fail to look up and see the wonderful world you have created.

Father, forgive us and help us.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Reading Luke 12:13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

READER 1 A man in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide with me the property our father left us."

¹⁴Jesus answered him, "Friend, who gave me the right to judge or to divide the property between you two?" ¹⁵And he went on to say to them all, "Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because your true life is not made up of the things you own, no matter how rich you may be."

¹⁶Then Jesus told them this parable:

READER 2 "There was once a rich man who had land which bore good crops. ¹⁷He began to think to himself, 'I don't have a place to keep all my crops. What can I do? ¹⁸This is what I will do,' he told himself; 'I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, where I will store the grain and all my other goods. ¹⁹Then I will say to myself, Lucky man! You have all the good things you need for many years. Take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself!' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night you will have to give up your life; then who will get all these things you have kept for yourself?'"

READER 1: And Jesus concluded, "This is how it is with those who pile up riches for themselves but are not rich in God's sight."

SONGS

TALK 2

"How much is enough?" Game

(Needs 2 players on each team, large paper and pen each)

If possible, quick update on where harvest gifts are going and how we can help in future.

SONG

TALK 3

How can we be “rich towards God”? (silver foil trumpet models)

INTERCESSIONS in small groups with picture prompts

SONGS (other harvest one?)

FINAL PRAYER

EVERYONE: The pastures are filled with flocks;
the hillsides are full of joy.

¹³The fields are covered with sheep;
the valleys are full of wheat.

Everything shouts and sings for joy.

We praise you O Lord for the Harvest!

Amen

LEADER

The land has produced its harvest;
God, our God, has blessed us.

⁷God has blessed us;
may all people everywhere honour him.

Amen