

### Part 1: Let go .....

It has been a good summer here in Thelveton.

There were any number of things we could have done that we didn't get round to, a whole host of ways we could have done things better, things we ought to have done, but didn't, things we did, that perhaps would have been better not done, or done some other way. We have worried and fussed over getting things right and agonised over how to make them perfect.

The time has come to put all that aside, to let go the "What ifs" and "if onlys".

Jesus says, "Repent" that means *turn round, look at things differently,*

"For the kingdom of heaven is close at hand."

Here, in Thelveton, in the sunshine, heaven is very close. Turn around, and see.

### Part 2: Bring the best to God .....

It is harvest thanksgiving, the time when we bring the very best of our harvest to God. So often we think that is just farm or garden produce, but today we bring God more than that.

We bring him, not just the tilling of the earth, but the blossoming of our talents, our friendships, and our community.

So let's celebrate the wonderful things we have done this summer.

- ☆ Our gardens
- ☆ The abundance of the countryside around us in field and hedgerow
- ☆ Prayer week picnic at Frenze
- ☆ Flowers and friendships
- ☆ 700 years of Thelveton
- ☆ Thundersley Brass Band
- ☆ Harvest lunch
- ☆ EACH

### Part 3: Thank you .....

In our reading from St Luke Jesus tells us of the man who gathered so much harvest he decided to pull down his barns and build bigger ones so that he could store even more for himself. God called him a fool, because he was trying to keep so much in store, and it was all earthly food. He had forgotten to take time to store up treasure with God. Someone else would enjoy his crops, but what had he got that he could enjoy with God?

Are we the same? Do we bring in our wonderful harvest for ourselves alone? I don't think so.

God .....

Thank you for giving us our gardens, and the health and strength to work in them.

Thank you for giving us this beautiful countryside, and time and sense to appreciate it.

Thank you for giving us companions, and fellowship and compassion that flows from them.

Lord, we offer them all to you, in love, and joy, in thanksgiving.

Amen