

Harvest Praise

Collect

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Old Testament Reading

Joel 2: 23 – 27

²³ O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your
vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
²⁴ The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
²⁵ I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.
²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my
people shall never again be put to shame.
²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of
Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and
there is no other.
And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 126

¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.



*Family Giving Thanks to the Ocean
McKay Savage, 2008*

The Gospel reading

Matthew 6: 25 - 33

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Matthew*

Glory to you, O Lord.

'Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? Therefore, do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



*'Wheat', National Galley of Victoria, Melbourne
John Linnell, 1792-1882*