**A Harvest Morning**

*(Prepared by Revd Julieann:*

*sourced from Acorns and Archangels – ed: Ruth Burgess: individuals credited)*

**Waking up:** *(chorus: Leith Fisher)*

Lift your heart, sing for joy, scatter dullness, banish sadness;

Lift your heart, sing for joy, welcome goodness, summon gladness.

In the colours of creation, see God’s glory, see God’s goodness

And in joy and exaltation, lift your heart, sing for joy!

**Apples: A story by a 93 year old woman** *(recalled by Neil Paynter)*

In old times we used to get all types of apples. We used to get Thamey Sweets, St Lawrence, crabs, russets, candy-striped, sheep’s nose. Like a sheep’s nose, yes. Sort of tapered. My mother would bake Thamey Sweets – and the skin would shine. So sweet you didn’t need sugar. You just left the stem on and added cloves. A squatty kind of apple. God – the smell whey they’re baking, sighed the woman, and closed her eyes. Like it suddenly all came back to her. On a wave. Thank you, God for the wisdom of a 93 year old woman.

*For a recipe using apples -see SUPPLEMENT*

**Poem: Under the Lemon Tree**

(*written by Jan Sutch Pickard for a friend in the West Bank)*

Under the lemon tree

There is a table spread

A place of hospitality

And breaking of bread.

From the garden, ripe fruit

Pomegranate, fig, pear;

Round the table, friends meet

Blessed to be there.

Fresh olive oil, soul food,

sweet pastries to share;

O tase and see that God is good

Know that God is here.

**Prayers**

**For the environment**

We pray for the right weather

We pray for the right amount of sun

We pray for the right amount of rain

**For people:**

We pray for farmers

We pray for land workers

We pray for harvesters

**Getting food to where it needs to be**

We pray for those who pack

We pray for those who transport

We pray for those who distribute

**For ourselves**

We pray to be wise

We pray to be thankful

We pray to be generous.

**A Harvest Blessing** *(written by Simon Taylor)*

Lord of the harvest

who has given us so much,

help us to be generous

that the world may know your goodness and blessing.

And may the blessing of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

remain on us and be made known through us,

now and always. Amen.

**Confession and Reconciliation  
Sunday Lunch, 20th September**

*Prepared by Steve O’Rourke*

**Reading - Jonah 3:10 - 4:11**

10 When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

**4** 1 But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. 2He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. 3 Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

4 But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

5 Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. 6 Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant[a] and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. 7 But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. 8 When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

9 But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

10 But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. 11 And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

**Praying Forgiveness**

Over the last few months, several of us at St Barnabas did ’The Prayer Course’, based on the book ‘How to Pray’ by Pete Greig.

One chapter from the book isn’t covered by the video course, so I wanted to share a few thoughts on the subject of “Confession and Reconciliation”.

You’ll know the line from the Lord’s prayer very well:  
*‘Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.’*

*(Luke 11:4)*

There’s no question over God’s desire to forgive us - Jesus’ willing journey to the cross makes that clear. God always makes the first move so we can be in a restored relationship with him, free from guilt and shame.

The Lord’s prayer raises two questions about praying for forgiveness (well probably a lot more than two, but this is a good start)…

1. **Why do we need to ask for forgiveness?**If we can be so confident in God’s forgiveness, why even take the time to ask for it?God doesn’t want us to live with guilt or shame but those feelings alert us to the presence of sin and act as the necessary starting point for change. The meaning of the word ‘repent’ is to change how you live. This is about transformation, not ticking a box so we can get into heaven.  
     
   By praying for forgiveness we are asking God for help, not just so we can know we are forgiven, but to help us actually address the sinful roots we may have in our lives. Some people will find admitting their mistakes easy, others will work hard to make excuses or pass the blame. God is inviting us into a third way where we can confidently own up to our shortcomings trusting in the relentless love of God to help us change.  
     
   *‘If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.’*  
   *(1 John 1:9)*
2. **Why do we need to forgive others before we can receive forgiveness?**  
   God’s desire is not that we follow some penitential process just for our own sake but he wants the world to become a place where all relationships are healed - that is the Kingdom of God. God wants reconciliation with us all and between us all - and that means we must learn to forgive others. We need to understand the toxic effect unforgiveness has on us. When we forgive others we are putting our trust in the power and the gift of God’s grace.  
     
   Pete Greig tells the story of Ruby Bridges, a black American girl during segregation who prayed for those protesting her right to go to school with white children. Praying for forgiveness for our enemies opens up new possibilities for restored relationships.

* Is there anyone you need to forgive or that you struggle to believe God would forgive?
* Do you need to ask God to forgive you? Do you find it hard to trust and accept his forgiveness?

**Prayer**

Take some time now to pray about these things:

Jesus, Prince of Peace, I call to mind anyone who I need to forgive.

Help me to trust in your perfect judgement.

Lead me out of bitterness, anger and frustration.

Father God, I thank you that you are always inviting me into your love.

When I make mistakes and don’t believe you would want me, help me to remember your desire to adopt me into your family.

Holy Spirit, we need your transforming power.

As we admit and come to terms with our weakness, we ask for your strength to work in us.

Amen.

*The story of Ruby Bridges is read in this YouTube video:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8D4ldGY41s*

**St Barnabas BLT: Sunday 20th September**

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

**Tea: A Harvest Compline**

*Prepared by Mark Watson.*

**Preparation**

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night

and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord**.**

**All: Who made heaven and earth.**

***(Brief silence)***

**All: Most merciful God**

**We confess to you**

**and the whole company of heaven and one another**

**that we have sinned in thought, word and deed**

**and in what we have failed to do.**

**Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit**

**and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

O God make speed to save us**.**

**All: O Lord make haste to help us.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

**Office hymn**

Before the ending of the day

Creator of the world we pray

that you with steadfast love would keep

your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,

from fears and terrors of the night.

Tread underfoot our deadly foe

that we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done

through Jesus Christ your only Son

and Holy Spirit, by whose breath

Our souls are raised to life from death. Amen.

**Psalmody Psalm 104: 1, 21-30, 33 [CW]**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!

You appointed the moon to mark the seasons

and the sun knows the time for its setting.

You make darkness that it may be night  
in which all the beasts of the forest creep forth.

The lions roar for their prey  
and seek their food from God.

The sun rises and they are gone  
to lay themselves down in their dens.

People go forth to their work  
and to their labour until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, spread far and wide,  
and there move creatures beyond number,

both small and great.

There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan  
which you have made to play in the deep.

All of these look to you  
to give them their food in due season.

When you give it them, they gather it;  
you open your hand and they are filled with good.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be forever. Amen.**



**Scripture reading Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-43 [NRSV]**

**The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat**

24He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; 25but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” 28He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” 29But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

**Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds**

36Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ 37He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

**Responsory**

Into your hands O Lord, I commend my spirit**.**

**All: Into your hands O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth**.**

**All: I commend my spirit.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit**.**

**All: Into your hands O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye**.**

**All: Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**



**Gospel canticle**

**Save us O Lord while waking**

**and guard us while sleeping**

**that awake we may watch with Christ**

**and asleep may rest in peace.**

Now Lord, you let your servant go in peace

Your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation

Which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

A light to reveal you to the nations

And the glory of your people Israel.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be forever. Amen.**

**Save us O Lord while waking**

**and guard us while sleeping**

**that awake we may watch with Christ**

**and asleep may rest in peace.**

**Collects**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent  
in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
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 for ever.   
**All: Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God,

and protect us through the silent hours of this night,

so that we who are wearied

by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,

may rest upon your eternal changelessness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,

and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;

may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,

and may your blessing be always upon us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Conclusion**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

the Lord make his face to shine upon us

and be gracious to us;

the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

**All: Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven.....**

**Conclusion**

In peace we will lie down and sleep

**All: For you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus

**All: For the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning

**All: So do we look for you, O Christ.**

Come with the dawning of the day

**All: And make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

the Lord make his face to shine upon us

and be gracious to us;

the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

**All: Amen.**

**SUPPLEMENT**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: GOOD NEWS!!

Congratulations to

Andy and Margaret Gandon - RUBY

Becky and Carmine - GOLDEN

**Look out for more news and items in**

**The Magazine**

***coming out next week....***

**How about making a warming breakfast or tea with freshly fallen apples and pears.......**

**A BBC Recipe for Apple and Pear Fritters**



**Ingredients**

* 1 quantity of batter ingredients
* 2 [pears](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/pear-glossary)
* [1 English apple](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/apple-glossary)
* 1 tsp lemon juice
* [1 tsp cinnamon](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/cinnamon-glossary)
* 100g [golden caster sugar](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/sugar-glossary)
* oil , for deep-frying
* [vanilla](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/vanilla-glossary) ice cream, to serve

**Method**

* **STEP 1**

Make the batter (refer to recipe for pancakes) but first separate 2 of the eggs and set aside the 2 egg whites. When the batter is mixed, whisk the egg whites in a clean bowl until they just start to hold their shape, then fold into the batter. Peel, core and cut the pears into wedges. Peel, core and cut the apple into rings and toss both in a little lemon juice to stop them going brown. Mix the cinnamon and sugar and set aside.

* **STEP 2**

Heat the oil in a deep fryer to 180C or in a wok until a drop of batter sizzles and turns golden within 20 secs. In batches, dip the fruit in the batter, then carefully fry in the oil until golden and crisp. Use a slotted spoon to drain onto kitchen paper, then toss in the sugar. Serve with vanilla ice cream.