

Welcome to St. Paul's Church, Seaton

Harvest Festival



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.

PSALM 126

R. *Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.*

When the Lord restored the fortunes of
Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter
and our tongue with songs of joy. **R**

Then said they among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed. **R**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of Negev.
Those who sow with tears
shall reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying the
seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their
sheaves. **R**

READING 1 Timothy 6: 6-10

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

GOSPEL Matthew 6: 25-33

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: '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.'

POST COMMUNION

Lord of the Harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.