

Thoughts

I wonder if you are hungry or thirsty just now?

Have you just had a cup of tea or coffee?

What do you enjoy eating? Ice cream, cake, a roast dinner?

Have you said, "Thank you" for the food you eat, perhaps to someone who has prepared it for you or to the shopkeeper who sold it to you. It is unlikely that you have had the opportunity to thank the farmer who grew it or the person who drove it from the farm to the supermarket.

At harvest time we take the opportunity to thank God for His provision for us.

Bible verses

(From Genesis chapter 1)

God created human beings; he created them godlike, reflecting God's nature....God blessed them.... "Be responsible for the fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of the Earth....

I've given you every sort of seed bearing plant on Earth and every kind of fruit bearing tree, given them to you for food. To all animals and birds, everything that moves and breathes, I give whatever grows out of the ground for food." God looked over everything he had made; it was good, so very good!

Hymn

*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
For all His love.*

He only is the maker
Of all things near and far,
He paints the wayside flower,
He lights the evening star.
The winds and waves obey Him,
By Him the birds are fed,
Much more to us His children,
He gives our daily bread.

We thank Thee then, O Father,
For all things bright and good,
The seed time and the harvest,
Our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer
For all Thy love imparts,
But that which Thou desirest,
Our humble, thankful hearts.

*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
For all His love.*

Matthias Claudius, Jane Campbell, Public Domain

Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
Give us this day our daily bread.

Thank you for those who work
to bring food to our table.

For farmers and fishermen, out in all weathers
and working unsocial hours.

For seasonal workers, bringing in the harvest,
often far away from home and loved ones.

For those who transport produce, driving
heavy lorries or dealing with shipping
containers from countries far away.

For those who work in factories processing
and packaging food, often carrying out
monotonous tasks all day.

For supermarket workers, stacking shelves at
night and on tills in the daytime.

For scientists who research better ways to
grow crops and combat disease.

We ask your blessing on these and others
involved in the food industry, that they may
know that as they serve others
they are also doing your will.

Amen.

As we look at the weather we are aware of the fact that humans cannot control it, we cannot make the sun shine or the rain fall.

This is all your gift.

Merciful Lord, we ask that you give us the weather we need for crops to grow abundantly and for people to be fed across the world. We know that there are famines which are caused by war and greed. Forgive us when we are selfish and help us to become more generous.

Amen

Hymn

Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home!
All be safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.

Henry Alford (1844)

Blessing

May God bless us as we eat and drink,
in Jesus name we pray.

Amen.



www.caraway.uk.com
caraway@caraway.uk.com

Caraway
Spiritually Resourcing the Older Person

HARVEST