

Thought for the day – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023

By Revd John Marshall

The Seasons Benediction    After Prayer    Malcolm Guite

We had an enjoyable Coffee Break thinking about seasons.

Malcom's poems are to the point.

Spring

With each unfolding seed, with every spring,  
He breathes the rumour of his resurrection,  
As birdsong calls your hidden heart to sing.  
So may this season be his benediction,  
To lift your love, and bid your prayer take wing  
To thaw your frozen hope, to warm your mind,  
For spring has come! Can heaven be far behind?

Summer

When young-leafed June is summoned by the sun  
And new-mown grass breathes fragrance through the air,  
When work is over, holidays begun,  
May peace and pleasure in themselves be prayer  
And in your leisure may you hear the one  
Who is your blessing and by whom you're blest  
Still calling you. Come unto me and rest.

Autumn

Now for the harvest! All is rich and full;  
The swelling grape is ripe upon the vine  
So may his blessing sanctify your fall,  
And old love be remembered in new wine  
Now may your ears be open to his call,  
You stand on holy ground, look up and see:  
His love burns red and gold in every tree.

Winter

When winter comes and winds are cold and keen,  
When nights are darkest, though the stars shine bright,  
When life shrinks to its roots, or sleeps unseen,  
Then may he bless and bring you to his light.  
For he has come at last, and can be seen,  
God's love made vulnerable, tightly curled:  
The Winter Child, The Saviour of the World!

Canterbury Press

Do you have a favourite season?