



You are the God who worked wonders and declared your power among the peoples. With a mighty arm you redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph.

Psalm 77:14-15

Praising:

This spotless robe the same appears,

when ruined nature sinks in years;

no age can change its glorious hue.

the robe of Christ is ever new.

Reading:

Genesis 50 Jacob's death and Joseph's final days

The brothers have a lingering concern that with their father dead and buried, Joseph might now turn on them and get his own back at last. Whether Jacob did actually give the brothers a message, or whether the brothers made that part up, at some level they still mistrusted Joseph – at least a little. Joseph's tears must be an expression of how hurt he

feels at their suggestion. Yet having already forgiven them for what they had done all those years before, he finds it in his heart to forgive them now all over again for thinking ill of him. However Joseph does take care to impress upon his brothers that his forgiveness is not nearly so important as God's. Yes, the brothers had meant it for evil, but God in his mercy and mystery had meant if for good.

Listening:

Praying:

We ask God to sponge away our regrets and resentments

- the years we feel we have wasted before discovering God's call on our lives
- the relationships mishandled and the understanding and sympathy so often lacking
- the opportunities missed to speak of Christ and to act for Him

Father: as Joseph's life ended his slate was clean – no one to left to forgive or to say sorry to. When my own time comes, may I know your love and grace to die the same way. Amen

Doing: