

The Noble Landowner – October 4, 2026

Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

Reflection Questions

1. The landowner's *makrothymia* means that he "puts anger far away," responding to wrongdoing with extraordinary patience and repeated opportunities to repent. What does this reveal to you about the character of God?
2. The tenants eventually seem to mistake the landowner's patience for weakness or indifference. Are there ways we can make the same mistake about God? How do patience with injustice and acceptance of injustice look the same? How do they differ?
3. The tenants begin to behave as though the vineyard belongs to them rather than to the landowner. What are some things in our own lives that we are tempted to treat as possessions rather than things God has entrusted to our care?
4. The sermon suggests that the central question of the parable is, "How do we respond to the Son?" What might receiving Jesus look like in your life right now? What might he be asking of you?
5. The sermon names some possible "fruits of the kingdom": feeding the hungry, welcoming the lonely, reconciling enemies, helping people encounter Jesus, and becoming people of justice, mercy, faithfulness, and love. Which of these do you think God might particularly be calling us at St Matthew's to cultivate in this season? What could that look like in practice?