

Ralph McTell, Hands of Joseph

When they looked at Joseph's hands
They said, They're the hands of a carpenter
They're big and they're powerful and they're strong
They're the hands that should work in wood
And they're the hands that should work a long day
Joseph he did all those things
But he also learned how to play

He would sing about joy, sing about faith
That the people wished they had
How he heard the voice of Jesus
When the rolling sea got mad
He's a boat in the harbour, he's safe in that love
He know some day he'll be sailing above

When they looked at Joseph's hands
They said, They're the hands of a stonemason
They're big and they're powerful and they're strong
They're the hands that should work in stone
And they're the hands that should work a long day
Joseph he did all those things
But he also learned how to play

When they looked at Joseph's hands
They said, They're the hands of a fisherman
The musician and the mason-carpenter
And he's happy all the time
For they're working every day
And those old hands of Joseph
Oh how they can play.