

SERMON *on the* MOUNT

DO NOT

Worry

Midweek Lent 4

March 18, 2020

7 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church
Brillion, WI

Welcome

Introduction

P In our service tonight, we recognize that so much of our lives, even in Lent, is spent worrying about what might happen or what has happened. Christ teaches us to stop being anxious, but simply to trust that He knows what is best and will take care of us to the very end.

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440 v. 3

3 Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion,
But its cause to me make known And its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.

Invocation and Opening Sentences

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Do not be anxious about what you will eat or drink or wear.

C **Life is more than food and the body more than clothing.**

P Look at the birds of the air. They don't sow or reap or gather.

C **And yet our heavenly Father feeds them.**

P Consider the lilies of the field. They neither toil nor spin.

C **Even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like them.**

P But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

C **Yes! Yes, He will!**

P Do not be anxious. Seek first the kingdom of God.

C **And all these things will be added unto us.**

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440 v. 6

6 Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above Sing Your praise forever.

Confession and Absolution

P Jesus reminds us not to be anxious or worry. When we seek first His kingdom, everything will be added unto us. And yet we are anxious and we worry.

C **Most merciful God, we know that worry is sin. We know that when we are anxious, it is because we fail to put our full trust in You. Instead of seeking Your kingdom, we seek to create our own kingdom filled with sin and selfishness. We think we know what's best for us and fail to see that You always have our best interest in mind. Please forgive us for our lack of faith and trust. When we worry, help us turn to You for full provision and protection. Please forgive us for worshiping ourselves instead of trusting in You.**

P God is gracious and His kingdom is filled with love and forgiveness. Because Jesus put His full trust in His heavenly Father and carried the weight of the world on the cross, your worry is overcome by God's great gifts. The greatest gift of all is the complete forgiveness of sins which I now proclaim to you in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422

1 On my heart imprint Your image, Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 41:8–13

⁸But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; ⁹you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; ¹⁰fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. ¹¹Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish. ¹²You shall seek those

who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. ¹³For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, “Fear not, I am the one who helps you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 4:5–7

⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:25–34

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God

and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

^{34c}Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Mini Message

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

LSB 729

- 1 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.
- 2 I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.
- 3 I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.
- 4 I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.
- 5 I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.
- 6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever And for all.

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P God of creation, You clothe the flowers, You take care of the birds of the air, and You grant us everything we need. You have made us Your beloved children. Forgive us for our worry and enable us to put our full trust in You.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, You provide government and order. When there is chaos and war, it is the direct result of human sin. Send Your love to us and through us that peace would prevail in our world. Where there is need, use us to share out of the bounty You have first given us.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, thank You for the gift of Your church. Bind us together in unity. Make us a shining light on a hill. Draw all the nations to Your church by Your grace.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, You have the power to bring health and healing. Where there is disease and sickness, bring the gift of a cure. Bring us all, at last, to the perfect health of Your eternal kingdom.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P Into Your hands, God of creation, we place all of our needs, knowing that You are the one who has all authority, power, grace, and mercy to do Your will and turn unbelief into trust and belief.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P The God of all grace, who gives you His kingdom and takes away all worry, grant you true trust and complete faith. Rejoice and be glad!

C Amen.

715 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

LSB 715

- 1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll, Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.
Chart and compass come from Thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

- 2 As a mother stills her child, Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
Boist'rous waves obey Thy will When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!"
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

- 3 When at last I near the shore And the fearful breakers roar
Twixt me and the peaceful rest, Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pilot thee."

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