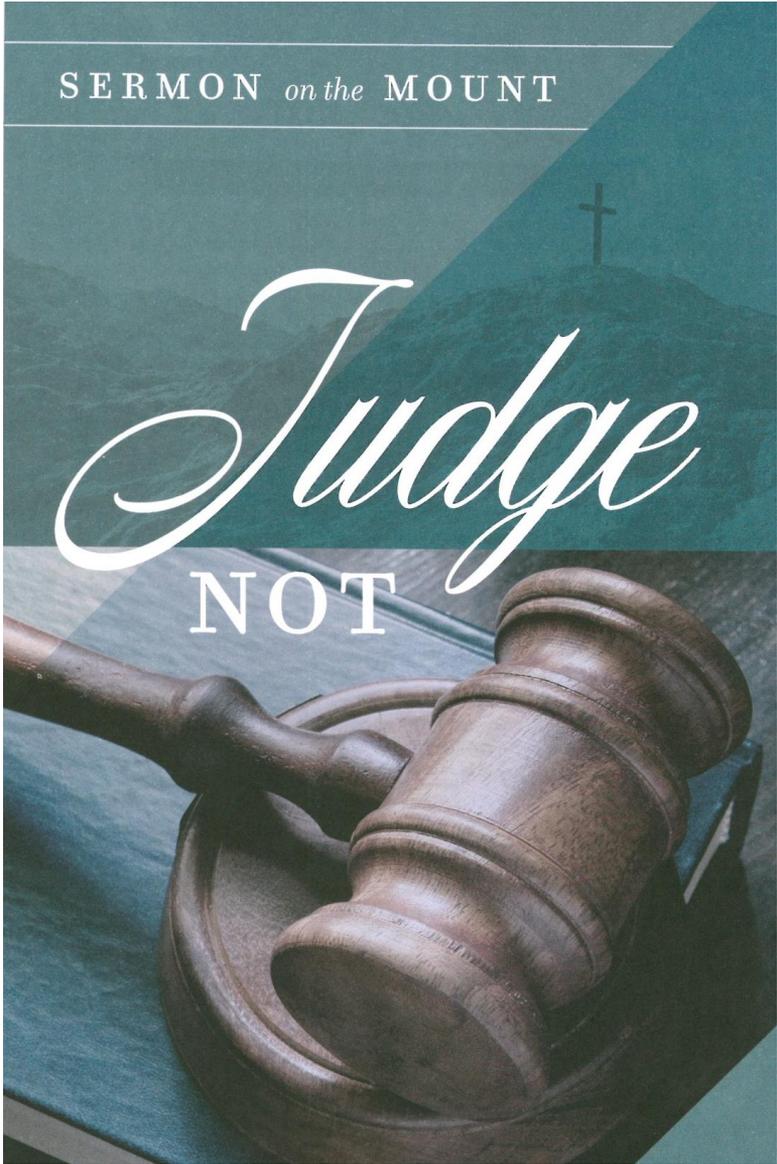


SERMON *on the* MOUNT



Judge
NOT

Midweek Lent 5

March 25, 2020

7 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church
Brillion, WI

Welcome

Introduction

P In our service tonight, we recognize that we live in a very judgmental world, so Jesus' advice not to judge sounds radical to our modern ears. When we leave all judgment up to God, we free ourselves to look at one another through fresh and forgiving eyes.

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440 v. 4

4 Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?

Invocation and Opening Sentences

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

C Amen.

P Judge not, that you be not judged.

C **Speak the truth in love.**

P Take the log out of your own eye, then take the speck out of your friend's.

C **Speak the truth in love.**

P With the judgment you pronounce you will be judged.

C **Speak the truth in love.**

P Look at others through the lens of forgiveness.

C **Speak the truth in love.**

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 Because of our sinful and holier-than-thou judgment of others, we ourselves deserve to be judged by our heavenly Father.

C **Most merciful God, our eyes are wide open to the sins and shortcomings of others. We see the smallest details of the**

faults of our neighbors but fail to see the large-scale sin in our own life. On the other hand, our eyes are too often closed to Your commands. We see only our self-righteousness and think we have no need for any kind of help or forgiveness. Though we deserve Your present and eternal punishment, we plead for Your mercy and beg for Your grace.

P In His mercy and grace God's eyes are blinded to our sin by the death of Jesus on the cross. Though we deserve His complete and total judgment, our punishment was placed on His Son. Though we are unjust in our judgment of others, God's judgment is righteous and perfect. In His mercy He forgives totally and completely. It is my joy to declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins 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 11:2–4

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 2:1–11

¹Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ²We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who do such things.

³Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? ⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed.

⁶He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

“Once Upon a Tree”

Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:1–5

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Mini Message

606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LSB 606

- 1 I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us From the accursèd load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.
- 2 I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; My soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.
- 3 I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P All-knowing God, You see our sins, faults and failures. We are sinful in thought, word, and deed, by what we do and by what we leave undone. We deserve nothing but Your punishment and judgment. Yet because of our Savior, Jesus, You have declared us “not guilty.” Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P All-knowing God, You are the Lord of Your church and it grieves You when we judge others without recognizing the sin in our own lives. Help us to take the plank out of our own eye before we remove the speck from the eye of someone else. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P All-knowing God, far too often the nations of this world judge unjustly. We ask that You would fill the leaders of the nations and the leaders of our communities with so much of Your love that all people would be able live without fear of improper judgment, and the nations would know peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All-knowing God, You know every hurt we suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Use Your wisdom and guidance to bring health and healing to all who are ill or suffering from disease. Bring comfort to those who suffer from worry, depression, or any kind of mental illness, that they would once again be given comfort and rest. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All-knowing God, You knew us before the foundation of the world and chose us to be Your own. We thank You for the lives and influence of those who have gone before us in the faith. Help us to imitate them in the way of love and forgiveness so that others will see You through us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O God, we place our very lives, knowing that You judge us only based on the merit of the blood of Jesus our Savior, who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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 judges us to be holy and righteous because of the blood of Jesus grant you His peace. Rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

- 1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.

- 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

- 3 Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty,
Was also shed in love for me.

- 4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

Acknowledgments

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