

SERMON *on the* MOUNT

THE TREE

and its

Fruit

Good Friday
April 10, 2020

Welcome

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

LSB 451 vs. 1-2

- 1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
By His Son God now has spoken: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.
- 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that justice gave.

Invocation and Opening Sentences

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

C Amen.

P By a tree death entered the world. And by a tree death was destroyed.

C A good tree is recognized by its fruit.

P The first tree's fruit was poison. The second tree's fruit was life-giving.

C A good tree is recognized by its fruit.

P The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was off limits.

C A good tree is recognized by its fruit.

P Good Friday's tree wins forgiveness for all people.

C A good tree is recognized by its fruit.

P The tree of the cross is the best tree of all. By Christ's death it bears the fruit of everlasting life.

C A good tree is recognized by its fruit.

Confession and Absolution

P On this dark day we remember that it is our sin that nailed Jesus to the tree.

C Most merciful God, in the garden of Eden the people You created tasted the fruit of the forbidden tree and brought sin into the world. Their sinfulness has been passed down to us. We are by nature sinful and unclean. We daily bite the ugly fruit of temptation and give in to the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh. We are guilty of crucifying You

on the tree of the cross because of what we have done and left undone. Because of the death of Your Son, Jesus, forgive us of all of our sins. Feed us with the fruit that delivers the gift of eternal life.

P Jesus Christ tasted the bitter fruit of death as He hung on the cross to take on the punishment of all of your sins. Good Friday's tree bears the fruit of salvation and forgiveness. Taste and see that the Lord is good. Because of His death for the sin of the world I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted *LSB 451 vs. 3-4*

- 3 Ye who think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.
- 4 Here we have a firm foundation, Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded Who on Him their hope have built.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1-15

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew

that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Colossians 2:13–15

¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:15–20

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Mini Message

456 Were You There

LSB 456 vs. 1-3

- 1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh ... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh ... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh ... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P By Your death,

C You bring life.

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.

The Seven Last Words “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” *LSB 447*

First Word: “Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’ And they cast lots to divide his garments” (Luke 23:34).

(The first candles are extinguished.)

1 Jesus, in Your dying woes, Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Second Word: “[Jesus] said to him, ‘Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise’” (Luke 23:43).

(The second candles are extinguished.)

4 Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief, who near You dies,
Promising him paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Third Word: “When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, behold, your son!’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Behold, your mother!’ And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home” (John 19:26-27).

(The third candles are extinguished.)

7 Jesus, loving to the end Her whose heart Your sorrows rend,
And Your dearest human friend: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Fourth Word: “And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’” (Mark 15:34).

(The fourth candles are extinguished.)

10 Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown, With our evil left alone,
While no light from heav’n is shown: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Fifth Word: “After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), ‘I thirst’” (John 19:28).

(The fifth candles are extinguished.)

13 Jesus, in Your thirst and pain, While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Sixth Word: “When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, ‘It is finished,’ and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit” (John 19:30).

(The sixth candles are extinguished.)

16 Jesus, all our ransom paid, All Your Father’s will obeyed;
By Your suff’rings perfect made: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Seventh Word: “Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!’ And having said this he breathed his last” (Luke 23:46).

(The seventh candles are extinguished.)

19 Jesus, all Your labor vast, All Your woe and conflict past,
Yielding up Your soul at last: Hear us, holy Jesus.

21 May Your life and death supply Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Closing Reading

John 19:38-42

P ³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

The sound of the strepitus is heard, a harsh noise signifying the closing of the tomb.

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. By Dean Nadasdy and Tom Eggebrecht. © 2019 Creative Communications for the Parish. All rights reserved.