



trees



O heavenly Father, you
have filled the world

with beauty: Open our eyes to
behold your gracious hand in all your
works; that, rejoicing in your whole
creation, we may learn to serve you
with gladness; for the sake of him
through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.



THE *readings*

A reading from Psalm 1:1-3.

¹ Blessed is the person who obeys the law of the Lord.
They don't follow the advice of evil people.
They don't make a habit of doing what sinners do.
They don't join those who make fun of the Lord
and his law.

² Instead, the law of the Lord gives them joy.
They think about his law day and night.

³ That kind of person is like a tree that is planted near a
stream of water.

It always bears its fruit at the right time.
Its leaves don't dry up.

Everything godly people do turns out well.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



***This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through.

² A man named Zacchaeus lived there. He was a chief tax collector and was very rich. ³ Zacchaeus wanted to see who Jesus was. But he was a short man. He could not see Jesus because of the crowd.

⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree. He wanted to see Jesus, who was coming that way.

⁵ Jesus reached the spot where Zacchaeus was. He looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So Zacchaeus came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this. They began to whisper among themselves. They said, "Jesus has gone to be the guest of a sinner. "

8 But Zacchaeus stood up. He said, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of what I own to those who are poor. And if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay it back. I will pay back four times the amount I took."

9 Jesus said to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation has come to your house. You are a member of Abraham's family line. 10 The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.



THE *wonderings*

*what do you wonder about
because of what you've read or heard?*

THE *observations*

*what do you notice about how Jesus speaks to Zacchaeus?
I wonder how Jesus speaks to you?*

THE *connections*

***what does today's conversation make you think of?
are there other Bible stories that come to mind?***

THE *response*

*what do you want to draw or write or remember
because of what you read or heard or saw?*

WHISPERING LEAVES

I am wondering
what it is
the leaves are whispering to me.
Which language they speak.
It doesn't seem funny
but it might be.
It takes years
getting leaf ears
only there aren't
many quiet days
to sit out and learn
leaf talk.
Leaves, I'm listening.

-Julie O'Callaghan-

Use this page to do a tree bark rubbing. Hold the paper against the bark, and then rub the paper with the long edge of a crayon. You may need to press hard to capture the bark's interesting features.

THE *prayers*

*what do you want to say to God
because of what you read or heard or saw?*

woodland

prayers

God has written the name of every tree
in the pattern of the bark.

Every tree writes its prayer to God
in the pattern of leaves against the sky.

-Mary Joslin-

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.
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 DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God knows you! He's crazy about you! He goes with you everywhere!