



Hymn of the Week

October 6, 2019 • 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus and the Fig Tree

Text: Richard Leach.

“There’s an odd story in Mark chapter 11. Jesus looks for fruit on a fig tree, but it isn’t the season for figs. When he doesn’t find any, he curses the tree and it dies. In Luke 17, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. He tells them that if they had faith like a grain of mustard seed, they could tell a mulberry tree to uproot itself and be planted in the sea, and it would obey. Those two passages come together in this hymn.”

–Richard Leach

Music: MULBERRY, Dan Damon.

Topics: Discipleship, Faith, Joy, Parables

Scripture references: Mark 11:12–14, 20; Luke 13:6–9, 17:6

Publication

And Jesus Said: Parables in Song (Selah, 2008)

Go Worship at Emmanuel’s Feet (Selah, 2001)

We Sing the Shoreline (Selah, 2004)



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Jesus and the Fig Tree

“Where is your fruit?” Jesus said to a fig tree.

“Why do I find only leaves everywhere?”

“I have no fruit,” said the fig tree to Jesus.

“Why not come back in the season I bear?”

“Now is the time!” Jesus said to the fig tree.

“Here is a chance that may not come again.

Look at that mulberry tree by the water—

if I should ask, it would gladly leap in.”

“Mulberry trees have no sense,” said the fig tree.

“I follow rules you cannot set aside.”

“Have it your way,” Jesus said to the fig tree;

and the next day it had withered and died.

Those who will not bear for Jesus will wither,
though they are certain of what is to be.

Others will laugh and accept Jesus’ offer,
leaping for joy like a mulberry tree!

Richard Leach, 1996.

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Jesus and the Fig Tree

1 "Where is your fruit?" Je - sus said to a fig tree.
 2 "Now is the time!" Je - sus said to the fig tree.
 3 "Mul - ber - ry trees have no sense," said the fig tree.
 4 Those who will not bear for Je - sus will with - er,

"Why do I find on - ly leaves ev - ery - where?"
 "Here is a chance that may not come a - gain.
 "I fol - low rules you can - not set a - side."
 though they are cer - tain of what is to be.

"I have no fruit," said the fig tree to Je - sus.
 Look at that mul - ber - ry tree by the wa - ter—
 "Have it your way," Je - sus said to the fig tree;
 Oth - ers will laugh and ac - cept Je - sus' of - fer,

"Why not come back in the sea - son I bear?"
 if I should ask, it would glad - ly leap in."
 and the next day it had with - ered and died.
 leap - ing for joy like a mul - ber - ry tree!"

Jesus and the Fig Tree



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Text: Richard Leach, 1996.

Music: Dan Damon, 2001.

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 MULBERRY