

# Rooted in God's Earth: Trees in Scripture



## **SESSION 5**

**Trees in the Wilderness  
(Isaiah 41.17-20)**

**Monday 22 July 2024**



*God of creation, we thank you that we are rooted in your earth together. Help us to recognise and rejoice in the interconnectedness of all that has lived and all that will live. In our encounters with scripture, help us to listen for what your Spirit is saying, and inspire us with your love. Amen.*



Anon, The Oak of Mamre (Abraham's Oak), Hebron, c.1870 (V&A)

When the poor and needy seek water,  
and there is none,  
and their tongue is parched with thirst,  
I the LORD will answer them,  
I the God of Israel will not forsake them.  
<sup>18</sup> I will open rivers on the bare heights,  
and fountains in the midst of the valleys;  
I will make the wilderness a pool of water,  
and the dry land springs of water.

19 I will put in the wilderness the cedar,  
the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive;  
I will set in the desert the cypress,  
the plane and the pine together,  
20 so that all may see and know,  
all may consider and understand,  
that the hand of the LORD has done this,  
the Holy One of Israel has created it.

(Isaiah 41.17-20)

## *Tree symbolism:*

Acacia wood, the wilderness,  
and the Ark of the Covenant

Olive, peace, and the hope of  
transformation

Sycamore and nourishment

The Morgan Bible, David Carrying the  
Ark of the Covenant, c.1270





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