

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

From *Divine Hymns, or Spiritual Songs*,
compiled by Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784

MELCHER (LM)
Howard Helvey

Andante con moto (♩ = 66-69)

unis. mp

Tenor
Bass

1. The tree of life my soul hath seen, Lad -

3

en with fruit and al - ways green: The trees of na - ture

6

fruit - less be Com - pared with Christ the ap - ple tree.

9

a tempo

Soprano

p

Alto

2. His beau - ty doings ex - cel: By

Tenor

Bass

a tempo p

12

(n.b.)

faith I know, but ne'er can see the glo - ry which I

(n.b.)

15

(,)

poco rit.

now can see In Je - sus Christ the ap - ple tree.

poco rit.

18 S *a tempo mp*
A
3. For hap - pi - ness I long have sought, And

21 *sup*
plea - sure dear - ly I have bought: I missed of all; but

24 (n.b.) *poco rit.*
now I see 'Tis found in the ap - ple tree.

27 S *a tempo pp*
A
4. I'm wea - ry with for - mer toil, Here
T
B *a tempo pp*

30 *tenuto*
I will sit and rest a - while: Un - der the shad - ow
tenuto

33 (n.b.) *poco rit.*
I will be Of Je - sus Christ the ap - ple tree.
(n.b.) *poco rit.*

36 *a tempo unis. mf*

5. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It

39 *tenuto* ----- *dim. poco a poco al fine*

keeps my dy - ing faith a - live; which makes my soul in —

42 *(dim.)* (n.b.) *rit.* *p*

haste to be With Je - sus Christ the ap - ple tree.

The hymn tune MELCHER (LM) and this choral setting are dedicated to The Reverend Doctor Sarah Melcher on the occasion of her reception of full ordained ministerial standing in the United Church of Christ and installation as "Scholar in Residence" at St. John United Church of Christ, Bellevue, Kentucky, in a four-way covenant with St. John United Church of Christ, the Southwest Ohio/Northern Kentucky Association of the Ohio Valley Synod of the United Church of Christ, and Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio).

Sunday, the Day of Pentecost, 23 May 2010

SAM