



EYES ON JESUS

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Ministers: The People of St. James Lutheran Church

Pastor Randy Kaminska

Organists: Jennifer Parris and Janet Galvano

Praise Team Leader: Lianda Waugaman

Choir Director: Ann Clingersmith

Worship is Sunday 9:15am

**OUR MISSION: We are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus through
worship, witness, and ministry to our members
and community**

WELCOME: Holy Spirit, when you lead us into the wilderness, assure us of your constant presence.

If you are visiting and you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your church home, but above all, we invite you to come and worship with us at any time.

Mid-Week 2

Eyes on Jesus: Betraying Eyes

As We Gather

This Lent, we will use the metaphor of eyesight to examine how the various people in Mark's Gospel viewed Jesus during His Passion. In most cases, they misunderstood who He was and what He was doing; then again, sometimes by faith people did recognize Him correctly.

We have these forty days of Lent in which we may look within ourselves as people of faith in our day. How are we like or unlike the people who saw Jesus in the flesh? Most important, as we gather for worship, we will see what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death.

Today, we see in Gethsemane that Jesus' inner circle—Peter, James, and John—cannot keep their eyes open to watch and pray with Him for even an hour. How awake have we been, lest we fall prey to temptation? Why does Jesus agree that His Father's will be done?

Prelude

Welcome

***Hymn #149 – O Sacred Head**

1 O sacred head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, thine only crown.
O sacred head, what glory, What bliss till now was thine
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

2 How art thou pale with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn;
How does that visage languish Which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter Passion, Were all for sinner's gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, But thine the deadly pain.

3 What language shall I borrow To thank thee, dearest friend,
For this, thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
Oh make me thine forever, And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to thee.

4 Be near me when I'm dying, O show thy cross to me;
On thee I am relying, Come thou and set me free.
These eyes new faith receiving, From thee shall never move;
For those who die believing Die safely in thy love.

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Collect of the Day

L: O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading *Romans 13:8–14*

L: A reading from Romans, chapter 13.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

L: Behold, He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

C: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

**My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

L: He will not let your foot be moved;
He who keeps you will not slumber.

**C: Behold, He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

L: The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

**C: The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

L: The Lord will keep you from all evil;
He will keep your life.

**C: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore. Glory be to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
forever. Amen.**

L: Behold, He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

Second Reading *Mark 13:32–37*

L: A reading from Mark, chapter 13.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Mark 14:32–42**

P: A reading from Mark, chapter 14.

³²And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” ³³And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. ³⁴And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.” ³⁵And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” ³⁷And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ³⁹And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. ⁴¹And he came the third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsory

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Hymn #145 – Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

2 Follow to the judgment hall; View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn from him to bear the cross.

- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom; Who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Please be seated

Sermon By Pastor Randy Kaminska

Hymn: Our Eyes Behold the Savior's Face
(Sung to tune "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed")

- 1 Our eyes behold the Savior's face
And yet cannot perceive
That His perspective held our grace
Before we could believe.
- 2 Our focus flits and fails to see
The One whose steadfast gaze
Propelled Him to the darkened tree
Enveloped in death's haze.
- 3 Our sights train on the dreadful cross.
Beneath His knowing eyes,
Our sins are bare and set for loss;
He sees us as His prize.
- 4 Our vision blurs with anxious tears
As Jesus' eyelids fall
To conquer sin and all our fears
And tear in two our pall.
- (Stand for the last verse)*
- 5 Our view scans for the coming Day
That evermore grows near,
When Jesus wipes our tears away
And all is crystal clear.

Antiphon

P: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Magnificat

P: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

C: for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.

P: For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

C: For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;

P: and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

C: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

P: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

C: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

P: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the Church around the world, ourselves, and all people in their various needs.

The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. *Psalm 145:15*

For farmers and ranchers and those who bring food to market, that God would provide favorable weather, bountiful harvests, and relief from both drought and flood, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Look on them all in Your mercy, heavenly Father.

P: My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

Psalm 25:15

For all who struggle with unemployment or underemployment, with poor living conditions or displacement from home, with personal demons or ill health, let

us pray to the Lord.

C: Behold their turmoil, Lord Jesus, and grant them relief and hope.

P: His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. *Psalm 97:4*
For all people in authority over communities and countries, all whose decisions affect the climate of the planet and the health of its inhabitants, and all who are charged to maintain justice within their borders and peace among nations, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Gaze upon Your servants, O Lord; protect and guide them that they may serve with wisdom, compassion, and courage.

P: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD. *Psalm 121:1–2a*

For all who serve the Lord as they care for others—medical personnel and first responders, counselors and advisers, friends and neighbors, professionals and volunteers—let us pray to the Lord.

C: Observe how they use the gifts You have given them, O Holy Spirit, and open doors of opportunity for them so that many may rejoice together.

P: Keep me as the apple of Your eye; hide me in the shadow of Your wings. *Psalm 17:8*

For the Church around the world, as clergy and lay leaders seek to proclaim the Gospel and faithfully endeavor to share their faith, especially in the face of persecution, let us pray to the Lord.

C: See their struggle, O Holy Spirit, and give them strength to persevere and grow.

P: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! *Psalm 34:8*

For the Church, wherever it gathers around Word and Sacrament, relying on God's steadfast love and faithfulness, and looking forward to the fulfillment of all His gracious promises, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Watch over Your Church, Lord Jesus; protect and defend us until that day we see You face to face.

P: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benedicamus

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Hymn #138 – In the Cross of Christ I Glory

1 In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

P: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.