



## **EYES ON JESUS**

### **St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2437 Niagara Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304-4057  
(716) 731-4057

[www.stjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org](http://www.stjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org)

Email: [stjameschurchberg@gmail.com](mailto:stjameschurchberg@gmail.com)

YouTube – Search: St. James Lutheran Church Niagara Falls

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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.*

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## Mid-Week 3

### Eyes on Jesus: Betraying Eyes

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#### **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.

At first, Peter and the other disciples cannot see how they could ever fall away from Jesus. Then, when Peter is spotted by a servant girl and realizes that his own neck is on the line, he sees fit to deny Jesus, which leads to his weeping in remorse. What does it take for us to move beyond our own remorse to the discipleship we and our Lord desire?

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome**

#### **\*Hymn 243 – My Faith looks Up to thee**

1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away,  
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!

2 May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart,  
My zeal inspire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,  
Be thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray From thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll; Blest Savior, then, in love Fear and distrust remove;  
Oh, bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

## **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**

P: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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** *Isaiah 59:1–3, 12–13*

L: Isaiah laments how Israel has been denying the Lord.

A: reading from the 59th chapter of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,  
or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

<sup>2</sup>but your iniquities have made a separation  
between you and your God,  
and your sins have hidden his face from you  
so that he does not hear.

<sup>3</sup>For your hands are defiled with blood  
and your fingers with iniquity;  
your lips have spoken lies;  
your tongue mutters wickedness.

<sup>12</sup>For our transgressions are multiplied before you,  
and our sins testify against us;

for our transgressions are with us,

and we know our iniquities:  
<sup>13</sup>transgressing, and denying the Lord,  
and turning back from following our God,  
speaking oppression and revolt,  
conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** *Psalm 27:1–5*

L: The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

**C: When evildoers assail me  
to eat up my flesh,**

**my adversaries and foes,  
it is they who stumble and fall.**

L: Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war arise against me,  
yet I will be confident.

**C: One thing have I asked of the Lord,  
that will I seek after:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord  
and to inquire in His temple.**

L: For He will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble;  
He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;  
He will lift me high upon a rock.

**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.**

L: The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

## **Second Reading** *2 Timothy 2:8–13*

L: A reading from 2 Timothy, chapter 2.

<sup>8</sup>Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, <sup>9</sup>for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! <sup>10</sup>Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. <sup>11</sup>The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; <sup>12</sup>if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; <sup>13</sup>if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Third Reading** *Mark 8:27–36*

L: A reading from Mark, chapter 8.

<sup>27</sup>And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” <sup>30</sup>And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

<sup>31</sup>And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

<sup>34</sup>And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Mark 14:26–31, 66–72**

P: A reading from Mark, chapter 14.

<sup>26</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>27</sup>And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ <sup>28</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” <sup>29</sup>Peter said to him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” <sup>30</sup>And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” <sup>31</sup>But he said emphatically, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And they all said the same.

<sup>66</sup>And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, <sup>67</sup>and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” <sup>68</sup>But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you mean.” And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. <sup>69</sup>And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” <sup>70</sup>But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” <sup>71</sup>But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” <sup>72</sup>And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

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 141 – In the Hour of Trial**

1 In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me,  
Lest by base denial I depart from thee.  
When thou see'st me waver, With a look recall;  
Nor from fear or favor Suffer me to fall.

2 With forbidden pleasures Should this vain world charm,  
Or its sordid treasures Spread to work me harm,  
Bring to my remembrance Sad Gethsemane,  
Or, in darker semblance, Cross-crowned Calvary.

3 Should thy mercy send me Sorrow, toil, and woe,  
Or should pain attend me On my path below,  
Grant that I may never Fail thy hand to see;  
Grant that I may ever Cast my care on thee.

*Please be seated*

### **Sermon by Pastor Randy Kaminska**

#### **Hymn** *Our Eyes Behold the Savior's Face*

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**

P: 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 254 – What Wondrous love is This**

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down;  
When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb ,Who is the great I Am  
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me,  
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And through eternity I'll sing on.

P: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**