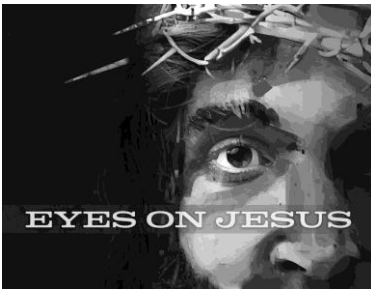




LOOKING ^{TO} JESUS
THE FOUNDER & PERFECTER
OF OUR
FAITH
WHO FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM
ENDURED ⁺ DESPISING
THE CROSS THE SHAME
AND IS
SEATED
AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE
THRONE OF GOD

HEBREWS 12:2



Grace Lutheran Church

460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

763-784-8784
www.FridleyLutheran.org

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

(Gradual for Lent, based on Hebrews 12:2)

Welcome: 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 40 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.

Order of Midweek Lenten Worship

Opening Prayer:

Opening Hymn:

Confession & Absolution:TLH 145: Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

P: The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. (Psalm 33:13)

C: For the ways of man *are* before the eyes of the LORD, And He ponders all his paths. His own iniquities entrap the wicked *man*, And he is caught in the cords of his sin. (Proverbs 5:21-22)

P: And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account.
(Hebrews 4:13)

C: "Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.
(Jeremiah 23:24)

P: *"You are great in counsel and mighty in work, for Your eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings."* (Jeremiah 32:19)

C: The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one. (Psalm 14:2-3)

P: For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary; From heaven the LORD viewed the earth, To hear the groaning of the prisoner, To release those appointed to death, ... (Psalm 102:19-20)

C: "I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me." (Hosea 5:15)

P: "... if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

C: I said, "LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You." (Psalm 41:4)

**Sing [♪]: Jesus, Refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended,
Gaze upon the sinner's fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended,
Thou didst bear the pain of all.**

P: *When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."* (Psalm 27:8)

C: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

P: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

C: "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:14-17)

P: Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

C: With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! (Psalm 119:10)

Sing [♪]: Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see Thee wounded, bleeding,
See Thy thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Thy sinless death hath brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Thy grace hath taught us
Calms the sinner's stormy breast.

Passion Reading: A Harmony of the Gospels

Confession of Faith: . Luther's Explanation to the Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Response:.....With TLH 145: Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

Sing [♪]: Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for Thee!
May our eyes be ever turning
To Thy cross of agony
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever
Dwell the cross, the Crucified!

Sermon: **Eyes on Jesus**

Hymn:

Offering, Prayer, Lord's Prayer (Lord's Supper on Ash Wednesday):

Benediction (by Pastor or Choir):

Closing Hymn:

NOTE: Please return bulletins for continued use during the Lenten season.

Eyes on Jesus

Misjudging Eyes:.....Mark 14:1-9

¹ After two days it was the Passover and *the Feast* of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put *Him* to death. ² But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar of the people." ³ And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured *it* on His head. ⁴ But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted?" ⁵ "For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply. ⁶ But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me." ⁷ "For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but Me you do not have always." ⁸ "She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial." ⁹ "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her."

Hymns: TLH 141; TLH 153; TLH 309

Pastor John Hein – February 26, 2020

Sleepy Eyes: Mark 14:32-42

³² Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. ³⁴ Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, *even* to death. Stay here and watch." ³⁵ He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. ³⁶ And He said, "Abba, Father, all things *are* possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You *will*." ³⁷ Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour?" ³⁸ "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak." ³⁹ Again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words. ⁴⁰ And when He returned, He found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. ⁴¹ Then He came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners." ⁴² "Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

Hymns: TLH 446; Gethsemane (tune TLH 283); TLH 653

Rev. David Schierenbeck–March 4, 2020

Betraying Eyes:..... Mark 14:10-21, 32, 41-46

¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them. ¹¹ And when they heard *it*, they were glad, and promised to give him money. So he sought how he might conveniently betray Him. ¹² Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover *lamb*, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?" ¹³ And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. ¹⁴ "Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"'" ¹⁵ "Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished *and* prepared; there make ready for us." ¹⁶ So His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found it just as He had said to them; and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷ In the evening He came with the twelve. ¹⁸ Now as they sat and ate, Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you who eats with Me will betray Me." ¹⁹ And they began to be sorrowful, and to say to Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another *said*, "Is it I?" ²⁰ He answered and said to them, "It *is* one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish." ²¹ "The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born." ...

³² Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ... ⁴¹ Then He came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners." ⁴² "Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand." ⁴³ And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. ⁴⁴ Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him and lead *Him* away safely." ⁴⁵ As soon as He had come, immediately he went up to Him and said to Him, "Rabbi, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. ⁴⁶ Then they laid their hands on Him and took Him.

Hymns: TLH 166; TLH 151:1,4-7; TLH 552:1-2,6-8

Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer – March 11, 2020

Worldly Eyes: Mark 15:1-20

¹ Immediately, in the morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council; and they bound Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate. ² Then Pilate asked Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" He answered and said to him, "It is as you say." ³ And the chief priests accused Him of many things, but He answered nothing. ⁴ Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, "Do You answer nothing? See how many things they testify against You!" ⁵ But Jesus still answered nothing, so that Pilate marveled. ⁶ Now at the feast he was accustomed to releasing one prisoner to them, whomever they requested. ⁷ And there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had committed murder in the rebellion. ⁸ Then the multitude, crying aloud, began to ask Him to do just as he had always done for them. ⁹ But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰ For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd, so that he should rather release Barabbas to them. ¹² Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³ So they cried out again, "Crucify Him!" ¹⁴ Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, "Crucify Him!" ¹⁵ So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified. ¹⁶ Then the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison. ¹⁷ And they clothed Him with purple; and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on His head, ¹⁸ and began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ Then they struck Him on the head with a reed and spat on Him; and bowing the knee, they worshiped Him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.

Hymns: TLH 158; TLH 430:1-2,5-8; TLH 558

Rev. Paul Fleischer - March 18, 2020

Denying Eyes: Mark 14:26-31, 66-72

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' ²⁸ "But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹ Peter said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be." ³⁰ Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." ³¹ But he spoke more vehemently, "If I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And they all said likewise. ... ⁶⁶ Now as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came. ⁶⁷ And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are saying." And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed. ⁶⁹ And the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by, "This is one of them." ⁷⁰ But he denied it again. And a little later those who stood by said to Peter again, "Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it." ⁷¹ Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!" ⁷² A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And when he thought about it, he wept.

Hymns: TLH 155; TLH 326; TLH 564

Rev. Daniel Fleischer - March 25, 2020

Murderous Eyes: Mark 14:1-2, 53-65

¹ After two days it was the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put Him to death. ² But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar of the people." ... ⁵³ And they led Jesus away to the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. ⁵⁴ But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. ⁵⁶ For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. ⁵⁷ Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, ⁵⁸ "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" ⁵⁹ But not even then did their testimony agree. ⁶⁰ And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" ⁶¹ But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ⁶² Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." ⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? ⁶⁴ "You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death. ⁶⁵ Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, "Prophesy!" And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

Hymns: TLH 159; TLH 152; TLH 562

Pastor Ed Starkey - April 1, 2020

