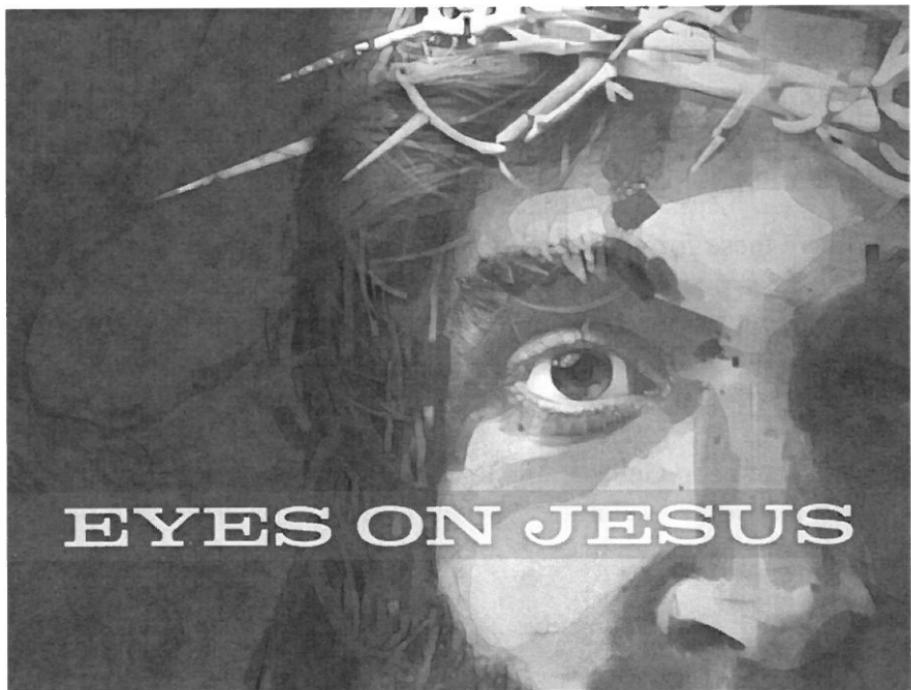


St. Johns Lutheran Church



Sleepy Eyes

Lent Midweek 2

Eyes on Jesus: Sleepy 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.

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? 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.

HYMN *Our Eyes Behold the Savior's Face* (to the tune LSB 437)

**Our eyes behold the Savior's face And yet cannot perceive
That His perspective held our grace Before we could believe.**

**Our focus flits and fails to see The One whose steadfast gaze
Propelled Him to the darkened tree Enveloped in death's haze.**

**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.**

**Our vision blurs with anxious tears As Jesus' eyelids fall To
conquer sin and all our fears And tear in two our pall.**

**Our view scans for the coming Day That evermore grows near,
When Jesus wipes our tears away And all is crystal clear.**

CONFESSiON

As we perceive how the people around Jesus were unable to truly see Him, let us confess our own failures to respond to His grace and mercy.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The disciples misjudged the good deed of the woman who anointed Jesus,
and we have failed to see that He is pleased with the loving service of His followers.

Judas betrayed Jesus out of fear and for financial gain,
and we have betrayed our weak faith in Him when making difficult decisions.

Jesus' closest disciples gave in to sleep rather than watching and praying,
and we have preferred physical comfort over spiritual turmoil and we pray that You, heavenly Father, will forgive us all our sins for Jesus' sake. Help us fix our eyes on Jesus each day until we follow Him to our eternal home, where we shall see You face to face.

SONG: Change My Heart Oh God

**Change my heart, oh God;
make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, oh God;
may I be like you. (2x)**

(बद्ली गर्नोस् मेरो हृदय, सर्दींको लागि साँच्चै
बद्ली गर्नोस् मेरो हृदय, हुन सकूँ तपाईंजस्तौ) (2)

badli garnos mero ridai,
sadhain-ko laagi saaňccai.
badli garnos mero ridai,
huna sakuň tapaaiň-jastai 2x

**You are the potter;
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.**

तपाईं कुमाले, म हुँ माटो, बनाउनोस् मलाई तपाईंको भाँडो ।

tapaaïn kumaale, ma huň maaTo,
banaaunos malaai tapaaiň-ko bhaaňD

FORGIVENESS

“From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides [the Lord], who acts for those who wait for Him” (Isaiah 64:4). Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake forgives us, therefore our sins have been forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✡ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SONG: *Turn your Eyes Upon Jesus*

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light
of His glory and grace. 3x**

READING *Mark 13:32–37*

Jesus urges us to be faithful, on guard and awake.

A reading from the 13th chapter of Mark.

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.”

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

PASSION *Mark 14:32–42*

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the 14th chapter.

And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And He said to His disciples,

Sit here while I pray.

And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And He said to them,

My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.

And going a little farther, He fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said,

Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Remove this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You will.

And He came and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter,

Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

And again He went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer Him. And 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. Rise, let us be going; see, My betrayer is at hand.

HYMN**LSB 436 *Go to Dark Gethsemane***

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

**Follow to the judgemental hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.**

**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.**

**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.**

SERMON *Sleepy Eyes***OFFERING**

HYMN *As the Deer*

**As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee**

जसरी हरणलेपानीको तुणा गदछ मेरो दयको चाहना गन आराधना मा
तपाको

jasari hariN-le paani-ko trisaNaa gardacha mero ridai-ko caahanaa
garna aaraadhnaa maatra tapaaiñ-ko

**You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee**

तपा मेरो श र मेरो ढाल तपामा गछु आ समपण मेरो दयको चाहना गन
आराधना मा तपाको

tapaaïn mero shakti ra mero Dhaal
tapaaïn-maa garchu aatmaa samarpaN mero ridai-ko caahanaa
garna aaraadhnaa maatra tapaaiñ-ko

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray

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.

Lord Jesus, and grant them relief and hope.

For all who serve the Lord as they care for others, friends and
neighbors, professionals and volunteers—let us pray to the Lord.

**Open doors of opportunity for them so that many may rejoice
together.**

For the Church around the world, as we share our faith, especially
in the face of persecution,
let us pray to the Lord.

Give them strength to persevere and grow.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!
let us pray to the Lord.

Protect and defend us until that day we see You face to face.
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.

Amen.

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, our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

प्रभुले सिकाउनुभएको प्रार्थना (मत्ती ६:९-१३)

हे हाम्रा पिता, जो स्वर्गमा बस्नुहुन्छ, तपाईंको नाउँ पवित्र होस्।
तपाईंको राज्य आओस्, तपाईंको इच्छा स्वर्गमा जस्तो छ त्यस्तै यस
पृथ्वीमा पूरा होस्। हामीलाई आज हाम्रो दैनिक भोजन दिनुहोस्। हाम्रा
अपराध क्षमा गर्नुहोस्, जसरी हामीले पनि आफ्ना अपराधीहरूलाई क्षमा
गरेका छौं। हामीलाई परीक्षामा पर्न नदिनुहोस्, तर दुष्टबाट छुटाउनुहोस्।
किनभने राज्य, पराक्रम र महिमा सदासर्वदा तपाईंकै हुन्। आमिन्।

BENEDICTION *LSB 234*

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

Amen.

HYMN *LSB 694 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower*
sts. 1, 4–5

Thee will I love, my strength, my tower;
Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.
Thee will I love with all my power,
With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.
Thee will I love, O Light Divine,
So long as life is mine.

O keep me watchful, then, and humble;
Permit me nevermore to stray.
Uphold me when my feet would stumble,
And keep me on the narrow way.
Fill all my nature with Thy light,
O Radiance strong and bright!

Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;
Thee will I love, my God and Lord,
Amid the darkest depths of sadness,
And not for hope of high reward,
For Thine own sake, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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