

GRACE EVANGELICAL-LUTHERAN CHURCH

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE – MARCH 25, 2020



MURDEROUS EYES

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.

Tonight, we take a look at the chief priests and scribes, who saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by violence. Yet, during the Passover festival, they would unwittingly bring about the sacrifice of the ultimate Passover Lamb. How *should* we view those who oppose the Gospel today? How might we rightly pray for them and for all people? And, as always, where should we keep our eyes looking?

✠ VESPERS ✠

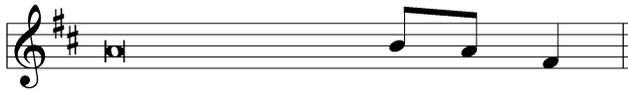
Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

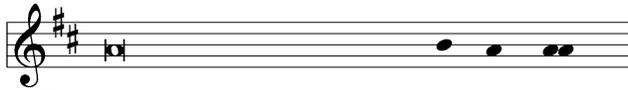
Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

PSALMODY

PSALM

Psalm 10: 1–12; antiphon: v.12

The pastor and congregation chant responsively. The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.

(Antiphon) ¹²Arise, O LORD; O God, lift | up Your hand; *
forget not the af - | flicted.

¹Why, O LORD, do You stand a - | far off? *
Why do You hide Yourself in times of | trouble?

²In arrogance the wicked hotly pur - | sue the poor; *
let them be caught in the schemes that they | have devised.

³For the wicked boasts of the desires | of his soul, *
and the one greedy for gain curses and renounc - | es the LORD.

⁴In the pride of his face the wicked does not | seek Him; *
all his thoughts are, “There | is no God.”

⁵His ways prosper at all times; Your judgments are on high, out | of his sight; *
as for all his foes, he | puffs at them.

⁶He says in his heart, “I shall | not be moved; *
throughout all generations I shall not meet ad - | versity.”

⁷His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and op - | pression; *
under his tongue are mischief and in - | iquity.

⁸He sits in ambush in the villages; in hiding places he murders the | innocent.*

His eyes stealthily watch for the | helpless;

⁹he lurks in ambush like a lion in his thicket; he lurks that he may | seize the poor; *
he seizes the poor when he draws him in- | to his net.

**¹⁰The help- | less are crushed,*
sink down, and fall | by his might.**

¹¹He says in his heart, "God has for- | gotten,*
He has hidden His face, He will never | see it."

**¹²Arise, O LORD; O God, lift | up Your hand;*
forget not the af- | flicted.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The antiphon is repeated.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN: Upon the Cross Extended

LSB 453



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
2 Come, see these things and pon - der, Your soul will
3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so
4 I caused Your grief and sigh - ing By e - vils



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
fill with won - der As blood streams from each pore.
sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?
mul - ti - ply - ing As count - less as the sands.



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
Through grief be - yond all know - ing From His great heart came
We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -
I caused the woes un - num - bered With which Your soul is



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
flow - ing Sighs well - ing from its deep - est core.
gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.
cum - bered, Your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
Your head with thorns surrounded,
You died to ransom me.
The cross for me enduring,
The crown for me securing,
You healed my wounds and set me free.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
Bind me to You forever,
I am no longer mine.
To You I gladly tender
All that my life can render
And all I have to You resign.

7 Your cross I place before me;
Its saving pow'r restore me,
Sustain me in the test.
It will, when life is ending,
Be guiding and attending
My way to Your eternal rest.

READINGS

After each reading:

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

FIRST READING

Job 24:13–17

¹³“There are those who rebel against the light, who are not acquainted with its ways, and do not stay in its paths. ¹⁴The murderer rises before it is light, that he may kill the poor and needy, and in the night he is like a thief. ¹⁵The eye of the adulterer also waits for the twilight, saying, ‘No eye will see me’; and he veils his face. ¹⁶In the dark they dig through houses; by day they shut themselves up; they do not know the light. ¹⁷For deep darkness is morning to all of them; for they are friends with the terrors of deep darkness.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:11–15

¹¹For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹²We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother’s righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

THIRD READING

Matthew 23:29–36

[¹Then Jesus said to the crowds and to His disciples,] ²⁹“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ ³¹Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ³²Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. ³³You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? ³⁴Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, ³⁵so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. ³⁶Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.”

PASSION READING

Mark 14:1, 53–65

¹It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest Him by stealth and kill Him. . . ⁵³And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against Him, saying, ⁵⁸“We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have You no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against You?” ⁶¹But He remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked Him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” ⁶²And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard His blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned Him as deserving death. ⁶⁵And some began to spit on Him and to cover His face and to strike Him, saying to Him, “Prophesy!” And the guards received Him with blows.

RESPONSORY: Lent

Psalm 51:14; Psalm 59:1; Psalm 141:8



L 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.



C Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

SERMON: Murderous Eyes

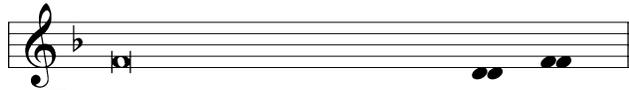
Rev. Griebenaw

CANTICLE

Stand

ANTIPHON

Psalm 141:2



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

MAGNIFICAT: The Song of Mary

Luke 1:46-55



C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



I for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



II For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



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



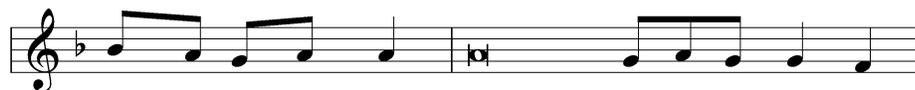
II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



imagination of their hearts. II He has cast down the



might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



I He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.



III Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. A-men.

PRAYER

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



III Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly
bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

COLLECTS

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Collect for Lent

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Collect of the Passion

P Lord Jesus Christ, You released many from their bondage to sin, death, and the devil as the healer of the nations. But when it came time to release You, the crowd chose a murderer instead. Through our co-crucifixion with You in the waters of our Baptism, may we continually be released from our sins as we confess You to be our everlasting King; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1



L Let us bless the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



G A - men.

**† SOLI DEO GLORIA †
(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)**

Please join us for all of this year's "Eyes on Jesus" Midweek Lent Services

- March 4: "Betraying Eyes" – Supper at 6:15pm; Service at 7:00pm
- March 11: "Sleepy Eyes" – Supper at 6:15pm; Service at 7:00pm
- March 18: "Denying Eyes" – Service at 7:00pm
- March 25: "Murderous Eyes" – Service at 7:00pm streaming on [facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro)
- April 1: "Worldly Eyes" – Service at 7:00pm streaming on [facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro)