

# St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

March 11, 2020

Midweek Lenten Service

## 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. 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?



**Opening Hymn**    425    *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**Opening Sentences**    *Psalm 121:1–2; Psalm 145:15–16; Psalm 17:8; Psalm 25:15; Job 19:25–27*

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.**

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

**You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye;

**hide me in the shadow of your wings,**

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

**for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

For I know that my Redeemer lives,

**and at the last he will stand upon the earth.**

And after my skin has been thus destroyed,

**yet in my flesh I shall see God,**

whom I shall see for myself,

**and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

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.

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.**

Peter failed to keep his bold promise of faithfulness to save himself,

**and we have let Sunday's strength fade when Monday morning dawned.**

Jesus fulfilled the promise of salvation, even as His opponents sought to be rid of Him,

**and He went to the cross because of our sins as well.**

Pilate wanted to keep his political position, the soldiers saw only a weak man on the cross,

**and we have let ourselves be deceived by the world's definition of success.**

Jesus' body and blood are not visible in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper,

**and we have not always looked beyond what our eyes can see in the Sacrament.**

His Father forsook Jesus on the cross as He took all the punishment we deserve,

**and we have, at times, focused on our best efforts instead of fixing our eyes on Jesus.**

Jesus' followers didn't understand before Easter that He was only resting temporarily,

**and we have not always looked beyond our physical health or longevity.**

The angel proclaimed Jesus' resurrection to the women,

**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.**

“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*). As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Epistle Reading — Romans 13:8–14**

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The 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.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup>Besides 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. <sup>12</sup>The 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. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Choral Anthem**

*7:00pm*

*Dearest Lord Jesus*

## **The Holy Gospel — Mark 13:32–37**

“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It 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. <sup>35</sup>Therefore 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—<sup>36</sup>lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsory**     *Mark 14:38a; Hebrews 5:9b; 1 Peter 1:8; adapted*

Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

**Though we have not seen Him, we love Him. Though we do not now see Him, we believe in Him and rejoice with joy.**

He became the source of eternal salvation.

**Though we have not seen Him, we love Him. Though we do not now see Him, we believe in Him and rejoice with joy.**

Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

**Though we have not seen Him, we love Him. Though we do not now see Him, we believe in Him and rejoice with joy.**

**Hymn**            **436**     *Go to Dark Gethsemane*            **(1 – 3)**

**Sermon**        **Sleepy Eyes**

**Reading of the Passion of our Lord**            *Mark 14:32-42*

This Lent, we are looking at the events of our Lord's Passion through the eyes of some of the people who witnessed it. Today, we read the words of the people who unwittingly called for Jesus' death, the sacrifice for all sin.

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup>And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup>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." <sup>37</sup>And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one

hour? <sup>38</sup>Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup>And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**      **420**      *Christ, the Life of All the Living*      (1, 3, 7)

**Offering**

**Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Hymn**      **433**      *Glory Be to Jesus*



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*Serving the Lord in Worship*

**Pastor**      Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt,  
                  St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Shawano  
**Organist**    Mrs. Lorraine Doell  
**Music**        St. Paul Adult Choir

# *Midweek Lenten Worship*

## *Eyes on Jesus*

10:00am and 7:00pm

**Wednesday, March 18 – *Denying Eyes***

Rev. John Eyer

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Stony Hill, and Zion Lutheran  
Church, Gresham

**Wednesday, March 25 – *Betraying Eyes***

Rev. Steve Conradt

St. John Lutheran Church, Hermansfort

**Wednesday, April 1 – *Worldly Eyes***

Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Shawano





Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor  
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor  
Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal  
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director  
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director  
Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532  
240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107  
Website: [www.stpaulbonduel.com](http://www.stpaulbonduel.com)

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