Good Friday Morning
April 10, 2020
9:00 a.m.
God's Eyes

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)

When the characters in the Passion narrative look at Jesus, what do they see? In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. Our Lenten series this year, based on the Gospel according to St. Mark, will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will “fix our eyes” on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

On Good Friday, we look through “God’s Eyes” to see what is happening during the Passion: the once-for-all atonement for the sin of the whole world and the justification of all sinners on Easter.

OPENING VERSICLES

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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

PSALM 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!” Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother’s womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live
forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

HYMN: ♫“O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED”

1 O sacred Head, now wounded,
   With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
   With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory,
   What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
   I joy to call Thee mine.

2 How pale Thou art with anguish,
   With sore abuse and scorn!
How doth Thy face now languish
   That once was bright as morn!
Grim death, with cruel rigor,
   Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor,
   Thy strength, in this sad strife.

3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered
   Was all for sinners’ gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression,
   But Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
   ’Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor,
   And grant to me Thy grace.

INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

wagon The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, the 19th chapter.

PASSION READING JOHNN 19:1–16

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.”
When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

**HYMN: ♫ “O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED”**  
*LSB 450 V. 4–7*

4 My Shepherd, now receive me;  
   My Guardian, own me Thine.  
Great blessings Thou didst give me,  
   O Source of gifts divine.  
Thy lips have often fed me  
   With words of truth and love;  
Thy Spirit oft hath led me  
   To heav’nly joys above.

5 What language shall I borrow  
   To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
For this Thy dying sorrow,  
   Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever!  
   And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never,  
   Outlive my love for Thee.

6 My Savior, be Thou near me  
   When death is at my door;  
Then let Thy presence cheer me,  
   Forsake me nevermore!  
When soul and body languish,  
   O leave me not alone,  
But take away mine anguish  
   By virtue of Thine own!
Be Thou my consolation,
   My shield, when I must die;
Remind me of Thy passion
   When my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,
   Upon Thy cross shall dwell,
My heart by faith enfold Thee.
   Who dieth thus dies well.

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PASSION READING

So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, “They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.
READING RESPONSE

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

RESPONSORY

P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.
P Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is put away.
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.
P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

OFFICE 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.

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


Sermon: “God’s Eyes”                     Mark 15:21–39
By Pastor David Mumm

Prayer of the Church

P Lord Jesus Christ, on this most holy night in which we remember Your Passion, grant that we may continuously fix our eyes on You, the author and perfector of our faith, who for the joys set before You endured the cross, scorning the shame and took up Your eternal throne at God’s right hand. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
We thank You for enduring flogging and death in our place. As You were crowned with thorns before Your Passion, so now may we be given the crown of life for the sake of Your merits. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

As Pilate declared You guiltless and Your Father vindicated Your innocence by raising You from the dead, grant that we may enjoy a guiltless conscience now by Your forgiveness and a verdict of innocence on Judgment Day for the sake of Your righteousness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

The inscription above Your sacred head on the cross rightly declared You the King of the Jews. May we always worship You as the King of glory and live under You in Your kingdom and serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

As You saw to the care of Your mother by entrusting her to the beloved disciple, so may we also faithfully care for those whom You have placed in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

Your thirst for our salvation led You to endure the cross for us. May we thirst for Your righteousness above all other things during our pilgrimage here below. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

By Your death, You finished all the work necessary for our justification. Grant us likewise the strength to do the good works You have prepared for us between now and the day our lives are finished. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

We praise You for the water and the Spirit and the blood with which You have blessed us in Your holy Word and Sacraments. By Baptism, Absolution, and Your Holy Supper, continue to pour out Your grace upon us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

As Your tomb was a fitting resting place for Your sacred body, may we likewise find the grave to be a place of rest until we greet You on the day of Resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You for all that You have done for us. Come quickly, that we might soon enjoy the fulfillment of all that You came to accomplish, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

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**KYRIE**

- Lord, have mercy.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- Christ, have mercy.
- **C** Christ, have mercy.
- Lord, have mercy.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray.
Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT
P Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord’s passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

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