

Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020



MAUNDY THURSDAY

EYES ON JESUS: MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

AS WE GATHER

This Lent, we have been using 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.

As we conclude these forty days of Lent, looking within ourselves as people of faith in our day, we again ask how we are like or unlike the people who saw Jesus in the flesh. Most important, as we gather for worship, we see again what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent suffering and death.

It is difficult for us to look through the eyes of the disciples when they were celebrating Passover, but it was within that context that Jesus pronounced the bread and wine to be His body and blood. Today, it is within the liturgy of the Lord's Supper that our Lord's words call us to recognize more than meets our physical eyes. What do we perceive?

PRESERVICE "I'm But a Stranger Here", "Jesus Paid It All", "Just As I Am" (arr. Stevens)
Flute - Becky Shifra; Organ/Piano - Marlene Rieck

436 GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE

sts. 1–3

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2 Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- 3 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.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

- C** who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

ABSOLUTION

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1–14

- L** When the Israelites were captive in Egypt, God instructed them to put lamb's blood on their doorposts as a visible sign for the angel of death to pass over them. So that they would always remember that night, they were to observe the Passover Seder, a meal prepared and eaten as God directed them.

The Old Testament Reading for Holy Thursday is from the 12th chapter of Exodus.

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

- L** Paul reminds us that in the Sacrament we are visibly proclaiming what onlookers miss: the Lord's death, His body and blood, until He returns.

The Epistle is from the 11th chapter of First Corinthians.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. ²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PASSION READING

Mark 14:22–25

- P** Jesus reveals that the disciples are receiving more than bread and wine at the Passover on the night in which He was betrayed.

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

As they were eating, [Jesus] took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is My body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

431 NOT ALL THE BLOOD OF BEASTS

- 1 Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.
- 2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.
- 3 My faith would lay its hand
On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand,
And there confess my sin.

- 4 My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree;
I know my guilt was there.
- 5 Believing, we rejoice
To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.

SERMON “More Than Meets the Eye”

NICENE CREED

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Jesus In Gethsemane" (Williams/Nolan) Ensemble; Flute - Becky Shifra

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

P This is the night in which our Lord was betrayed. Knowing that it was for our salvation, He willingly let the forces of evil strip Him of freedom, friends, dignity, and life itself.

All the appointments in the chancel remind us of our Lord, the light of the world, the Word of God appearing in the flesh, the covering for our sins, and so on. This evening, they are stripped away, leaving only the altar—the symbol for Christ Himself.

As the various items are removed, we speak together the words of Psalm 22, which anticipated our Lord's Passion and which He seems to have prayed while on the cross. And then we depart until our worship continues tomorrow.

PSALM

Psalm 22:1–31

¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,*

and by night, but I | find no rest.

³Yet you are | holy,*

enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

⁴In you our fathers | trusted;*

they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;*

in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,*

scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.

⁷All who see me | mock me;*

they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

⁸"He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;*

let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!"

⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*

you made me trust you at my | mother's breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,*

and from my mother's womb you have | been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,

for trouble | is near,*

and there is | none to help.

¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;*
strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;
¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,*
like a ravening and roaring | lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are | out of joint;*
my heart is like wax;
it is melted with- | in my breast;
¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;*
you lay me in the | dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;*
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my | hands and feet—
¹⁷I can count | all my bones—*
they stare and gloat | over me;
¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,*
and for my clothing they | cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!*
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,*
my precious life from the power | of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers,*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,*
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!

²⁴For 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.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;*
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.

²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!*
May your hearts live for- | ever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations
shall worship be- | fore you.

²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.

²⁹All 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 him- | self alive.

³⁰Posterity shall | serve him;*

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

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