



## **“Murderous Eyes”**

**Midweek Lent Worship  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
March 25, 2020**

# Murderous Eyes

*This Lent, we are 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.*

*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 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, then, should we view those who oppose the Gospel in our day? And how might these insights guide our prayers?*

## Welcome

### 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.  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Psalm

*Psalm 10:1-12; antiphon: v.12*

- P** Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Your hand;  
forget not the afflicted.
- C** Why, O LORD, do You stand afar off?  
Why do You hide yourself in times of trouble?
- P** In arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor;  
let them be caught in the schemes that they have devised.
- C** For the wicked boasts of the desires of his soul,  
and the one greedy for gain curses and renounces the LORD.  
In the pride of his face the wicked does not seek Him;  
all his thoughts are, "There is no God."
- P** His ways prosper at all times;  
Your judgments are on high, out of his sight;  
as for all his foes, he puffs at them.
- C** He says in his heart, "I shall not be moved;  
throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity."
- P** His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and oppression;  
under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.
- C** He sits in ambush in the villages;  
in hiding places he murders the innocent.  
His eyes stealthily watch for the helpless;
- P** he 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 into his net.
- C** The helpless are crushed,  
sink down, and fall by his might.
- P** He says in his heart, "God has forgotten,  
He has hidden His face, He will never see it."
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P** Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Your hand;  
forget not the afflicted.

## 437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And  
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done He  
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And  
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While  
 5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that  
 groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,  
 shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y  
 His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in  
 debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
 grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!  
 mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.  
 thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.  
 self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

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### First Reading

*Job 24:13–17*

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

### Reading Response

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

### Second Reading

*1 John 3:11–15*

<sup>11</sup>For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. <sup>12</sup>We 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. <sup>13</sup>Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. <sup>14</sup>We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. <sup>15</sup>Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

### Reading Response

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

### Third Reading

*Mark 14:1, 53–65*

<sup>1</sup>It 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,

<sup>53</sup>And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. <sup>54</sup>And 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. <sup>55</sup>Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. <sup>56</sup>For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. <sup>57</sup>And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, <sup>58</sup>“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.’” <sup>59</sup>Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. <sup>60</sup>And 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?” <sup>61</sup>But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” <sup>62</sup>And 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.” <sup>63</sup>And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? <sup>64</sup>You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. <sup>65</sup>And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophecy!” And the guards received him with blows.

### Reading Response

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

### Responsory (Lent)

*LSB 231*

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

### Sermon

*Murderous Eyes*

### Kyrie

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

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

## Versicles

**P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;

**C** let my cry come to You.

**P** In the day of my trouble I call upon You,

**C** for You answer me.

**P** Hide Your face from my sins,

**C** and blot out all my iniquities.

**P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**C** and renew a right spirit within me.

**P** Cast me not away from Your presence,

**C** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

**P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

**C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**P** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

**C** my lips will praise You.

**P** For You have been my help,

**C** and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

**P** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

**C** unite my heart to fear Your name.

**P** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

**C** and I will glorify Your name forever.

**P** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

**C** May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

**P** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

**C** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

**P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

**C** listen to my plea for grace.

## Collects

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, we often have gazed with murderous hatred upon our fellow man. Look upon us with favor, forgive all our sins, and replace all hatred in our hearts with love for You and our neighbor; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

**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.

**C** Amen

## 877 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven



1 God, who made the earth and heav - en, Dark - ness and light:  
2 And when morn a - gain shall call us To run life's way,  
3 Guard us wak - ing, guard us sleep - ing, And when we die,  
△ 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, throned in heav - en, All - ho - ly Son,



You the day for work have giv - en, For rest the night. May Your  
May we still, what - e'er be - fall us, Your will o - bey. From the  
May we in Your might - y keep - ing All peace - ful lie. When the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, free - ly giv - en, Blest Three in One: Grant us



an - gel guards de - fend us, Slum - ber sweet Your mer - cy send us,  
pow'r of e - vil hide us, In the nar - row path - way guide us,  
last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not for - sake us,  
grace, we now im - plore You, Till we lay our crowns be - fore You



Ho - ly dreams and hopes at - tend us All through the night.  
Nev - er be Your smile de - nied us All through the day.  
But to reign in glo - ry take us With You on high.  
And in wor - thier strains a - dore You While a - ges run.

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## Benediction

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

**C** Amen.

## Acknowledgments

Responsive Prayer 2 from Lutheran Service Book

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