

# Maundy Thursday Service of the Word

## *The Last Supper, Vigil and Watch*

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All*

*A lantern is lit*

## Prayers of Penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

‘If you love me, keep my commandments.’

‘Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.’

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love,  
and ask him to cleanse us.

*Silence is kept.*

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned

And done evil in your sight

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;

Wash us and we will be whiter than snow.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son

and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray that we may love one another as Christ has loved us.

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes:  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## Gospel Reading – John 13.1-17, 31-35

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
Love one another as I have loved you.

**All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup> Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; <sup>4</sup> so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup> After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

“Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

When Judas had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

“My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

### Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father  
through Christ the saviour of the world.

Father, on this, the night he was betrayed,  
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples’ feet.  
We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.  
Lord hear us,

**All and humble us.**

On this night he prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.

Lord hear us,

*All* **and humble us.**

On this night he prayed for those  
who were to believe in their message.  
We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord hear us,

*All* **and humble us.**

On this night he commanded his disciples to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.

We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord hear us

*All* **and humble us.**

On this night he reminded his disciples that if the world hated them  
it hated him first. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord hear us

*All* **and humble us.**

On this night he accepted the cup of death  
And looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.  
We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Lord hear us

*All* **and welcome all your children into paradise.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Reflection music – Home at Last  
(ft. The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended)**

**The Peace**

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

**All** The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**A prayer for communion in separation**

**All** Lord Jesus Christ, life-giver and good physician,  
here you meet me in our need.  
In a world marred by corruption and marked by death,  
draw me into true life.  
By your selfless sacrifice,  
help me to live for others and not myself.  
May I, who cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
embrace you more fully in my heart, mind and soul.  
Help me unite myself to you in spirit,  
so that I may be drawn closer  
to those from whom I am isolated in body.  
Through sharing your life given up in death for us all,  
may we grow together in love into a richer  
and more profound communion of life. Amen.

**The Vigil**

*Ordinarily at this point, the Church would be stripped of its adornments ready for Good Friday.*

*In this service we will move the lantern to a table facing the church and have an extended period of silence as we watch and wait with Our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane.*

*The Vigil concludes with:*

## **The Gospel of the Watch – Luke 22.31-62.**

Jesus said, “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.”

Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

Then Jesus asked them, “When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?”

“Nothing,” they answered.

He said to them, “But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don’t have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one. It is written: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors’; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment.”

The disciples said, “See, Lord, here are two swords.”

“That’s enough!” he replied.

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”

While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns."

Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in his peace...

*The lantern candle is extinguished.  
We finish our service in silence.*