





28 MARCH 2024 7.00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Maundy Thursday we remember the events of the Last Supper.

Jesus gathered with his disciples, shared a meal and when saying the normal Jewish graces over the bread and wine, he added the words "This is my body ... "

"This is my blood ... "

"Do this in remembrance of me".

The Church ever since has followed the pattern set down for us and the Eucharist has become the prime focus of our worship.



Jesus also taught the disciples about service in a dramatic way.

The task of washing feet was that of the lowest slave
but Jesus insisted on washing the feet of his disciples
to give them an example of service.

We re-enact that scene to remind ourselves of the need to serve others and to allow others to serve us.

The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum novum", the new commandment which Jesus gave at the Last Supper "to love one another, just as I have loved you".

We follow Jesus' commands to love, to serve, and to break bread together.

At the end of the service we will strip the altar and the church of all adornment as we prepare for the emptiness and sorrow of Good Friday.

The Community Gathers

Sentence for Maundy Thursday:

'I give you a new commandment,' says the Lord, 'that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.' John 13: 34

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: The Lord bless you.

Presider: Welcome to the fourth night of this Holiest of weeks,

when we remember Jesus gathered with his friends

around a table for one final meal - the Passover feast.

Tonight, many tables later, and many years later,

we gather as friends of Jesus too. So, welcome to this holy table;

welcome to you,

All: for we are Christ's body,

Christ's work in the world.

Hymn: An Upper Room

CP130 - Words: Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000

tune: O WALY WALY

1 An upper room did our Lord prepare for those He loved until the end: and His disciples still gather there, to celebrate their Risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave His own,
 to share His bread, His loving cup.
 Whatever burdens may bow us down,
 He by His Cross shall lift us up.

- And after supper He washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament.

 In Him our joy shall be made complete sent out to serve, as He was sent.
- 4 No end there is! We depart in peace.
 He loves beyond our uttermost:
 in every room in our Father's house
 He will be there, as Lord and host.

The Community Confesses

Leader: Associating with Jesus and following his cause

was often costly for the disciples.

They risked losing friends, family, and even their lives.

Sometimes they acted courageously -

they cheered for Jesus,

even when they were cautioned to keep silent;

at other times, they lost their courage,

leaving Jesus to suffer alone.

All: Sometimes, we have difficulty following Jesus ...

we fail to stand up for what we believe;

we don't protest against injustice wherever it occurs;

we let others suffer alone when they need our support.

Leader: We come seeking forgiveness

for all we have failed to be and do

as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

All: Loving and all-seeing God,

forgive us where we have failed to support one another

and to be what we claim to be.

Forgive us where we have failed to serve you; and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours we ask your pardon.

Priest:

God forgives us; be at peace. God invites us to start again, to feast with Jesus, and to serve others as He did.

All:

Thanks be to God!

Collect for Maundy Thursday:

Infinite, intimate God; this night you kneel before your friends and wash our feet. Bound together in your love, trembling, we drink your cup and watch. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen

Reading:

Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19 (ANZPB)

- I love you O Lord because you heard my voice: when I made my supplication,
- because you turned your ear to me: when I called upon your name.
- I will take up the cup of salvation: and call on the name of the Lord.
- I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all God's people.

- Grievous in the sight of the Lord: is the death of a faithful servant.
- Lord I am your servant, the child of your maidservant: you have freed me from my bonds.
- I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving: and call on the name of the Lord.
- I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all God's people,
- in the courts of the Lord's house:
 in your midst O Jerusalem.
 Whakamoemititia a Ihowā. / O praise the Lord.

Reading: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God**

Hymn: A bowl of water and a towel

Words: Martin E Leckebusch (b.1962) © Martin E Leckebusch, admin. The Jubilate Group Tune: **KINGSFOLD** (traditional English)

- A bowl of water and a towel became a sign of grace when Christ, the Lord, the Teacher, took the lowest servant's place: his work of power and parable could only be complete when he had knelt before his friends and washed their grimy feet.
- What scandalous humility!
 Our hearts recoil in dread:
 should we not kneel to worship him?
 Can he serve us instead?
 Yet answered by his firm rebuke
 our protest quickly ends unless we let him wash our feet
 we cannot be his friends!

And still, across the centuries, he presses home his claim: that we who know the things he did must learn to do the same; for we have felt love's gracious touch far more than we deserve! and with it, heard love's highest prize: the call to go and serve.

Gospel: John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter thirteen, beginning at the first verse. **Praise and glory to God.**

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ the Word.**

The Sermon

A silence for reflection may follow

Liturgy of Foot-washing:

O Eternal Wisdom,
we praise you and give you thanks,
because you laid aside your power as a garment,
and took upon you the form of a slave.
You became obedient unto death,
even on a cross;
for God chose what is weak in the world
to shame the strong,
and God chose what is low and despised in the world,
even things that are not,
to bring to nothing things that are.

Blessed is our brother Jesus, who on this night, before Passover, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, took a towel, poured water, and washed his disciples' feet, saying to them:

"If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. If I do not wash you, you have no part in me."

All: Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head.

All are welcome to participate in the foot-washing; or, if you prefer, hand-washing.

After the foot-washing is completed, we pray:

Servant God,
grant us opportunity,
give us willingness
to serve you day by day;
that what we do
and how we bear each other's burdens,
may be our sacrifice to you;
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
who gave himself for our sake.
Amen.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

We share a sign of Peace with those around us by shaking hands (or an appropriate alternative) and saying 'Peace be with you'.

As we sing the next Hymn, the altar is prepared with the bread and wine.

Hymn:

My God, now is your table spread

CP313 - Words: Philip Doddridge © Jubilate Hymns

Tune: Rockingham

- My God, now is your table spread, your cup with love still over-flows; so may your children here be fed as Christ to us his goodness shows.
- This holy feast, which Jesus makes a banquet of his flesh and blood how glad each one who comes and takes this sacred drink, this royal food!
- His gifts that richly satisfy are yet to some in vain displayed: did not for them the Saviour die may they not share the children's bread?
- My God, here let your table be a place of joy for all your guests, and may each one salvation see who now its sacred pledges tastes.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here. **God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is truly right to give you thanks, it is fitting to give you glory, most holy and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

For on this very night, he wrapped himself with a towel and, taking the place of a servant, washed his disciples' feet. He gave us a new commandment that we should love one another as he has loved us.

Knowing that his hour had come, in his great love he gave this holy meal to his disciples to be a memorial of his passion, that we might proclaim his death until he comes again, and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise.

We, too, join with the angels and archangels and say:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

On this very night before he died, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:
Drink this.
It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us.

God of the past and present,
we your people remember your Son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage from his ascension;
we look for his coming in glory
and in him we give ourselves to you.

Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup draw strength from the one true vine.

Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite. Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new; you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.

Praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere. Amen.

As Christ teaches us we pray -

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross. Christ is the bread of life.

His blood was shed for our forgiveness. Christ is risen from the dead.

Come God's people, come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

Prayer After Communion

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he had loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts.

Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We remove all the adornment from the church to prepare for the emptiness of Good Friday; when that is completed, then we sing -

Hymn: Before they leave the upper room

Words: Christopher Idle \odot Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns Ltd

Tune: **ST COLUMBA** (trad. Irish melody)

- Before they leave the upper room disciples join in singing; they cannot know the days to come nor what the night is bringing.
- So we, like them, can lift our song to praise our God and Giver; the Lord who calls us to belong has made us his for ever.
- The gifts of peace, the gifts of love we have been handling, sharing; God grant us wisdom from above to show our faith by caring.
- Although like them we cannot guess our roads through joy or sorrow, we trust the risen Christ to bless and walk with us tomorrow.

The Garden of Gethsemane

We pause for a moment of silence between each verse as each candle is extinguished

After the last supper, Jesus spoke to his disciples, saying: "I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer"

The first purple candle is extinguished

Jesus looked up to heaven and said: "Father, the hour has come".

The second purple candle is extinguished

Jesus and his disciples went out to the Mount of Olives, to a place where there was a garden, called Gethsemane.

The third purple candle is extinguished

Judas, one of Jesus' disciples, met with the authorities to plan Jesus' arrest; they gave him money to betray Jesus.

The fourth purple candle is extinguished

Jesus told his disciples to sit and wait while he prayed - "Father, not what I want, but what you want". When Jesus returned, the disciples were asleep.

The fifth purple candle is extinguished

When the soldiers arrived with weapons to arrest Jesus, he said: "This is your hour and the power of darkness".

The sixth purple candle is extinguished

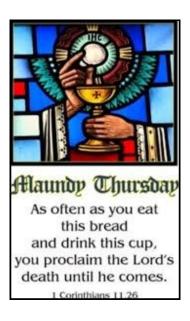
Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss. The soldiers seized Jesus, and led him away - alone.

The red 'Garden of Gethsemane' candle is extinguished.

The centre 'Christ' candle remains burning alone; it will be extinguished tomorrow, Good Friday, when Jesus dies on the cross.

All are welcome to remain in silence, and to leave the worship space quietly when ready.

There is no Blessing nor Dismissal, as all are invited to return tomorrow, Good Friday, and Easter Day for the continuation of the Liturgy.



Acknowledgements:

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All Welcome at our Parish Services

Good Friday - 29 March 2024

10.00am - Walk with the Cross, from St Matthew's Church
to St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
2.00pm - The Liturgy of the Passion, at St Matthew's Church

Holy Saturday - 30 March 2024

7.00pm - The Great Vigil of Easter with the lighting of the Paschal Candle, at St Matthew's Church

Easter Day - 31 March 2024

8.00am - Eucharist, at St Matthew's Church 10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns and Renewal of Baptism Vows, St Matthew's Church 10.00am - Eucharist with Hymns and Renewal of Baptism Vows, at St Peter's Church

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

(encompassing St Matthew's, Hastings, St Peter's, Riverslea, & St Martin's, Mayfair)

Christian communities in the heart of Hastings

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