

The Liturgy of the Last Supper Maundy Thursday

PREPARATION

At the entry of the ministers, a hymn may be sung

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all
and also with you.

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.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness, through our own
deliberate fault.**

We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.

We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;**

and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

COLLECT

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

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.
Amen.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD *Sit*

FIRST READING: *Exodus 12.1-4(5-10)11-14*

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbour, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat.

The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the door-frames of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it

over the fire - head, legs and inner parts. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it.

This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD'S Passover. On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn - both men and animals - and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD - a lasting ordinance."

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: *1 Corinthians 11.23-26*

I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Stand

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.

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

THE GOSPEL: *John 13.1-17,31 b-35*

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed

them the full extent of his love. The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. After that he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realise 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, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his 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 everyone 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. I tell you the truth, 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. Now is the Son of Man 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 all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

WASHING OF FEET

Those individuals whose foot is to be washed come up to the

front of the church and take a seat.

The congregation sit or kneel.

Silence is kept during the washing of feet.

The washing of feet may end with this prayer:

Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ taught us
that what we do for the least of our brethren we do also for him:
give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the
servant of all,
who gave up his life and died for us,
yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

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 **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 **and unite us.**

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through
his disciples' message.
We pray for the mission of your Church ...
Lord, hear us **and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love, but suffered
rejection himself.
We pray for the rejected and unloved ...
Lord, hear us **and fill us with your love.**

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 **and give us your peace.**

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

Amen.

Stand

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.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*A hymn may be sung while the gifts of the people are gathered
and presented, and the table is prepared.*

At the eucharist we are with our crucified and risen Lord.

We know that it was not only our ancestors, but we who were
redeemed

and brought forth from bondage to freedom, from mourning to
feasting.

We know that as he was with them in the upper room, so our
Lord is here with us now.

Until the kingdom of God comes, let us celebrate this feast.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe, you bring forth
bread from the earth. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe, you create the fruit
of the vine. **Blessed be God for ever.**

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Kneel or sit

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.

In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and
death.

Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels
sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

**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.

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.

With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love

and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;

he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;

he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now, that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven

where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence may be kept.

COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so 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.
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.**

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Before the distribution the president says

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The president and people receive the communion. At the
distribution the minister says to each communicant*

The body of Christ, broken for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant replies each time **Amen**, and then receives.*

AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful
sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and
blood
that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives
the fruit of your redemption,
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Stand

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus prayed to the Father, 'If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me'.

He said to his disciples, 'How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour?

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinful men. Come, let us go.'

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in his peace.

The altar(s) and surrounding area are now stripped of all linen, woodwork, candles etc. This represents the desolation of Christ abandoned. While this takes place, other members of the congregation sit and Psalm 22 vv. 1-22 is read aloud.

When the stripping and the psalm are complete, we depart in silence (unless there is a vigil taking place)

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