

Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020

We will each be washing our hands, not our feet, this year. As Christ became a servant to us by washing his disciples' feet, we act as servants to one another by making sure we are not passing along the COVID-19 virus to those we love. To prepare for this portion of the servant, please get a bowl or basin of warm water, a towel, and some antimicrobial soap ready before we begin.

Gathering Song: Open the Eyes of My Heart

Opening Collect

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive this sacrament in Spirit this night, thankful in our remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

Confession of Sin

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel (as you can) in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all

goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Please be seated

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

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table,^[a] took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,^[a] but is entirely clean. And you^[a] are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants^[a] are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him,^[a] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Sermon

The Washing of our Hands

Officiant Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the life of the Reign of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service. We all need to remember his example, but none stand more in need of this reminder than those whom the Lord has called to the ordained ministry.

Therefore, I invite you to share in the royal priesthood of Christ, in your homes, to wash one another's hands; if you are alone in your home I invite you to wash your own while bringing a loved one to your mind's eye as if you were washing their hands, remembering his admonition that what will be done for you is also to be done by you to others.

Let me be your Servant *will be sung to give us time for the washing*

Officiant and People

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples and had washed their feet, said to them, "Do you know what I, your Lord and Master, have done to you? I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done."

Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.

I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you.

Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.

By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another.

The Prayers of the People

We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, wherever God's Spirit calls us to be.

Teach us to love as Christ loved, and to forgive others as Christ forgives us.

We pray, as the people of God, for grace to take our place in Christ's ministry of reconciliation.

Draw us near, O God, that being healed we help others to become whole.

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Robert, our Bishop; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons who serve you in ministries of word and sacrament and service.

Let them be for us signs of your grace, teachers with wisdom, and leaders with vision.

We pray for those who govern the nations of this earth and those who seek to hold authority.

May the needs of the least of your children, O God, inform each decision they make.

We pray for those who suffer or grieve, who live in fear, or who already know loss and despair, especially during this time of the Corona Virus pandemic.

Bend our hearts, Lord Christ, towards strangers and those we long to know and to pray for.

We pray for those who shared life's journeys with us and who have gone ahead of us in death.

May they rest in peace, and may their examples be lights to enlighten our Path.

We pray for our own needs and blessings, saying, "Lord in your mercy."

Hear our prayer.

Let us hold our collective silence in prayer.

Celebrant brings our prayers together with A Collect for Guidance

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Song: ?

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,=

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Song: Prayer of Peace