

Lent

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

“Maundy” is a form of “mandate” from the Latin *Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos*, meaning, “A new commandment I give unto you: that you love one another, as I have loved you.”

Maundy Thursday also recalls the night on which Jesus gave his followers the meal we know as the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

At the end of the service, we prepare the chancel for the austerity of Good Friday by removing the vessels and appointments. The Vigil begins immediately with the close of this service.

We leave the church in silence, allowing the person who sits first to rest in quiet, beginning the watching and waiting with Jesus before his execution on Friday.

Ministers

Worship Leader	Laura Greathouse
Reader	Rob Koelling
Reader	Katy Lytle
Intercessor	Jessica Smith
Presider	Megan Nickles
Sound	Oscar Trevino

Gathering

This is a day of remembrance for us.

We lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Throughout the generations, we have received and handed on to others what the Lord has given to us:

**water for washing, the towel of service,
the bread of his body, the cup of the new covenant,
proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes again.**

Confession

Even among Jesus' closest disciples, not all were clean.

On this night of all nights, we confess the ways we disappoint, deny, and even betray Jesus, our Teacher and Lord.

Our confession of sin is made in the sure knowledge that Jesus is able to wash us in forgiveness and love.

Holy God,

you have called us to serve others as Christ has served us.

**We confess that we have not followed Christ's example
as fully or as often as we should.**

We turn away from people in need.

True humility eludes us,

and we hide our own vulnerability before others.

**You have commanded us to love one another
as you have loved us.**

We confess that we do not love so generously.

**Gathered on this Holy Thursday,
we confess that we are capable of denying
and betraying you and one another,
no less than the first disciples.**

Forgive us, merciful God, and cleanse us of all our sin;

Then guide our feet to walk with you always.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Forgiveness

Disciples of Christ,
having loved his own who were in the world,
Jesus loved them to the end.
Jesus knows us fully and offers love and forgiveness
unconditionally.
In gratitude for the grace given to us,
and as a witness to our faith in Christ,
we will love one another. **Amen.**

Scripture

A reading from John.

After the reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing the Water for Washing

Loving God,
as Jesus took a basin and poured the water long ago,
we bring these basins of water before you.
Bless this water for washing,
and bless the hands of your servants, too.
Wash away the stains and strains of this life, we pray,
that we may walk anew in the ways of Christ.

In true humility, we bend our lives in service to you.

Help us all, by your example, to understand more deeply
how we are meant to serve rather than be served,
for love's sake. **Amen.**

*We approach the basins each of us in turn receiving and offering
cleansing.*

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of God.

Invitation to the Table

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because it is I who invite you: it is our Lord. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

The Meal

We eat.

We remain at our table for Communion.

Eucharist

God is here.

The Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer is with us.

May our hearts be open.

Let us lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, Creator and Ruler of the Universe, to give you thanks and praise. You formed the world and called it good.

In the days of Noah, when humankind had become thoroughly evil in thought and deed, you sent the great flood to destroy all that you had made. Yet, in mercy, you caused the ark to float in safety.

Then, on dry ground, Noah and his family, and living creatures of every kind, were brought out by you to begin again.

Beginning with Abraham, you formed a people as your own and made covenant to be their God.

When we were slaves in Egypt, you heard our cries, sending Moses to lead us into freedom.

You parted the waters of the sea, leading Israel safely through on dry ground. Though you gave us the promised land and made of us a great nation, we continued to turn from your ways and betray your commands.

Yet, in love and enduring mercy, you continued to call us back to you through the words of the prophets.

We now call out to you, forever praising your steadfast love and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

O God of glory, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
He lived among us, teaching and healing, gathering the outcast and
the sinner, welcoming everyone into the way of abundant life.
By serving, he taught us how to serve. By loving us fully, he gave the
example of how we are to love one another. Even on the night of his
betrayal, he loved his own to the end.

On the night when the Lord Jesus was handed over to be killed, he
took bread and gave thanks for it. Then he divided the bread and said,
“This is my body; it is for you. Eat this to remember me.”

In the same way, after they ate, Jesus took the cup of wine. He said,
“This cup represents the new agreement from God, which begins
with my blood sacrifice. When you drink this, do it to remember
me.”

We take this bread and this wine, gifts from the earth,
and celebrate with thanksgiving the saving love of Jesus.
Accept, we pray, this offering of thanksgiving,
as we proclaim the one crucified and risen.
Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and wine,
that the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit, bind us in love to the church of every time and place.
Loving one another, may we bear witness that we are disciples of
Christ
and serve others as he served us.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Breaking Bread

The leader breaks the bread. There is silence.

Look, here is your Lord coming to you in bread and wine.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion

We receive the bread and the wine.

Prayer of Thanks

We remain seated.

Let us pray.

Holy One, in the presence of your people

we offer our heartfelt thanksgiving

for the bowl, the water, the towel;

the Word, the bread, the wine.

As we give our lives to you,

Show us how to love and serve you

And how to love and serve one another;

For the sake of Jesus Christ,

Our brother, friend, and savior.

Amen.

The Night Deepens

Some of the followers went home after the supper -- you may go home.

Some lingered -- you may linger to chat or clean up.

Some went with Jesus to the garden; some waited and watched -- you may go upstairs to the sanctuary to worship and wait.

Stripping the Altar

Members of the Altar Guild extinguish the candles and strip the Altar to the recitation of Psalm 22.

Sending

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 sinners.'

Christ was obedient unto death.

Go in his peace.

We depart in quiet. The Vigil begins.

Good Friday service is at noon tomorrow.