

Maundy Thursday Evening Service. 1st April.
Please say together words in bold.

Preparation

Welcome to our Maundy Thursday service – whether a member of All Saints or part of another community or perhaps not part of a church. Welcome.

As we enter prayer now, we pause to be still, we recentre my scattered senses upon God, we choose now to spend time with God...

Pause

O God, come to our assistance.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you. *John 13:34*

Introduction to the service



Brothers and sister, on this most holy evening, we enter into the three days of the celebration of our Lord's paschal victory. These three days mark the heart of Holy Week. In Latin these days are called the "Triduum" (which simply means "the three days"). These final days of Holy Week are the most sacred in the Christian calendar. They take us from the Last Supper, to his Crucifixion, to his Resurrection.

Maundy Thursday starts the cycle. The church community gathers – digitally, physically separated, yet in spiritual solidarity - to remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples. The word "maundy" in old English means "Mandate" or "command." There are two commands on Maundy Thursday. The first command is the Eucharist: "Do this" Jesus says, "in remembrance of me." We call to mind the night and Jesus' words about the bread and wine, an event we used to remember week in and week out in the Eucharist.

Second, is the command to love one another, as Jesus models both in washing of feet and in his own personal example of self sacrifice.

On this night we remember an evening which begins the meal fellowship together, celebrating God's deliverance of the past, it ends with a garden, a watch, the betrayal, the desertions, the darkness, yet God's eternal deliverance is being achieved...

Hymn: Crown him with many crowns

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples. We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease rather than watch with you:

Lord, forgive us.
Christ have mercy.

When we bestow a kiss of peace yet nurse enmity in our hearts:

Lord, forgive us.
Christ have mercy.

When we strike at those who hurt us rather than stretch out our hands to bless:

Lord, forgive us.
Christ have mercy.



When we deny that we know you
for fear of the world and its scorn:

Lord, forgive us.
Christ have mercy.

The Lord enrich you with his grace
And nourish you with his blessing;
The Lord defend you in trouble
and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you
from your offences.,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

PRAISE (we say together)
Immanuel

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
by the Spirit and a virgin's faith,
to the anguish and the shame of scandal
came the Saviour of the human race!
But the skies were filled
with the praise of heav'n,
shepherds listen as the angels tell
of the gift of God come down to man
at the dawning of Immanuel!

King of heaven now the friend of sinners,
humble servant in the Father's hands,
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,
joys and sorrows that I know so well;
yet His righteous steps give me hope again;
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross,
He was punished for a world's transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath,
He fights for me,
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
and with a shout
our souls are free;
death defeated by Immanuel!

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The Word of God

Psalm 43

1 Vindicate me, my God,
and plead my cause
against an unfaithful nation.
Rescue me from those who are
deceitful and wicked.

2 You are God my stronghold.
Why have you rejected me?
Why must I go about mourning,
oppressed by the enemy?

3 Send me your light and your faithful care,
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy mountain,
to the place where you dwell.

4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my joy and my delight.
I will praise you with the lyre,
O God, my God.

5 Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Saviour and my God.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Bible Reading: Leviticus 16:2-24

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: It is well



**Bible Reading – John 1:1-17
& Mark 14:32-42**

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



Homily (Short message)

Song: Light of the World)

Prayers. *(said with the following responses):*
In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the
Father, through Christ the Saviour of the World.

Lord hear us **and humble us.**
Lord hear us **and unite us.**
Lord hear us **and renew our zeal**
Lord hear us **and fill us with your love.**
Lord hear us **and give us your peace.**
Lord hear us **and welcome all your children**
into your kingdom.

Merciful Father
Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collects

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love
towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his
patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself
in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross
for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (we pray together)
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Conclusion.

The Watch –

There is no dismissal.

As congregation pray and sit in silence, we engage with what it means to watch with Christ. In the hours ahead, the Word made the Flesh, the one who had authority over all things, was stripped of respect, of friends, of his physical clothing in these hours, and finally stripped of life..

We listen to his words, and to the events, we listen to psalms, we reflect, and we keep a time of silence after the service, to be with Christ remembering his suffering...

We begin with words from Lamentations...written by Jeremiah about the city as God's judgement for their sins has fallen, which includes words about abandonment, mockery, yet hope in God.

These words cause us to reflect on the suffering of the Lord, the seriousness of sin and why the cross was needed, and his longing, that his people and all people, would return to him.

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her.
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God.**

The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate, her priests groan;
her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.
Her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.
Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look and see if there is any sorrow
like my sorrow.
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God.**

From on high he sent fire;
it went deep into my bones;
he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back;
he has left me stunned, faint all day long.
For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears;
for a comforter is far from me,
one to revive my courage;
my children are desolate,
for the enemy has prevailed.
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God.**

All who pass along the way clap their hands at
you; they hiss and wag their heads at daughter
Jerusalem;

'Is this the city that was called
the perfection of beauty, the joy of all the earth?'
The thought of my affliction and homelessness
is wormwood and gall.

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God.**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your
faithfulness.

'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'
The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God.**

It is good that one should wait quietly for the
salvation of the Lord.

It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth,
to sit alone in silence
when the Lord has imposed it,
to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
to give one's cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.

For the Lord will not reject for ever.

**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
return to the Lord your God**

*We listen to Psalms 88 & 54
and then the Gospel of the Watch,
Matt 26:30-end*

*We keep a short pause of silence – (one minute of
on screen silence)-*

Christ was obedient unto death.
Go in his peace.

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