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COMMON WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday

The Gathering

Commandments

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

With all your soul, with all your mind,

And with all your strength.

The second is this: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Invitation to Confession

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.

Confession

Lord God, we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing

and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore to us the joy of your salvation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, and cleanse you from all your sins that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Though we are apart we are drawn together by the Holy Spirit and held together in the love of God;
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

**God our Father,
Your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end
And drank the cup prepared for him:
May we who share his table watch with him through
the night of suffering and be faithful. Amen.**

Old Testament reading

The Old Testament reading is written in Exodus 12:1-4

The Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, 2 "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 3 Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb[a] for his family, one for each household. 4 If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading is written in John 13:1-17
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

13 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2 The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

10 Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you."

11 For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean.

12 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. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Sermon

As Jesus washes his disciple's feet, he knows them all by name but, I don't suppose that many of us could remember all twelve. Some of us may be able to recall a few like Peter, James, and John, perhaps Andrew; but probably not all twelve. Strangely, the most famous of them all is probably Judas Iscariot, the one who was about to betray Jesus. But he was there, and Jesus did wash his feet. Jesus loved Judas:

Jesus loves each one of us, he knows us all by name, he will never forget us no matter what we choose to do.

And, he knows that we will all let him down. The question is, will we humble ourselves before Jesus and ask for forgiveness? Will we let him wash away our sins?

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

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

The Eucharist

The Lord is here.

His 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 give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
Holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give thee thanks
because, having loved his own who were in the world,
he loved them to the end;
and on the night before he suffered,
sitting at table with his disciples,

he instituted these holy mysteries,
that we, redeemed by his death
and restored to life by his resurrection,
might be partakers of his divine nature.

Therefore, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

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

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

[Great is the mystery of faith:]

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

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

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**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 forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Sharing of Communion

Post Communion Collect

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 forever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ,
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be
a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
To deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
And the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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.