



APRIL, 2 2026
MAUNDY THURSDAY



St Mary's Church, Alderbury — All-season High Altar frontal designed by Sophie, fabricated by Anna Diamond, and dedicated May 2022. Coordinating stoles by J&M Sewing.

WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD

Worship Service – April 2, 2026 – Maundy Thursday

Prelude *Jesu, Priceless Treasure* J.S. Bach

+ Call to Worship

One: This night we remember that Jesus was going to wash their feet.

Many: This night we remember that after some protest, they obliged him.

One: He spoke the truth to them of Alpha and Omega....masters and servants...one is not greater than the other.

Many: Let us worship God this night. Amen.

**+ Please
rise in
body or
in spirit.**

+ Hymn #495 *Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior, Thee* ADORO TE DEVOTE

Confession & Aspiration:

God of Bread and Cup, we linger this night even as we might be tempted to dine and dash. How we long to dine in order to refine our sensibilities and awareness. How we long to move out thoughtfully with focus and intention. How we long to host you in this important hour when Alpha and Omega cycles for the sake of your divine flow. We offer our confession and our longing into the strength of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Exodus 12:1-3, 11-14 (pew Bible OT pg. 58)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Ave Verum* Elgar

Epistle Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:23-26 (pew Bible NT pg.374)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Alpha and Omega – Sacrificing Something but Not Just Anything Leslie King, D. Min

+ Affirmation of Faith

We believe in beginnings that are endings and endings that are beginnings. Whether reading or relating, awareness begins, and previous paradigms perish. Jesus' growth model cycles us through beginnings and endings. We arrive as we are, yet cannot help being affected. We respond into beginnings, and endings, and the butterfly effect ripples out to our community. Scripture and sacrament anchor us like roots as our Creator God draws us forward to stretch. Gaining and losing are real. The Spirit comforts us in our beginnings and endings. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

Washing of Hands

Sacrament of Holy Communion: *O Man, Lament Thy Grievous Fall* J.S. Bach

Prayer After Communion

Special Music:

Wondrous Love

Jamie Jackson, Native Flute; Becky Ward, Organ

Stripping of Chancel and Draping of Cross

+ Hymn #490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

+ Dismissal with Blessing

One: We have received the challenge of bowl and towel.

Many: We have received the strength of bread and cup.

One: As God in Christ has loved us,

Many: May we now love the neighbor, stranger, enemy, and friend.

One: We depart in silence, full of anticipation.

The congregation is invited to depart in silence.

**THANKS TO OUR OUR COMMUNION SERVERS.
JEREMY MERCER, REBECCA MELTON, CAROLYN MAXWELL,
DAVE REAGAN, AND KRIS OLSON**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY FLOWS INTO GOOD FRIDAY
TOMORROW EVENING AT 6:00 PM.**

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday (or Holy Thursday) is the day when we remember the Last Supper. It is the Thursday immediately preceding Easter. "Maundy" comes from either the French word "Mande" or the Latin word "mandatum," both meaning "command" or "mandate", and has reference to the washing of the Apostles' feet by Christ on Thursday evening before His death, and the institution of the Lord's Supper.

During the Roman Catholic liturgy, the ceremony of the washing of the feet is sometimes performed. The celebrant washes the feet of 12 people to commemorate Christ's washing of his disciples' feet. In England, a custom survives of giving alms (called 'Maundy pennies') to the poor; this act recalls an earlier practice in which the sovereign washed the feet of the poor on Maundy Thursday. In most European countries, the day is known as Holy Thursday.

The Lord's Supper, which we celebrate tonight, is a way of remembering the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. This meal was an observance of the Passover. The Passover meal is a remembrance of the way God saved God's people, Israel, when they were enslaved in Egypt. Jesus Christ's journey continues this exodus and delivers us from a weighted and isolated life.

Following the observance of the Lord's Supper, all of the paraments and communion ware will be removed from the front of the church and a black pall placed over the cross. This symbolizes the desolation of a world where our Lord has been taken from us.