

A Service for the Worship of God MAUNDY THURSDAY April 1, 2021 Seven o'clock in the Evening



MAUNDY is an English form of the Latin word for commandment.
The overarching theme of Maundy Thursday is Jesus' new
commandment, given on this the eve of his death, to "love one another
even as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

Maundy Thursday is the night of the final meal that Jesus had with his disciples: the night in which he washed his disciples' feet, saying after he had done so:

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

Maundy Thursday is the night in which Jesus not only washed his disciples' feet and later lifted up the bread and the wine and established a new sacrament in his name - it is also the night of Gethsemane - the night of anguish of soul as he faced his betrayal and fast approaching death.

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Please use silence and meditation to begin our worship together.

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment,

that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you,

you also should love one another.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,

If you have love for one another."



This beautiful English paraphrase of a German meditation on Christ's Passion bears testimony to the unobtrusive poetic skill and musical sensitivity of a future Poet Laureate of England. The associated chorale is no less carefully crafted and rewards singing in parts.

CALL TO CONFESSION

In all humility and faith in the grace of God, let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.

(A brief silence for individual reflection)

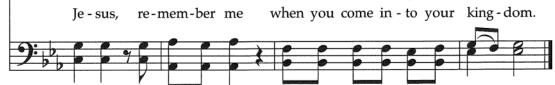
THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you.





This chant-like setting, intended for repeated singing, comes from the ecumenical monastic community in Taizé, France. Based on the prayer of the penitent thief crucified with Jesus (Luke 23:42), this text is a poignant expression of the desire to be present with Christ in glory.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1981 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1981 REMEMBER ME Irregular

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to Communion

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Our Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You sent your Son Jesus for the healing of the world that we might learn to follow his life of humility and share in the joy of his glorious resurrection. And so we praise you as we say:

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.

On this night before he died for us Jesus gathered his friends for a meal. He gave thanks and broke bread and told us his body would be destroyed. He poured out the cups of salvation that is his blood shed for each of us. We remember our Lord and his charge to remember each other.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, Rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come and save us.

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. Unite us with Christ in his suffering that we may also know his glory, and strengthen us to reveal your justice, until all are made whole again in your kingdom without end.

Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts,
As we forgive our debtors;

Words of Institution

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER



This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824 HAMBURG

(alternate tune: ROCKINGHAM, 224)



Easter Triduum

During the Easter Triduum, from sunset on Thursday to sunset Sunday, we celebrate the saving events of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection. The events of each day should be remembered. In the early church, the Paschal Mystery was celebrated in an extraordinary liturgy which began on Saturday night and continued until dawn on Easter morning. This was known as the great Paschal (Easter) Vigil and was the most holy and joyful night of the entire Christian year, for it proclaimed the whole of salvation history and Christ's saving work – for it was the night of Christ's passing from death to life.

By the fourth century, the forty days leading into Easter were used in preparation and instruction for baptism. In the "Homilies" of Saint Basil, he declares: "What time is more appropriate for Baptism than this day of the Pasch? It is the Memorial Day of the resurrection. Baptism implants in us the seed of the resurrection." The Triduum is symbolic of the passage from slavery to freedom, from sin to salvation, from death to life. The day of Pasch marks the beginning of the Sunday of all Sundays, the Lord's Day above all others.

Please Join UsEaster Sunday worship at 11:00 AM Sunday