



Thursday, April 9, 2020

Maundy Thursday

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil— all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church,
God never wearies of forgiving sin
and giving the peace of reconciliation.
On this night
let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor,
and enter the celebration of the great Three Days
reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PSALM

Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
**²for the LORD has given ¹ear to me
whenever ¹I called.**
¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹done for me?
**¹³I will lift the cup ¹of salvation
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.**
¹⁴I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people.
**¹⁵Precious in your ¹sight, O LORD,
is the death ¹of your servants.**
¹⁶O LORD, truly I ¹am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me ¹from my bonds.
**¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice ¹of thanksgiving
and call upon the name ¹of the LORD.**
¹⁸I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people,
**¹⁹in the courts of ¹the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, ¹O Jerusalem.**

GOSPEL

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One

who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ^{31b}"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor David Rowe

See website link to view or read sermon.

HYMN

Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service

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See video link on website.

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens

your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.

- 4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984. Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God of love, unite your church in its commitment to humble service. Make us your faithful disciples. Speak words of truth and grace through us. Encourage us in self-giving acts of kindness. Let us love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, bring comfort and healing to those infected by the coronavirus, strength and courage to those who care for them, and peace and safety to all for whom household isolation aggravates mental illness, addiction, or abuse. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, you give us a new commandment, to have love for one another. We give thanks, and pray for organizations that respond to disasters, and for agencies that offer relief and humanitarian aid to people, in need, especially national and local governments, hospitals, laboratories, responders, food pantries, nursing homes, and grocery stores. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, give ear to all who call upon you for any need in body, mind or spirit. Provide for those who do not have enough to eat, those who are unemployed or underemployed, and those who rely on the generosity of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, you invite us to your table of mercy. Heal all divisions between members of this assembly. As we await the opportunity to gather again at your table, inspire us to make your love known to all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, glorify your servants who walked by faith in this life and who now feast with you. Inspire us by the sacrifice of those who were imprisoned, persecuted, or martyred for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. **Amen.**

PEACE

Call, text, or email a friend to pass the peace.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament
you strengthen us with the saving power
of your suffering, death, and resurrection.
May this sacrament of your body and blood
so work in us that the fruits of your redemption
will show forth in the way we live,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN

Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed

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See video link on website.

- 1 Lord, who the night you were betrayed did pray
that all your church might be forever one:
help us at ev'ry eucharist to say
with willing heart and soul, "Your will be done."
Oh, may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.
- 2 For all your church on earth, we intercede;
Lord, make our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us all closer, each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to you, O Prince of peace;
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

- 3 And hear our prayer for wand'ers from your fold;
restore them, too, Good Shepherd of the sheep,
back to the faith your saints confessed of old,
and to the church still pledged that faith to keep.
Soon may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.
- 4 So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all your church above—
one with your saints in one unbroken peace,
one with your saints in one unbounded love;
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in unity.

Text: William H. Turton, 1856-1938, alt.

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