



Welcome to
All Saints
Kings Heath
Your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham

MAUNDY THURSDAY 2020

Remembering the Last Supper and the Washing of Feet

We imagine gathering,
as Jesus and his disciples gathered

Preparation:

- *If alone, we are invited to remember Jesus washing the disciples' feet by anointing or washing our own feet or hands. Far from indulgent, in current circumstances this is a tender and vital act of self-care. **Have ready whatever will comfort you**, perhaps an ointment to soothe skin troubled by the extra washing we have been required to do. Perhaps it is a perfume, echoing Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet that may have inspired him to do what we remember tonight. Sometimes, after a long walk, I thank my feet out loud as I rub them or wash them. Consider how yours have carried you all your life, so modestly hidden, and **choose how you will express such care for yourself when the time comes in the service.***
- *Have ready a cloth for a small table, a candle and some bread and wine, or another portion of food and drink.*
- *It is now our habit to remember each Thursday evening those who anoint and touch and care through health services. Do not hesitate to incorporate into this service the noisy applause in the street at 8pm for all essential workers.*
- *Through the service, you might like to read silently the plain text and say aloud the words in bold.*

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Calling to mind all in our fellowship, and all whom we miss we say:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Matthew 26:17-19

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples." ' So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

HYMN 38 An upper room *during which, lay out a cloth, light a candle and place some bread and wine, or another portion of food and drink, on a table*

St Matthew continues:

When it was evening, Jesus took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

CONFESSION

We keep Silence for a moment, remembering the ways in which we, our nation, and humanity have let Jesus down.

O Christ, you said: "woe to the one who betrays me," and yet you shared your meal with him and washed his feet. As we feel your judgement, help us also to hear your invitation to treat would-be enemies as friends.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, when your church craves attention, admiration and greatness we make our worst mistakes. Embolden us instead to kneel and serve.

Christ, have mercy.

O Christ, whose disciples were distressed and argumentative at your table, heal our tendency to fixate on reputation instead of virtue. Liberate us to delight in others doing well.

Lord, have mercy.

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days.

Amen.

We sing or listen to **THE GLORIA**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth,
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

We pray **THE COLLECT**

God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and

unite us in his love; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We hear scriptures Jesus heard and scripture about Jesus

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Exodus 12:1-14**

We sing **I come with joy**

THE GOSPEL READING **John 13.1-17, 31b-35**

REFLECTION from **John Parkin**

We remember Jesus washing their feet

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.' (Luke 22:25-26)

- *If you are sharing in in this service on your own, now is the time for a simple act of self-care, anointing your feet or your hands, or whatever you have chosen to do: a sign of Christ's care for you, his presence with you, his commissioning your feet and hands for his ministry, a sign that others recognise Christ in you.*
- *If you are sharing this service with others in your household, now is the time to wash one another's feet, or anoint hands, signs of our mutual service, his presence amongst us, and of our recognising Christ in each other, his commissioning us all for his ministry.*

While we do so we play/sing **Dignity and Grace**

In our seclusion, we remember Jesus' promise:

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

We hold in our hearts those with whom we wish we could share the peace now. Give a little time to see who comes to mind.

We say: **The Peace of the Lord be with us all.**

HYMN **O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray**

We remember that Jesus said, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you." (Luke 22:15)

At the Vicarage, David and his household will celebrate Holy Communion, a map of the parish in view beside the table.

Taste the bread and wine or other food you have set aside at home, and hear the echo of Communion.

Music for Holy Communion can be found here:

Sanctus & Benedictus - Murray
Agnus Dei - Murray
For communion - 946 Ubi caritas

St Matthew remembers:

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.' When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray: **Our Father in heaven...**

We clear away the things decorating our table and the items from the hand/foot washing.

We leave a candle burning, imagining Jesus praying alone in Gethsemane.

We sing: **Stay here and keep watch with me.
Watch and pray.
Watch and pray.**

Here are readings to dwell on for a while, each in our own time

GOSPEL OF THE WATCH

St Matthew continues

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.'

PRAYER

We bring to Gethsemane all who see good work in disarray,
all whose business is threatened and workforce scattered by
the faceless, disruptive force of a virus;

all who are afraid of suffering to come;

all in leadership wondering if they have what it takes;

all who put themselves at risk in order to be there for someone suffering in body, mind or spirit;

all who do not know what to say or do to relieve another's pain.

Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My

Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

PRAYER

We bring to Gethsemane all who are exhausted from caring;

all who feel guilty for not being able to be there with someone they care for;

any living in fear of the authorities, and anyone startled and frightened by the police arriving at night.

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here

to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

PRAYER

We bring to Gethsemane any who feign care; any so lost in a maze of self-deception and self-justification that they cannot see the glaring contradictions in their life;

all who live with the pain of betrayal by someone they had counted a friend;

all who live with the pain of having let down someone they admire;

those who carry a blade thinking it will make them safe, only to put themselves at greater risk;

any needing the tender touch of anointing but receiving instead the brutal touch of violence;

any countries threatening others without looking into the confusion and corruption of their own heart.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none,

though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days."' The high priest stood up and said, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.'

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.' Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?'

PRAYER

We bring to Gethsemane interrogators and those interrogated; lawyers and the accused; all caught up in drawn out legal cases now delayed;

all political prisoners and victims of religious persecution and anyone cursed with false accusation;

any abusing positions of power tempted to add insult to injury; those threatening others and not seeing the ruination of their own soul.

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus

had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.'
And he went out and wept bitterly.

PRAYER

We bring to Gethsemane any with deep spiritual malaise which takes delight in someone else being in trouble, or who turn disappointment with their own lot into prejudice against another group;

ourselves when anger with another is a projection of fury and disappointment with ourselves;

any for whom the dawning of a new day brings, not hope, but regret, shame and despair.

We have brought many people, many human needs to Jesus in his Gethsemane and discover that he came to be with us in ours. We guiltily sang his words "Stay here and keep watch with me," but now understand, he has come to stay here and keep watch with us.

We close praying for all who will keep watch tonight for others' well-being, in healthcare and maintaining essential services.

Jesus, keep watch with them.

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