

Maundy Thursday 2020

(Print and fold long ways)

To engage with over dinner in your home

You will need 30 silver coins, a bowl/basket, Bread, Wine, Juice or Water, cups for each person

The Easter story has already begun and tonight we gather, remembering and experiencing the events of the night before Jesus was crucified. There was tension in the air, this night, as Jesus and the disciples gathered, something bigger was going on. There was an awkward shift in emotions; eyes were working the room, somewhat suspicious, somewhat confused, and somewhat naive to the events that would unfold. We are there, they are there, Jesus is there.

Reflect/Share one thing from today that has impacted you in some way

Pray silently or with those present: *"For your presence in all things, God of this moment we /I give you thanks."*

Luke 22:7-12 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. 8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." 9 "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. 10 He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, 11 and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' 12 He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there."

Prayer: There are those who would betray you, Jesus, and give you up into grief and pain to accomplish selfishly sinful plans. There are those who would sit at your table, Jesus, eat of your bounty, enjoy your gifts, and then sell those gifts into the service of darkness. *But surely, not I, Lord?*

Pour 30 pieces into bowl

Reading **John 13: 2-9**

² The evening meal was being served, and later Jesus 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!"

Reflection: what does it mean to 'wash hands' today? Peter asked Jesus to wash his hands. I have never noticed that in the reading before. Maybe over this Easter weekend when you do your 20sec washing of hands you could recall this moment in the Easter drama.

A prayer before washing feet/hands

As I take up my hands to wash them and reassure my heart, I pray for healing and wholeness for the whole world. I remember that every life is unique and of infinite value: from those living on the most remote part of the globe to those in our cities to our neighbors and family members. Let me use my hands for good to help bring love and compassion to others. "Let us lift up our hearts and hands to the Eternal." (Lam 3:41)

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Go to the place you wash your hands and recall the moment Jesus washed Peter's feet.
(return and continue eating and talking)



We have entered into the drama of this night. We are observers of what the twelve disciples may have experienced on that night when Jesus was taken and they would be alone for the first time in years. This is the night of darkness before the world changed. Not only for the disciples, but also for all of us. Jesus would bless the bread and the cup, beginning the journey that would lead to the cross; saving us through his suffering.

Jesus, as you sat at that last supper, you knew that amongst your close friends there were those who would share your table and yet, betray you, deny you, doubt you. On this Maundy Thursday, Jesus forgive us our doubts, our denials, our betrayals, our failures, and help us to live a life that is worthy of those who break bread in your name. Amen.

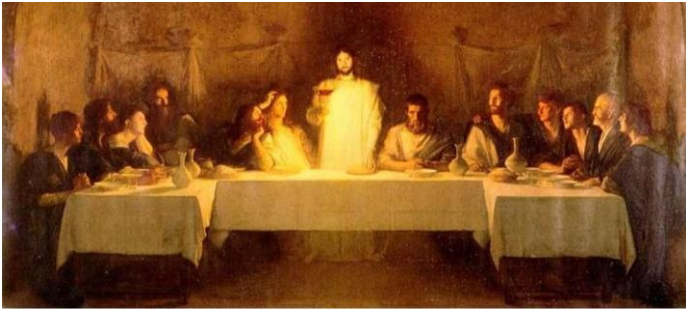
Mark 14:22-25

²² While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the ^[g] covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

So we do not approach your table lightly, but in the spirit of faith, because you bid us draw near. O God, by your Word and Spirit bless and sanctify this bread and this wine: Amen

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us,
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**Break the bread in a way you feel comfortable and pour the 'wine' and share together
(individual cups)**



The shadow of BETRAYAL. Mark 14:32; 41-44

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray... and keep awake." (Twice he returned to them and found them asleep) He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand." Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."

Prayer darkness

The darkness asks us questions. You are there, And we do not see. You invite us into the night. The stillness. The loneliness. We cannot see our shadows. We step tentatively. We are afraid. We are filled with ghosts of guilt and shame. Why have you brought us here? What miracle will you perform for us? The darkness sighs around us, dense with your unseen presence, close to our breathing

Reading of affirmation and faith John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.



Step quietly into this night, for it is indeed a night of deep sorrow. Shadows loom and will grow tall as the dawn of a new day reveals its true nature. Promises are broken. Fear a prelude to death grows strong. We leave this place to seek rest, full knowing what lies ahead. We have celebrated and broken bread, we have watched and we've been fed. But now it is time to leave, for here tonight, there is nothing more to be done, except to pray.

