



Maundy Thursday

Worship@Home April 9, 2020



Jesus poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet.
John 13.5

Before beginning this service, you are invited to gather a candle, bible, towel, and a bowl or bucket of warm soapy water that you can fit your feet in.

Light the candle

Prayers of thanks and gratitude

Holy One - Sacred Three
Composer of the universe
we gather to you on this night
– on the eve of the cross.

We praise you that you come to us in Jesus
in humble love that washes away our pride
In humble love that cleanses us for love

We praise you that in Spirit
You are as close as our breathing
May we encounter you afresh this night.

Even though we are all apart,
we gather together with your
world-wide church
in Jesus' name, Amen.

Reading from Sacred Scripture

Psalm 116.1-2

I love the Lord, because the Lord has heard my voice and my supplications. Because the Lord has inclined ear to me, Therefore I will call on the Lord as long as I live.

As you read this account in John, take time first to settle, and to imagine the scene unfolding. You may like to rest your feet in the warm water as you read...

What do you see, hear and smell? Imagine, what does this room look like? Where are you in the scene? How do the others react when Jesus takes a towel? How do you react?

John 13.1-17

For these words of faith and Jesus the Word Thanks be to God

As you stay with this reading, imagining and prayerfully reflecting on the questions below, you may like to allow your feet to stay in the warm water.

Reflection Questions

What strikes you in this reading?
Who do you most relate to?
What would you do, if Jesus sought to wash your feet?
How do we let Jesus serve us - as we serve others?

Where do you see the church offering servant leadership?
Where do you see the church failing to show servant leadership and love?

What is this reading speaking to you tonight about Jesus and about our living as disciples?





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The term Maundy Thursday comes from a shortened version of the Latin word Mandatum which means 'commandment'. This is a reference to Jesus saying, after washing the disciples feet "I give you a new commandment that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13.34)

You may wish to dry your feet off and sing:

Song: A New Commandment
(699 Together in Song) www.youtube.com/watch?v=41FZZygGWdU

Prayers for the earth

An invitation to pray for those on our hearts: those who are ill, the nurses, doctors, cleaners, policy makers, Christians – and all church leaders – that we may be shaped by Jesus' radical, humble servant love so that the world will taste God's kindness.



The (servant) Lord's prayer

Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love Maker
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all.
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by all peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace
and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread that we need for today,
feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another
forgive us
and help us to forgive.
In times of temptation and test,
strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power
that is
Love, now and forever, amen.

Alternate Lord's Prayer by Jim Cotter

Final Blessing

An invitation to bless yourself and those around you:

The blessing of the Source of all be yours,
the blessing of the (servant) Lord be yours,
the blessing of perfect Spirit be yours,
the blessing of the Three be pouring for you,
mildly and generously,
mildly and generously.

Blessing prayer adapted from the Carmina Gadelica

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