



Maundy Thursday 2020

Welcome

For this Service you will need a small table, a candle, some bread or biscuits and a Cross [you can make your own if you don't have one, or use a necklace, or just draw one]. We will use this for our meditation.

Opening Responses

We gather before God

All **In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world**

We come to God, who has come to us in Jesus.

All **and who walks with us the road of our world's suffering.**

We come with our faith and with our doubts:

All **We come with our homes and with our fears.**

We come as we are, because it is God who invites us,

All **and God has promised never to turn us away.**

God our Father, at the end of our Lenten journey we enter into the three holy days of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection. May we glory in the cross of Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection.

Prayer of confession

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: 'If you love me keep my commandments. Unless I wash you, you have no part in me'.

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love, and ask him to cleanse us.

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Have mercy on us, O God in your great goodness; according to the abundance of your compassion blot out our offences.

Lord have mercy

All **Lord have mercy**

Against you only we have sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ have mercy

All **Christ have mercy**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean, wash us and we will be whiter than snow.

Lord have mercy

All **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

Collect

God our Father,
your son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end
and drank the cup prepared for him:
may we who share his table
watch with him through the night of suffering and be faithful
Amen

Reflection – setting the table

As we reflect, we remember Christ's call into Christian community as it is meant to be. We set the table with symbols which speak to us of our faith, the gifts Christ gives to us, and our calling to live as his disciples:

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

(A candle is placed on the table)

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread which I give for the life of the world is my body."

(Bread is placed on the table)

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another."

(A cross is placed on the table)

As we reflect at this table, let us hear the story of the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples.

Reading: John 13:1-17

Jesus is again made known – as the prisoner, the wounded one, the sick, the homeless, the lonely, the frightened, the aged, the child who asks for our help and our friendship.

All **As the scattered grain was made one in bread, so you, Lord, have made us all one in yourself. As you washed the feet of your disciples, so wash us that others may be fed. As we share your work, may we share your power. As we share your life, may we share your peace.**

All The peace of the Lord be always with you,
and also with you.

Taize

Intercessions

In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father, through Christ the saviour of the world.

Father, on this, the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.

We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

All **Lord hear us and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.

We pray for the unity of your Church.

All Lord hear us and unite us.

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through his disciples' message.

We pray for the mission of your church.

All Lord hear us and renew our zeal

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love, but suffered rejection himself.

We pray for the rejected and unloved.

All Lord hear us and fill us with your love

On this night, he reminded them that if the world hated them it hated him first.

We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

All Lord hear us and give us your peace.

On this night, he accepted the cup of death and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.

We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

All Lord hear us and welcome all your children into paradise.

The Lord's prayer

**All 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,
the power and the glory,**

for ever and ever.

Amen.

Closing

The day is ended – the cross is waiting – let us follow Jesus to the garden

Taize

The Watch meditation

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people!

How like a widow she has become,

she that was great among the nations!

She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks;

among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her.

All

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals;

all her gates are desolate, her priests groan;

her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.

Her children have gone away, captives before the foe.

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?

Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

All

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

From on high he sent fire; it went deep into my bones;

he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back;

he has left me stunned, faint all day long.

For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears;

for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage;

my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed.

All

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

All who pass along the way clap their hands at you;

they hiss and wag their heads at daughter Jerusalem;

‘Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty,

the joy of all the earth?’

The thought of my affliction and homelessness is wormwood and gall.

All **Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'
The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

All **Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.
It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth,
to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it,
to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope),
to give one's cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults.
For the Lord will not reject for ever.

All **Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

The Gospel of the Watch is read: Luke 22:31-62

Dismissal

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed to the Father, 'If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me.' He said to his disciples, 'How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour? The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners.'
Christ was obedient unto death. Stay and watch with him, or go in his peace.

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