

Maundy Thursday

LITURGICAL NOTES

Rubrics

This liturgy is celebrated once on this day, normally in the evening. The name 'Maundy' derives from the Latin for 'new commandment' – mandatum novum – which Christ (according to John) gave his disciples at the 'Last Supper'.

Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the Great Three Days. This holiest time of the year contains differing emphases, but it is, nevertheless, a continuum.

This is a rich liturgy. The Gospel speaks of love and service, which are also expressed in the ceremony of the foot washing. The New Testament reading records the institution of the Lord's Supper. The evening setting highlights the nearness of the betrayal and approaching passion of Jesus. The liturgical colour may be passion red, sackcloth or plain white.

When the foot washing ceremony is observed, it is appropriate that it take place after the Gospel or after the sermon. The presider may wash the feet of members of the congregation, and they may also wash one another's feet. In the latter case it is advisable to have more than one bowl, jug, and towel. Hymns or anthems may be sung, or silence may be kept. The choice of candidates be done ahead of time

At the end of the service, a silent Watch or Prayer Vigil may be observed until the Good Friday liturgy. There is no blessing as the time of prayer continues till the next day. To emphasise the corporate nature of this time of silent prayer, a shorter vigil may be kept with numbers of people together. Each church may choose a manner in which they are comfortable or used to.

Maundy Thursday Service

Hymn: Lead Me to Calvary (any appropriate song)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you John 13:34

The presider says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

All: whose mercy endures forever.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

All: And also with you.

A minister may then address the people in these or similar words.

Tonight, we begin the Great Three Days of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection, the journey from the supper table to the cross, from the cross to Easter dawn. We are followers in his way, exploring his truth, encountering his life.

This is the night when Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would betray him. This is the night when Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room. This is the night when Christ our Lord gave us this holy feast, that as we break the bread and drink the cup we may here proclaim his holy sacrifice, and come at the last to his table in heaven.

This is the night when Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, showing us how to honour and serve one another in love. This is the night for watching and prayer. We give ourselves freely to the demands of these great days, confident that those who die in Christ will surely live with him.

A minister introduces the Confession.

Our Lord Jesus Christ says, if you love me, keep my commandments (John 14:15), Unless I wash you, you have no part with me. (John 13:8)

God shows great love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith.

CONFESSION

**Have mercy on us, O God,
In your great goodness;
According to the abundance of your compassion
Blot out our offences.
Lord, have mercy.**

**Against you only have we sinned
And done what is evil in your sight.
Christ, have mercy.**

**Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;
Wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.
Lord, have mercy.**

ABSOLUTION

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.

The Collect

Let us pray.

**Loving God,
your Son Jesus Christ has left us this meal
of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood.
May we who celebrate this sign of his great love
show in our lives the fruits of his redemption;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading: **Exodus 12:1-14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning;

anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 116:1, 10-end (To say alternately) (to stand or sit)

1I love the LORD, he heard my voice;
heard my cry of mercy.

**10 I trusted the LORD I said,
“I am greatly afflicted”;**

11 in my alarm I said,
“Everyone is a liar.”

**12 shall I return to the LORD
all his goodness to me?**

13I will lift up the cup of salvation
call on the name the LORD.

**14 I will fulfill my vows the LORD
the presence of all his people.**

15 in the sight the LORD
the death of his faithful servants.

**16I am your servant, LORD;
serve you just as my mother did;
you have freed me from my chains.**

17 I will sacrifice a thank offering to you
call on the name of the LORD.

**18 I will fulfil my vows the LORD
the presence of all his people,**

19 the courts the house of the LORD —
your midst, Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen

New Testament Reading: **1 Corinthians 11: 23-26**

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Hymn: Go to Dark Gethsemane (any appropriate song)

Gospel Reading: **John 13:1-17, 31-35**

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

Now 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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." After 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? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, on this, the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet. As we commit ourselves to following his example of love and service, teach us humility.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one. As we grieve for the divisions in the church, unite us.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

On this night, Jesus prayed for those who would come to believe through the disciples' message. As we take up the mission of the church, renew our zeal.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

On this night, Jesus commanded his friends to love, but he suffered rejection himself. As we open our hearts to the rejected and the unloved, fill us with your love.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

On this night, Jesus reminded his people that, if the world hated them, it had hated him first. As we face our own fears, we pray for those who are persecuted for their faith; give us your peace.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

On this night, Jesus loved his friends to the very end. As we open our hearts to all who face darkness tonight, we pray for the sick, those who mourn, those trapped by violence, addiction, or pain: give healing and hope.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, these are the prayers of your Church.

We offer them trusting and hoping in you. Hear and help us, challenge and change us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When a church does not have the washing of the feet, the service shall move to offertory hymn

The washing of the feet takes place before the prayers.

(Those approved, kindly take your seat at the Chancel)

(A hymn and music will be played) **(any appropriate song)**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

(All may exchange a greeting of peace.)

Hymn: O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus! (any appropriate song)

The blessing of the Oil is only done when the bishop is present. You may move to the prayer of Thanksgiving. There are different sets of prayer for the blessing of the Oil.

Blessing of the Oil

Prayer for the offertory and elements

At the Eucharist we are with our
crucified and risen Lord.

We know that it was not only our ancestors,
but we who were redeemed
and brought forth from bondage to freedom,
from mourning to feasting.

We know that as he was with them in the supper room
so our Lord is here with us now.

Until the kingdom of God comes

Let us celebrate this feast.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe,
you bring forth bread from the earth.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe,
you create the fruit of the vine.

Blessed be God for ever.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendor, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right... (to use the prayer in the Prayer book)

...for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises... ... (to use the prayer in the Prayer book)

Take, eat; this is my body...

...Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

Therefore, heavenly Father... ... (to use the prayer in the Prayer book)

...Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray.

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your Name,

Your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory

**are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The following may be said or sung.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The presider breaks the bread, and says,

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies it bears much fruit.

If we have died with him, we shall live with him.

Come let us take this Holy Sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion is administered

Silence may be kept.

AFTER COMMUNION

The presider may say

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them. We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all.

Hymn: And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love . (to use the prayer in the Prayer book)

The Stripping of the Sanctuary

The holy table and the sanctuary may be stripped bare. During the stripping, Psalm 88 may be used, or another psalm, or these or other verses from Lamentations may be used. The Lectionary will give you additional readings

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.

Psalm 22:1-31 will be said.

To the leader: according to The Deer of the Dawn.

A Psalm of David.

(To say alternately)

- [1] My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the
words of my groaning?
- [2] **O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.**
- [3] Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- [4] **In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**
- [5] To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
- [6] **But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.**
- [7] All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me,
they shake their heads;
- [8] **"Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver--
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"**
- [9] Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.
- [10] **On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**
- [11] Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.
- [12] **Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**
- [13] they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
- [14] **I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;**

- my heart is like wax;**
it is melted within my breast;
- [15] my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
- [16] **For dogs are all around me;**
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;
- [17] I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
- [18] **they divide my clothes among themselves,**
and for my clothing they cast lots.
- [19] But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
- [20] **Deliver my soul from the sword,**
my life from the power of the dog!
- [21] Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
- [22] **I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;**
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
- [23] You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- [24] **For he did not despise or abhor**
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.
- [25] From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- [26] **The poor shall eat and be satisfied;**
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!
- [27] All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.
- [28] **For dominion belongs to the Lord,**
and he rules over the nations.
- [29] To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.
- [30] **Posterity will serve him;**
future generations will be told about the Lord,
- [31] and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

The linen, ornaments, and hangings will be removed.

The altar lights will be dimmed at this point.

Psalm 42:1-11

To the leader. A Maskil of the Korahites.

- [1] As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
- [2] My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and behold
the face of God?**
- [3] My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"
- [4] These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.**
- [5] Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.
- [6] My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.**
- [7] Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.
- [8] By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.**
- [9] I say to God, my rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?"
- [10] As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"**
- [11] Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

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 sinful men.

Come, let us go.' Christ was obedient unto death. Go in his peace.

Ministers and people depart in silence without a blessing or dismissal. When a Vigil of prayer is to be kept it begins now.

Please leave quietly. Or gather in groups and continue with intercessory prayers till midnight.

