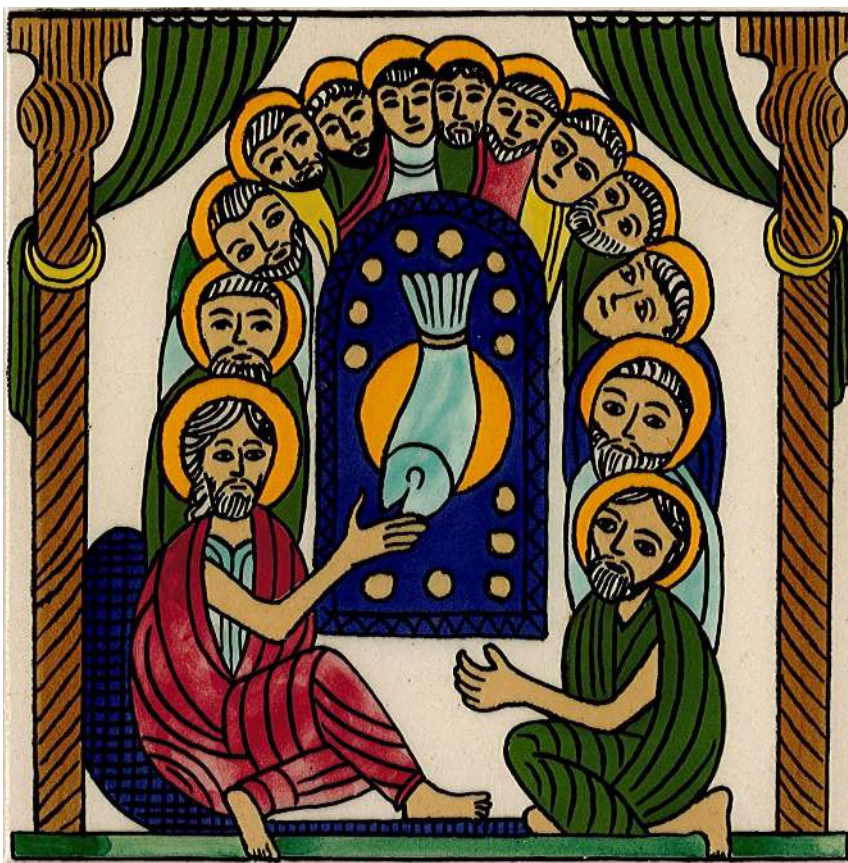


ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH MAUNDY THURSDAY



AGAPE FEAST
APRIL 9, 2020

THE WORD OF GOD

GATHERING HYMN

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i bi est.
live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

GREETING AND INVITATION *adapted from the prayer of Mary Luti*

Leader Dear Friends in Christ, peace be with you on this holy night. It is a night of love – for on this night Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: to love each other as he loved them. It is a night of communion – for on this night Jesus gave not only a commandment, but also a sign: bread and wine broken and poured, to remember him. It is a night of loving service – for on this night Jesus gave us not only a commandment, not only a sign, but also an example: on his knees with basin and towel, washing feet. It is also a night of betrayal – for on this night a man Jesus loved sold him for money, and brought soldiers to seize and bind him as he prayed.

This night is joyous, fierce, tender, terrible. We begin in light, with memories and stories, friends and feasting. We end in shadows, with fear of what's to come. We begin as the friends of Jesus did long ago: together, as one. We end as they did: scattered in the dark. We begin as they did: singing of love and deliverance. We end as they did: without a single sound. Friends, be at peace on this holy night. Enter it with open hearts.

THE BLESSING OF THE MEAL

Leader Welcome to this meal, a meal of self-giving love, fellowship, and grace.
People *We come to share our food and our lives.*

Leader We come to break bread together, and open ourselves to each other.
People *We come to express our faith and our thanks.*

Leader May God bless this food and this fellowship.
People *As we share our food, we give thanks for this abundance, and we remember those who do not have enough.*

Leader May God give us a hunger for justice and a determination to serve those in need. *Amen.*

SETTING THE TABLE

Leader On the table in the midst of this community with whom Christ is present we set symbols to remind us of His promises to us:

People *A candle, to remind us of the way, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."*

Leader Bread and wine, symbols to remind us of God's love, "I am the bread of life. The bread that I shall give is myself for the life of the world."

People *God, we welcome your presence with us. May the food and companionship we share nourish our bodies, hearts, and minds. And may our spirits be refreshed. As we live in the light of your presence be with us now and always. Amen.*

FOOD IS SERVED. STORIES ARE SHARED.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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.

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE MEDITATION

The Rev. Amanda Knouse

The words of the Rev. Andrew Hege reminded me that Jesus' love expressed on Maundy Thursday is a little different than the love we may be accustomed to...

Love one another.
Love one another and bear each other's burdens.
Love one another and feel one another's pains.
Love one another and allow the possibility of being hurt or taken advantage of.
Love one another and open yourself to being understood in your depths.
Love one another and make amends where you have wronged the other.
Love one another and sit with the one who cries, who hungers, who hurts.

Maundy Thursday love is not easy because it is the type of genuine love that does not come cheaply. This love comes at a cost, at a great expense. It will cost you the walls you've spent your entire life building to protect yourself. It will cost you your pride and your desire to be self-sufficient. It will cost you your time and your energy and your resources. At the end of the day, it will cost you your heart and the space within it.

Friends – love anyway.

THE COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

HYMN

Stay with me, re-main here with me, watch and
Blei-bet hier und wa-chet mit mir, wa-chet und

pray, be-tet, watch and pray, be-tet.
wa-chet und be-tet.

DISMISSAL

I GIVE YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT: LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. BY THIS SHALL THE WORLD KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES: THAT YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY WEEK

All services can be found on our YouTube and Facebook pages. These are unprecedented times and certainly not how we expected to enter into Holy Week, however we will worship. We will gather in heart and mind and we will walk together through the week that still has the power to change the world.

PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 5

10:00 AM - Liturgy of the Palms and the Passion



MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 9

7:00 PM - An Agape Feast

Join us at your own dinner table for prayers, a blessing, and the gift of community

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 10

On the hour beginning at 9:00 AM - The Seven Last Words of Christ

7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross



HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 11

We wait...

EASTER DAY - APRIL 12

10:00 AM - Holy Eucharist with Music

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OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
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The Rev. Matt MacDougall, Associate Rector
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VESTRY

Debbie Carter (Senior Warden), Webb Cook (Junior Warden), Sue Heilman,
Tim Huber, Molly Moyer, Nicole Pham, Heather Trenary,
John Gouveia, Joe Way, Annie Lattanzio Hale

STAFF

Equilla Curry, Parish Administrator
Gina Keiser, Financial Secretary
Paul Reese, Minister of Music
Richard Kuhn, Sexton
Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, Nursery and Security

PRIESTS AND CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

Canon William F. Honaman, DHL
The Rev. William Archer
The Rev. Faith D'Urbano
The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard