

Maunday Thursday

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

Light the candle against the growing darkness.

Light and peace in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION AND PARDON

My sisters and brothers,

Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant.

Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

Most merciful God,

We, your Church, confess

that often our spirit has not been that of Christ.

Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us,

Where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips

and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him,

forgive us, we pray;

and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ.

But Christ suffered and died for us,

was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us,

and continues to intercede for us.

Believe the good news:

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

GOSPEL WORD

Read aloud John 13:1-17, 31-35:

Before the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully. Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and

was returning to God. So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing.

When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later." "No!" Peter said. "You will never wash my feet!" Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't have a place with me." Simon Peter said, "Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!" Jesus responded, "Those who have bathed need only to have their feet washed, because they are completely clean. You disciples are clean, but not every one of you." He knew who would betray him. That's why he said, "Not every one of you is clean."

After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them."

When Judas was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Human One has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify the Human One in himself and will glorify him immediately. Little children, I'm with you for a little while longer. You will look for me—but, just as I told the Jewish leaders, I also tell you now—'Where I'm going, you can't come.'

I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

BLESSING THE MEAL:

**Be present at our table, Lord;
Be here and everywhere adored;
Thy creatures bless and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.**

WASHING OUR HANDS

PART 2: SHARING THE MEAL

Passing the Bread

Feasting Together

As you feast together, reflect on the Gospel reading:

When was a time you chose love this week?

When was a time you found it difficult to love this week?

When was a time you felt loved by someone this week?

Prayer after the Meal

**For these, and all of your mercies, God,
may your holy name be blessed and praised;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

Say together, as you are able:

**May Jesus Christ,
who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross,
keep you and strengthen you this night and forever. Amen.**