

# Maundy Thursday



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serve  
others.

And since I  
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John 13:14

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Mural by 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class.  
Teachers: Terri Mullins & Kimberly Paul

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**April 9, 2020**

**Maundy Thursday**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (please light a candle(s) at home in preparation of worship)

### WELCOME

Henri Nouwen in his book *A Spirituality of Waiting* says this: *Passion is a kind of waiting—waiting for what other people are going to do. Jesus went to Jerusalem to announce the good news to the people of that city. And Jesus knew that he was going to put a choice before them: Will you be my disciple, or will you be my executioner? There is no middle ground here. Jesus went to Jerusalem to put people in a situation where they had to say “Yes” or “No.” That is the great drama of Jesus’ passion: he had to wait upon how people were going to respond. How would they come? To betray him or follow him? In a way, his agony is not simply the agony of approaching death. It is also the agony of having to wait.*

Friends, as we wait and as we choose, let us worship God.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On this day, Christ, the Lamb of God, gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

**People: On this day, Christ gathered his disciples in the upper room.**

Leader: On this day, Jesus took a towel and washed his disciples’ feet, commanding us to serve one another in the same manner.

**People:** On this day, Christ, our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may proclaim his holy sacrifice.

**Leader:** On this day, Jesus calls us to live the resurrected life: healed, whole, and renewed.

**People:** We worship with thanksgiving and praise.

HYMN

*An Upper Room with Evening Lamps*

HOLY WEEK

An Upper Room with Evening Lamps 274

The musical score is written in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of three flats (B-flat major). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are arranged in four columns corresponding to the four vocal parts.

**System 1:**  
 Chords: Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Cm, Eb/G, Ab, Bb, Cm7, Bb7/D, Eb.  
 Lyrics: 1 An up - per room with eve - ning lamps a - shine,  
 2 We see by faith up - on the cross dis - played  
 3 Dead for our sins, yet to reign - ing now a - bove,  
 4 So send us out, love and serve and praise,

**System 2:**  
 Chords: Ab/C, Eb/Bb, Ab, Eb, Fm7, Bb/D, Eb, F7/C, Bb.  
 Lyrics: the his twelve dis - ci - ples, and the ta - ble spread;  
 his bod - y bro - ken, and his blood out - poured;  
 still to our hearts we find his pres - ence given;  
 filled with his Spir - it, as the Mas - ter said:

**System 3:**  
 Chords: Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Cm, Eb/G, Ab, Ab+/C, C7, Fm.  
 Lyrics: now in our turn Christ bids us pour the wine,  
 in that dread robe of the maj - es - ty ar - rayed  
 take for our - selves the pledg - es of his love,  
 love, joy and peace the wine of all our days,

**System 4:**  
 Chords: Bb/Ab, Eb/G, Bb7/F, Eb, Bb, Cm, Fm/Ab, Eb/Bb, Bb7, Eb.  
 Lyrics: and in re - mem - brance bless and break the bread.  
 we gaze in wor - ship on the dy - ing Lord.  
 fore - taste and to - ken of that feast - ing in heaven.  
 Christ and his life our true and liv - ing bread.

## SERVICE OF CONFESSION

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**People: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us confess our sins in silence and ask God for the forgiveness we need.

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

**Loving God, you taught us compassion. You took a servant's role and knelt at the feet of your friends. You gave us a meal to remind us of your life-giving love. You called us to love one another, too. Forgive us, Lord, for not practicing the compassion you modeled. Forgive us, Lord, for wanting to be served rather than to serve. Forgive us, Lord, for not loving as you called us to love. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: This is the message we have heard from Christ and proclaim to you: God is light.

**People: If we walk in the light as Christ is in the light, we have communion with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.**

ANTHEM (YouTube search *For the Love of It All* by Peter, Paul & Mary)

*In the beginning, as life became form.  
The oceans heaved, the mountains were cleaved,  
The firmament stormed.  
At the center of being, immensely small  
Was the Master of Now, don't ask me how  
The Love of it all.*

*And the seasons were many.  
Creation was new.  
And there on a tree (deceptively free)  
A forbidden fruit.  
Upon leaving the garden, after the fall,  
One thing was clear; we chose not to hear  
The Love of it all.*

*But for the Love of it all  
I would go anywhere.  
To the ends of the earth,  
What is it worth if Love would be there?  
Walking the thin line between fear and call,  
One learns to bend and finally depend  
On the Love of it all.*

*“Irresistible targets”  
I heard someone say.  
They were speaking of angels  
Who are so courageous day after day:  
Gunned down on a highway (as we often recall)  
I hear a scream; I have a dream  
The Love of it all.*

*Still the world is in labor,  
She groans in travail.  
She cries with the eagle, the dolphin,  
She sighs in the song of the whale.  
While the heart of her people  
Prays at the wall.  
A Spirit inside is preparing the bride  
For the Love of it all.*

*For the Love of it all,  
Like the stars and the sun,  
We are hearts on the rise,  
Separate eyes, with a vision of one.  
No valley too deep, no mountain too tall:  
We can turn back the night with merely the light  
From the Love of it all.*

*And so we are marching to “give peace a chance.”  
Brother and sister as one in this mystery dance.  
Long ago on a hilltop where the curious crawl  
A man on a cross paid the ultimate cost  
For the Love of it all.*

*For the Love of it all  
We are gathered by grace;  
We have followed our hearts  
To take up our parts  
In this time and place.  
Hands for the harvest,  
Hear the centuries call:  
It is still not too late to come celebrate  
The Love of it all.*

*“Eli, eli, lamana shabakthani”  
For the Love of it all.*

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 14:12-25

(from Eugene Peterson's The Message)

On the first of the Days of Unleavened Bread, the day they prepare the Passover sacrifice, his disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and make preparations so you can eat the Passover meal?”

Jesus directed two of his disciples, “Go into the city. A man carrying a water jug will meet you. Follow him. Ask the owner of whichever house he enters, ‘The Teacher wants to know, Where is my guest room where I

can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?’ He will show you a spacious second-story room, swept and ready. Prepare for us there.”

The disciples left, came to the city, found everything just as he had told them, and prepared the Passover meal.

After sunset he came with the Twelve. As they were at the supper table eating, Jesus said, “I have something hard but important to say to you: One of you is going to hand me over to the conspirators, one who at this moment is eating with me.” Stunned, they started asking, one after another, “It isn’t me, is it?”

He said, “It’s one of the Twelve, one who eats with me out of the same bowl. In one sense, it turns out that the Son of Man is entering into a way of treachery well-marked by the Scriptures—no surprises here. In another sense, the man who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man—better never to have been born than do this!”

In the course of their meal, having taken and blessed the bread, he broke it and gave it to them. Then he said, Take, this is my body. Taking the chalice, he gave it to them, thanking God, and they all drank from it. He said, This is my blood, God’s new covenant, Poured out for many people. I’ll not be drinking wine again until the new day when I drink it in the kingdom of God.”

## RESPONSE:

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: God is still speaking. Thanks be to God!**

## Questions for the Gospel Reading:

- 1. What words or phrases caught your attention in this text?**
- 2. What might God be saying to you in this passage?**
- 3. What is the good news of this story?**

## MEDITATION

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Narayanan Krishnan had a good future ahead of him. He was from the educated class in India—the top caste in society. He trained to be a chef and soon landed a top-notch job at a tourist resort.



Mr. Krishnan was happy with his life, but he often wondered if there was something MORE he should be doing. Specifically, he began to ask, “What is the purpose of my life?”

The answer to his question came in the guise of an elderly homeless man on the street outside the resort. One day, as Mr. Krishnan walked by, he observed the man eating the waste from the streets. At that moment, he KNEW his purpose.

He quit his job and began to cook three meals a day for 400 homeless, mentally destitute, and elderly people in his neighborhood. Using his skills as a chef, he prepares nourishing meals with familiar spices and flavors for society’s untouchables.

When you get right down to it, that is exactly what Maundy Thursday is all about—Christ inviting us to his table of grace. And, like the untouchables of India, we are a ragtag group ourselves. We sin. We betray loved ones. We harm others by what we say and what we leave unsaid. We support systems of oppression. We harbor grudges and refuse to forgive.

Yet, despite it all, we are invited to Christ’s table. We are nourished by his body and his blood—his very life poured out for us. Christ does not check our ID cards at the door. He does not double check the book of life to make sure we have been good people this week. He merely invites us to come in and dine on the lavish meal of his love and grace.

Narayanan Krishnan does more than feed hungry people on the streets of India. He also offers them the nourishment of love. He takes time to cut the hair of the homeless and shave the faces of the elderly men. He bathes those who are unable to bath themselves and offers the healing gift of human touch. As Mr. Krishnan has been known to say, “Food is one part of what I do. Love is the other part.”

On this holy night, Christ, too, nourishes us with love. In our Gospel reading we hear the story of Jesus sharing the Passover Meal with his disciples, knowing that one of them would betray him that very night.



Tonight, we will share in the Lord's Supper, we will eat of the bread and drink of the cup of Christ. What's more, we will also offer prayers of healing for one another. For this we have learned in the past few weeks: we are in need of Christ's nourishing love. We are in need of his healing—healing of our bodies, healing from our doubts and fears, healing from the ruptures and brokenness in our land and in our world.

Now my guess is that for many of you, this might be difficult. We are not used to thinking of ourselves in need of healing and we rarely ever actually ask for prayers for ourselves. We somehow think we are being selfish when we express our vulnerabilities and our needs.

But here is the deal, on this holy night, Christ makes himself vulnerable to us—he offers his body, his blood and his service that we might be nourished, healed, and renewed. On this very night of his betrayal, Christ does not run nor hide. Instead he gives us a shining example of Christian service.

On this night of betrayal and desertion, Mr. Krishnan's story reminds us that, at the very heart of our lives, is God's call to care for one another. We find our meaning, our purpose, and our destiny in a life of discipleship and service.

We are fed by Christ in order that we might feed others. Our feet are washed by Jesus in order that we might wash the feet of our sisters and brothers. Christ offers us healing and hope and new life—on this holy night and always. In turn, we offer our lives for the healing of the nations and the healing of injuries and harm in our own homes and neighborhoods.

So how do we begin? We begin by making ourselves vulnerable—by allowing Christ to wash us clean and being unafraid to ask for healing.

As Christ so lived, let us go and do the same. Amen.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: The psalmist said: Behold, God is my helper; God is the upholder of my life. With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O God, for it is good. For you have delivered me from every trouble. Let us come before the Lord our God

with our tithes and our offerings. You are encouraged to donate to the ongoing ministries of St. Paul Church either online or by sending in your donation by mail. Give as generously as God has been generous to you.

**DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

**Bless these gifts, Giver of Life, of our wealth, time, and energy. Accept as well the gift of our hearts given to peace and unity, that as the cross looms large in our congregational life we may take up our own cross and follow you. May our lives become our offering for the work of your kingdom. Amen.**

**COMMUNION HYMN      *Let Us Break Bread Together***

**Let Us Break Bread Together      699**

*Unison*  
N.C.    Eb    Cm    Ab    Fm7/Bb    Bb7    Eb    Ab/Eb    Eb    Eb/G

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; let us break  
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; let us drink  
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; let us praise

*Refrain*  
Bb7/F    Cm7    F    F7    Bb    Cm7/Bb    Bb    N.C.    Eb    Gm    C7    C/E

bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
 wine to - geth - er on our knees.      When I fall on my knees, with my  
 God to - geth - er on our knees.

Fm    Fm/Eb    Bb7/D    Ab/C    Bb7    Eb    Cm    Fm7    Fm7/Bb    Bb7    Eb    Ab    Eb

face to the ris - ing sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AND HEALING (adapted from Litanies and Other Prayers For the Revised Common Lectionary, Year B by Phyllis Cole and Everett Tilson)

Pastor: Tonight we are reminded of the power and peril of friendship. Tonight is a night of love and betrayal—of promises made and promises broken. Tonight we gather around this table to share in Christ's love for us—as well as to face our own betrayals and brokenness.

**People: Like the disciples, tonight we stand in need of prayer, in need of forgiveness, in need of healing, in need of grace. As we gather around this table, our prayers search for words beyond our own understanding. Our prayers grope for the Spirit within who intercedes with sighs too deep for words. Our prayers bring us to this table of grace—that together we might know wholeness out of brokenness and promises kept through pouring out of one's all.**

Pastor: As we partake of the cup and the loaf, we are reminded of our unity we have in the name of Christ Jesus. As we seek healing in our lives, we look to Christ as our Physician. For it is through his love for us that we come to know God's gifts of grace and healing. Let us pray.

**People: O merciful God, tonight we take our place at the table with Christ Jesus. When he predicts our betrayal, let us examine not our neighbors but ourselves. When he predicts our falling away, let us remember that the crow of the cock is more predictable than any of us. As we contemplate his imminent arrest, let us feel not only the pain of our great loss but the shame of our tragic guilt. Accept us at this table, Holy God, that we might live anew—washed clean in the sorrow of this night and the day to come. Lay your hands gently upon us, heal us, and strengthen us to do your will and sing your praises. All this we pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:**

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took bread, and after offering thanks, he gave it to the disciples saying, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Bread: Take and eat. This is the body of Christ broken for you and for all.

Cup: Take and drink. This is the blood of Christ poured out for the forgiveness of sins.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison): O Jesus, our ever-living Teacher, Friend and Master: we have heard your new command to love one another; we have seen your example of how to serve humbly—you, their leader and Lord, bent down to wash your disciples’ feet. We have received the bread and wine, signs of your presence and power within us. By your Spirit, prompt us now, we pray, to do as you command, to imitate your willingness to serve, and to live as your children, feed and nourished our journey with Jesus. Move our hearts to love you more and more. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF HEALING** from the Iona Community in Scotland: *Spirit of the living God, present with us now, enter you: body, mind, and spirit, and heal you of all that harms you, in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

(If you are at home with others, you are invited to wash each other’s hands, while speaking the Healing Prayer from Iona. If you are home alone, you are invited to wash your own hands, praying this prayer.)

## They'll Know We Are Christians 595

*Unison* N.C. Fm Eb Fm Cm7 Fm Eb Fm Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.  
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.  
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.  
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

Fm Bbm Ab Bbm Gm7(b5) Fm Eb Fm Fm

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.  
 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.  
 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.  
 And all praise to Christ Je - sus, his on - ly Son.

Fm Bbm Ab Bbm Gm7(b5) Fm Eb Fm Fm

And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.  
 And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
 And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.  
 And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

*Refrain* N.C. Db Ab Db Fm Cm Fm Bbm

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love.

Bbm7 Fm Ab Bbm Csus Cm Fm

Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

## \*BENEDICTION

Benediction: So may the blessing of the God who calls the people out of Egypt call us out from our comfort and our safety to embrace a journey of challenge and risk.

May the blessing of the Son who kneels and washes our feet call us out from our comfort and our safety to embrace and serve those we meet on the journey.

May the blessing of the Spirit who weaves dreams of a new community call us out from our comfort and our safety to provide welcome and hospitality to strangers as well as friends.

(Benediction written by Rev. Dr. Clare McBeath and Rev. Tim Presswood. Posted on the Church of Scotland's **Starters for Sunday** website <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk>)





**APRIL 9-11, 2020**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**HOLY SATURDAY**



*Jesus died that we may have eternal life.*

## **HOLY WEEK BIBLE READINGS**

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Holy Week observances.

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>John 13:1-17, 31b-35</b>	<b>Jesus gives a new commandment</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>John 18:1–19:42</b>	<b>The suffering and death of Jesus</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Matthew 27:57-66</b>	<b>The burial of Jesus</b>

## **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR HOLY WEEK**

Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them [the soldiers], “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground. **John 18:4-6 (NRSV)**

## **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

### **A Prayer for Holy Week:**

Almighty God, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, you stretched out your arms in love for us. Through your suffering we are healed. Open our hearts to receive your love. Amen.

### **Mealttime Prayer:**

Merciful God, through suffering and death you heal us. Through this food you restore us daily. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Amen.

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the crucified Christ shine his face upon you and save you through his steadfast love. (Psalm 31:16)





**APRIL 9-11, 2020**

## **HYMN FOR HOLY WEEK**

*Go to Dark Gethsemane*



taking  
faith  
home

## **HOLY WEEK MILESTONES**



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

## **CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Describe feelings a person has when a pet or a loved one dies.
- If you saw something dangerous happening, how would you respond?
- Why was Jesus' death at the hands of human powers necessary?

## **DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* John 18:1–19:42.

Read the passage from the Bible or use a storybook Bible to tell the story of Jesus' death. Jesus' death was no accident. Jesus knew what was to happen to him, but the powerful nature of the event was in God's hands, not human hands. When Jesus said "I am he," that is, I am Jesus of Nazareth, the one the soldiers wanted to arrest, they—not Jesus—fell. It has always been hard for us to grasp that God in Christ suffered a painful and humiliating death, one reserved for the most despised by those in power. Yet, true power, the power to forgive and to give eternal life remains God's greatest gift to humanity. Nothing stops God's purposes for life, reconciliation, and eternal life. Jesus' concern for the sacredness of daily life is even shown from the cross when he tells his mother that she will not be abandoned but be given one of the disciples (likely John) as a new son to care for her (John 19:26-27). What are some ways that God blesses your life today?

*Pray:* **Holy and gracious God, we thank you for suffering and dying for us that we may receive eternal life through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **SERVICE**



Jesus gave his followers an example of how to live and how to love when he washed their feet before the last supper. This was the act of a servant. In what ways are you a servant?

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Light the six purple candles on the Lenten Candle Cross on Maundy Thursday. Tell the story about Jesus washing the feet of the disciples and the last supper in your own words. When you finish telling the story, blow each candle out and say this prayer: **Dear Lord Jesus, help us to honor your commandment to love one another as you have loved us. We ask this in your precious name, amen.**

On Good Friday cover the Lenten Candle Cross with a black cloth and be silent for a moment.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)