PARISH OF ESHER Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

A Service for Maundy Thursday



'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

1 Corinthians 11.24b

Opening Organ Voluntary

Chorale Prelude, BWV 639: 'Ich ruf zu dir' (I call to you, Lord Jesus Christ) J S Bach (1685-1750)

The Gathering

The minister greets the people.

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

The Greeting

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Hymn

An Upper Room did our Lord prepare

An Upper Room did our Lord prepare for those he loved until the end: and his disciples still gather there to celebrate their Risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own: to share his bread, his loving cup. Whatever burdens may bow us down, he by his Cross shall lift us up.

And after Supper he washed their feet for service, too, is sacrament.

In him our joy shall be made complete – sent out to serve, as he was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace, he loves beyond the uttermost: in every room in our Father's house he will be there as Lord and Host.

(tune O Waly Waly, A&M 165)

Prayers of Penitence

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.

Silence is kept.

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

Kyrie eleison

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

Christe eleison

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

Kyrie eleison

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 that we may love one another as Christ has loved us.

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

Either one or two readings from scripture precede the Gospel reading, and a psalm, canticle or hymn may follow the first 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.

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

John 13.1-17, 31b-35

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.

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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

After the Sermon an anthem may be sung, or a piece of music played.

Taizé Chant

Ubi caritas

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

Where charity and love are, there God is.

Prayers of Intercession

The minister introduces the prayers:

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.

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.

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.

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.
Lord, hear us
and fill us with your love.

On this night, he reminded his disciples that if the world hated them it hated him first. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. 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. Lord, hear us and welcome all your children into paradise.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Preparation of the Table

let us celebrate this feast.

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed on it, while a piece of music is played.

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 upper room so our Lord is here with us now.

Until the kingdom of God comes

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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.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; and on the night before he suffered, sitting at table with his disciples, he instituted these holy mysteries, that we, redeemed by his death and restored to life by his resurrection, might be partakers of his divine nature.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, that is, this very night, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

In line with the Church of England guidance on Spiritual Communion at this time of the Coronavirus those unable to receive the consecrated bread and wine today may wish to use this prayer at home:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Amen.

During the distribution, music may be sung or played.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries
of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives
the fruit of your redemption,
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymn

The Servant King

From heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled; not to be served but to serve, and give your life that we might live. This is our God, the Servant King, he calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears, my heavy load he chose to bear; his heart with sorrow was torn, 'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come, see his hands and his feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice, hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone him; each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving.

(tune Servant King, A&M 489)

The Stripping of the Sanctuary

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

The 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. Go in his peace.

The Watch

The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday is often followed by 'The Watch', an opportunity – for about an hour or so – to silently and prayerfully remember the time Jesus spent in the Garden of Gethsemane. You may wish to keep watch at home this evening, using these suggested readings:

John 13.16-30 Psalm 113

John 13.31-end Psalm 114

John 14.1-14 Psalm 115

John 14.15-end

Psalm 116.1-9

John 15.1-17

Psalm 116.10-end

John 15.18–16.4a

Psalm 117

John 16.4b-15

Psalm 118.1-9

John 16.16-end

Psalm 118.10-18

John 17.1-19

Psalm 118.19-end

John 17.20-end

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Maundy Thursday Order of Service 1 April 2021