
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BENICIA

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Institution of the Last Supper and the New Commandment

April 1, 2021 Digital Service ~ 7 pm



The Emphasis of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is threefold:

- The institution of the Holy Eucharist
- The giving of the new law of love, symbolized by the washing of feet (*Maundy* is derived from the Latin word for law—*Mandatum*)
- The beginning of the celebration of the Passion, death and resurrection of our Lord, symbolized by the solemn stripping of the altar accompanied by the reading of Psalm 22, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”

The liturgical offering of The Three Great Days is expressed in many ways. Significant among them is the fact that an Opening Acclamation begins the Maundy Thursday Liturgy but is absent from those of Good Friday and The Great Vigil. Similarly there is no dismissal on either Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, underscoring the sense that we are engaged in one ongoing liturgy. Instead of a Dismissal, on those two days the celebrant reminds the People of the continuing celebration and invites them to return at the appointed times. The Dismissal returns with its Easter songs at the end of The Great Vigil when it ushers in the Great 50 days of Easter.

*At your mystical supper, Son of God, receive me today as a partaker,
For I will not betray the sacrament to your enemies,
Nor give you a kiss like Judas,
But like the thief I confess you:
Remember me Lord in your kingdom.*

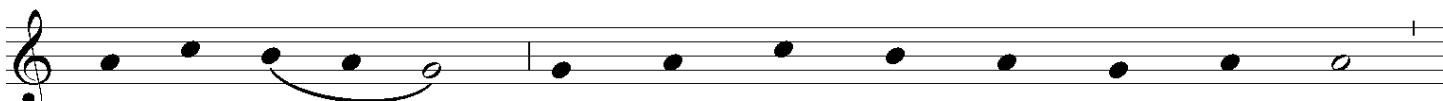
-From the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Opening Hymn *Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling*

Hymnal 329



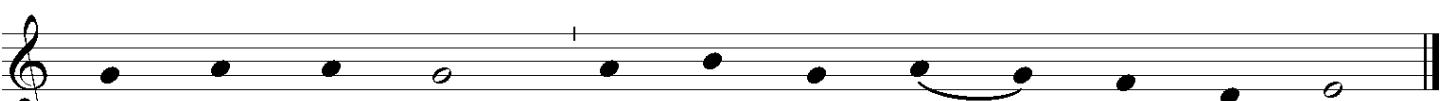
1 Now, my tongue, the mystery tell - ing of the glo - rious
 2 Given for us, and con - de - scand - ing to be born for
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing mid the twelve, his
 4 Word made flesh, the bread he tak - eth, by his word his
 *5 There - fore we, be - fore him bend - ing, this great Sac - ra -
 *6 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing, to the Fa - ther



1 Bo - dy sing, and the Blood, all price ex - cell - ing,
 2 us be - low, he with us in con - verse blend - ing
 3 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
 4 Flesh to be; wine his sa - cred Blood he mak - eth,
 5 ment re - vere; types and sha - dows have their end - ing,
 6 and the Son, hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



1 which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, once on earth a -
 2 dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, till he closed with
 3 keeps the feast its rites de - mand; then, more pre - cious
 4 though the sens - es fail to see; faith a - lone the
 5 for the new - er rite is here; faith, our out - ward
 6 while e - ter - nal a - ges run; ev - er too his



1 mong us dwell - ing, shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
 2 won - drous end - ing his most pa - tient life of woe.
 3 food sup - ply - ing, gives him - self with his own hand.
 4 true heart wak - eth to be - hold the mys - ter - y.
 5 sense be - friend - ing, makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.
 6 love con - fess - ing who from both with both is One.

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); ver. *Hymnal 1940*, rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, *Zisterzienser Hymnar*, 14th cent.; acc. Jackson Hill (b. 1941) Copyright ©1984, Jackson Hill. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins,
People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant: Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.

All: **Amen.**

First Lesson

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.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

- ¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- ¹⁰ How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?
- ¹¹ I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- ¹² I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.
- ¹³ Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.
- ¹⁴ O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- ¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- ¹⁶ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
- ¹⁷ In the courts of the LORD'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Second 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.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn *God Is Love*

Hymnal 577

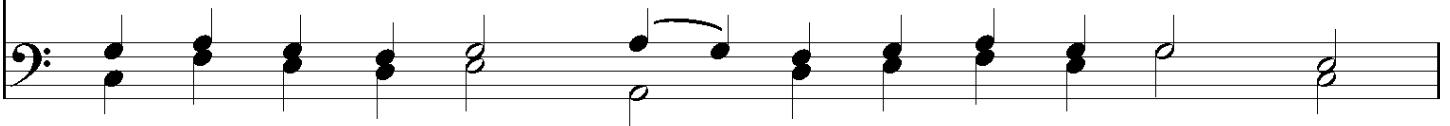
Refrain



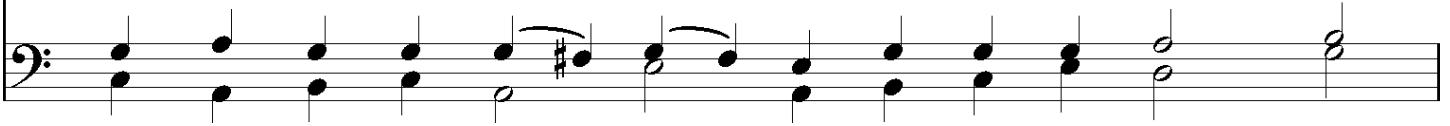
God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
2 When we Chris-tians gath - er, mem-bers of one Bo - dy,
3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,



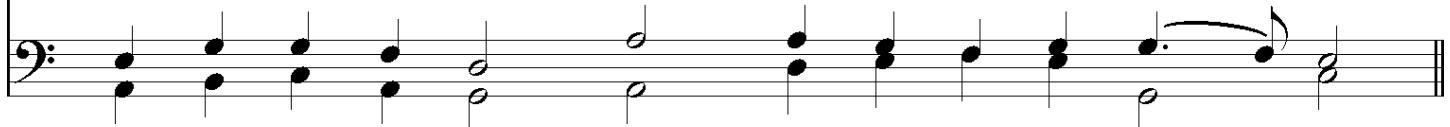
Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,



Repeat Refrain
Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.



Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Holy Gospel

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. 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."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Annie Mertz

Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin and Absolution

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn Jesu, Jesu

Hymnal 602

Chorus

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
2 Neigh - bors are rich and poor, neigh - bors are black and
3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
white, neigh - bors are near - by and far a - way.
love. All are neigh - bors to us and you.
slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

Repeat Chorus

Words: Ghanaian; tr. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925), alt. Music: *Chereponi, [Jesu, Jesu]*, Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925) Words, Music: Copyright ©1969, Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Then, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. . . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People say

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.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People say

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever, Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**All: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Communion

As the altar party receives communion, you may reverently consume your pre-consecrated bread, saying "The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven." It is appropriate for members of the same household to give each other communion. If you do not have consecrated bread, you may receive spiritual communion by praying the following prayer:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

(From the Prayer Book for the Armed Services).

Prayer After Communion

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

At this point the Altar and the Chancel will be stripped of their ornaments in silence.

Once this is completed the lights in the church will be dimmed.

We will hold space on the livestream for 10 minutes if you wish to remain in silent prayer. There is no dismissal from this time until Easter. The people leave in silence and disarray symbolizing the Disciples' abandonment of Jesus.

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Serving This Evening

Celebrant: & Preacher: The Rev. Annie Mertz

Deacon: The Rev. Beth Gaines

Lector: Jim Wolf

Organist: Glenn Walp

Zoom Management: Jorge Castaneda, Yann Jouvenot Sells

*Front page image: Top, Foot Wash sign, Jay Peeples (www.flickr.com/photos/jpeepz)
<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/stories/maundy-thursday-the-last-shall-be-first/>*