

2020 04 09 Maundy Thursday Service

IN THE NAME

P: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another:

C: Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. (*John 13:34*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: We confess that we are born in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We deserve Your eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession and prayer I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

P: I love the Lord, because He has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

Because He inclined His ear to me,

Therefore, I will call on Him as long as I live.

What shall I render to the Lord,
for all His benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,

I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all His people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of His saints.

O Lord, I am Your servant;

I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,

in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!
**C: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Gracious Father, Your Son Jesus on this night gave us a new commandment, – to love one another and He has loved us. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit that the love that we keep receiving from Jesus would enable us to love all people whom You have placed in our lives. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

P: Our Gospel reading for today comes from gospel according to John 13:1-17, 31-35.

“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, do you wash my feet?” Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.” Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not 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, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.” When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.” [...] “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot

come.’ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen

SERMON based on John 13:1-17, 31b-35.

P: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sermon “A New Commandment.”

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray!

C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions — as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself for us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

On this holy night in which our Lord gathered His disciples in the Upper Room, we come to You, O Lord, in His name with the concerns of our hearts for ourselves and all people.

Grant to us zeal for Your house, O Lord, and love for the things of Your Kingdom. Preserve those who are unable to gather together as they wish, and grant them their desire quickly. Give Your Church harmony and peace to confess Your Word with one voice before the world. Cover us with the blood of Christ, and grant us Your Spirit, that we may walk in Your ways and do the good You desire.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father, we pray for your guidance and wisdom for our congregations. Bless our efforts to reorganize the way we walk and serve together, stir us up by Your Spirit to live out fully who we are as Your chosen people. Help us to quickly establish our Support Network, guide us in your wisdom in our different situations and make this

network blessing for us and other who have ears to hear your Gospel, so that we can encourage one another, care for one another, and pray for one another.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As generously as You have given to us, O Lord, teach us to be generous in our giving, that the poor may not suffer want nor Your Church be deprived of the resources to serve Your purpose both here and across the world. Open our hearts especially for our brothers and sisters in Kenya and Nepal and multiply our gifts and help in their needs.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have mercy, Lord, spare Your people and turn this pandemic away! Lead us all to repentance, away from our idols and back to You. Preserve the sick, comfort the fearful and grant to the dying Your peace. Hear us on behalf of all those whom we now silently remember in our hearts... .. Give us healing in accordance with Your will, strength to bear up under the burdens of this mortal life, and comfort and hope in this and every trial.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the midst of plagues and enemies that threaten and a world filled with conflict and terror, give us wise leaders, O Lord, that we may be preserved from harm. Guide those who make and administer our laws to act in timely and prudent ways, and give to all judges the knowledge to render justice with mercy. Bless all military, emergency and medical workers who defend and help us here and abroad.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, this evening Your Son instituted the most blessed Sacrament to eat and to drink, so that what is promised in His testament may be truly received by His friends and heirs. Have mercy on all who are kept from Your table in these extraordinary circumstances, and do not shut us out of Your Supper forever. Stir up in us a desire to commune with our fellow Christians on Your true body and blood, and bring us soon to the table to enjoy the gifts of eternal life.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You know, O Lord, what we need, and You have promised never to abandon us, even if we often abandon you. Help us to endure in faith and, with a joyful countenance, receive the blessings of Your grace and the answers to our prayers.

For into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour †, and give you peace.

C: Amen.