

The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa



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Maundy Thursday

Worship offered today by

TRINITY

Waterloo, Iowa

Thursday, April 9, 2020 7:00pm

Good evening and welcome to our online diocesan service for Maundy Thursday. We are so glad you are here. For this service, individuals and families are invited to prepare a simple meal beforehand – preferably meatless. Vegetable soup, bread, cheese, olives, dried fruit, bread, and wine are all appropriate. Set the table with the food and you are invited, before worship begins at 7:00pm, to wash your hands with the following intention:

We begin by washing, as we were washed in our baptism. We cleanse our hands as we were cleansed in the waters of new birth. We do this not because we are afraid, but because we were commanded to love, and to cleanse our hands, and gather in spirit, is how we love the vulnerable, whom Jesus loved. May we be instruments of love. May the sacrifices we make be for the good of our human family near and far.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures forever.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray together.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the fast that is before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Readings

Celebrant Who has the story of our deliverance from Egypt, gathered at table?

Reader I will tell the story. This is what Exodus says . . .

God said to Moses and Aaron while still in Egypt, “This month is to be the first month of the year for you. Address the whole community of Israel; tell them that on the tenth of this month each person is to take a lamb for their family, one lamb to a house. If the family is too small for a lamb, then share it with a close neighbor, depending on the number of persons involved. Be mindful of how much each person will eat.”

“And here is how you are to eat it: Be fully dressed with your sandals on and your staff in your hand. Eat quickly; it's the Passover to God. I will go through the land of Egypt on this night and

strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, whether human or animal, and bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am God. The blood will serve as a sign on the houses where you live. When I see the blood I will pass over you - no disaster will touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.”

This will be a memorial day for you; you will celebrate it as a festival to God down through the generations, a fixed festival celebration to be observed always.

Silence

Here ends the reading.

Reader There is yet another story of deliverance at the table. This is what John says...

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."

Silence

Here ends the reading.

Homily

The Rev. Stephanie Moncrieff

Acts of Service and Love

Officiant

Dear Friends in Christ, We have heard the witness of faithful people at table in Egypt, seeking deliverance. And we have been challenged by our Lord and Savior to love one another as he has loved us.

As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and invited to model acts of love and service, we gather here tonight to imagine new signs of that abiding love of God.

During this time of physical distancing, what might this sign look like? I invite you to spend a few moments reflecting on ways that you can model humble love to others this evening and this week. We will have a time after the song to share or you can leave a comment as you commit to share the love of Jesus with another.

Music

Let us break bread together

Prayers of the People

Leader: Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you feed us and serve us with your very Life. Help us feed and serve the world in your name, by our prayers and by our witness, by the choices we make and by the actions we take. By your grace, we begin here and now, praying for all whom you love, asking you to hear our prayer.

After each petition, the people will respond "hear our prayer"

For the Church, that we may remember the one whom we serve, and the cost of his service to us. Make us cleansing waters and healing balm to the prisoner, the captive, the poor, and all in need. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those given charge of the welfare of nations. May they remember that the leader is one who serves. We pray for our president and cabinet, for the congress and the courts, for the leaders of our city, and for all who govern.

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

For those who must make hard moral choices, who hold the lives of others in their hands. For doctors and nurses and rescue workers; for ethicists and lawmakers.

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

For those whose feet are dirty because they have no shoes, whose hearts are broken because they have no hope. For those who own only the clothes on their backs. For those without homes and for those who are alone.

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

For those for whom life is hard. For those whose minds are not clear. For those in harm's way around the world. For all those in mortal danger.

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

For those who are sick and all those in any other need. We pray for all those we now name silently or type in the chat.

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

For those who mourn and all whose lives have been taken by the hand of others. Grant us both the courage to seek justice, and the strength to forgive.

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

For those who have died, for all those whose memory will live in the members of this community. For all others who have died, whom we now name silently or type in the chat. By the power of Christ who died our death, may they know the power of everlasting life.

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

Officiant God of Jesus Christ: Teach us to serve all people in your name. By your Spirit's power, make us light, to dispel the darkness of sorrow and sin. Break us and make us bread for the world. Sustain us through the night of suffering and speed the coming of your kingdom, when the servant will be known as the Lord of all and love will forever abound; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

**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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Officiant Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Liturgy

Officiant Our dinner is over, the waiting begins. Tonight Jesus was alone, under arrest, and awaiting his death. Tonight his friends were alone with their guilt, shame, and fear.

Reader Here's what happened after their meal. This is what John (18:1-12) says...
After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "For whom are you looking?" 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. Again he asked them, "For whom are you looking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?" So the soldier, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

Officiant Tonight we are missing our normal routines, our communities, and friends. Many are alone, isolated and afraid, Jesus waits with us all tonight, even as we wait with him. Jesus knows what loneliness feels like, what fear tastes like. Jesus knows the heartbreak of being alone when you want most to be with people you love. Tonight we hold vigil with the sick, the fearful, the lonely, and with all who risk their own lives to protect and care for ours. As we sing, you are invited to clear away the dishes, clean up the remains of our meal, and clear your home worship space.

Music *Jesus, Remember Me (as the altar of the chapel is stripped)*

Jacques Berthier

♩ = 69

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

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