



Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney's Lent Course 2024

# THE WAY TO THE CROSS

THURSDAY 28 MARCH - MAUNDY THURSDAY



## *Maundy Thursday*

*Exodus 12.1-4, (5-10), 11-14, Psalm 116.1-2, 12-19, 1 Corinthians 11.23-26, John 13.1-17, 31b-35*

### **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."

### Collect for Maundy Thursday

O God, your Son  
Jesus Christ has left  
to us this meal of  
bread and wine in  
which we share his  
body and his blood.  
May we who  
celebrate this sign of  
his great love show  
in our lives the fruits  
of his redemption;  
through Jesus Christ  
our Lord, who lives  
and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and  
for ever.  
Amen.

**John 13.1-17, 31b-35 (continued)**

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.”

**Reflection**

Today’s Gospel reading includes Jesus washing the disciples’ feet and the issuing of a new commandment - to love one another so that others will know that they are followers of Jesus. This day is a day of transition but full of God’s love through Christ. We see Jesus expressing love to the disciples through service, through the institution of Eucharist and the new commandment. How do you experience the love of God and what do you think of afresh about Jesus’ love for you this day?

**Words from Others**

“The Bread that we need each day to grow in eternal life makes of our will a docile instrument of the Divine Will; sets the Kingdom of God within us; gives us pure lips, and a pure heart with which to glorify his holy name.” *Edith Stein*

“The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; it signifies Love, it produces Love.” *St. Thomas Aquinas*

“In the Christian sacrifice, the Logos enters the time-series and is self-given under fugitive species to the creature, that by feeding on Reality the creature may be transformed: receiving by infusion the gift of charity to strengthen, purify, and at last supernaturalize his own imperfect love, and thus bring a little nearer that transfiguration of the world in Christ which is the creative goal of Christian worship.” *Evelyn Underhill*

**Music for Maundy Thursday**

- Ubi Caritas (where charity and love prevail) is one of the antiphons that has been used historically during foot washing on Maundy Thursday. There are many versions including those by Maurice Duruflé, Ola Gjeilo, Paul Mealor, and Roxanna Panufnik.
- Music focussing on the Lamb of God and Communion includes Behold the Lamb by Keith and Kristyn Getty, Eat this Bread (Taizé Chant).
- Reflecting on the Garden of Gethsamane music includes the Taizé chant Stay with Me and In the Garden (Gethsamane) by Susan Goforth and David Hill.

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.”

*John 13.34-35*

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*Usual Weekly Pattern*

Sunday  
RCL Eucharist  
Readings and Collect

Monday  
Delving Deeper into  
the Readings

Tuesday  
Words from Others  
(sacred & secular)

Wednesday  
Resources from the  
Arts

Thursday  
Contemplative Acts

Friday  
Personal Reflection  
- what this means to  
me

Saturday  
Acts & Deeds



Solomia Kazanivska (Washing of the Feet,(2018)\_Icon panel.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Kazanivska.Icon.Art/>

***Maundy Thursday by Wilfred Owen***

Between the brown hands of a server-lad  
 The silver cross was offered to be kissed.  
 The men came up, lugubrious, but not sad,  
 And knelt reluctantly, half-prejudiced.  
 (And kissing, kissed the emblem of a creed.)  
 Then mourning women knelt; meek mouths they had,  
 (And kissed the Body of the Christ indeed.)  
 Young children came, with eager lips and glad.  
 (These kissed a silver doll, immensely bright.)  
 Then I, too, knelt before that acolyte.  
 Above the crucifix I bent my head:  
 The Christ was thin, and cold, and very dead:  
 And yet I bowed, yea, kissed - my lips did cling.  
 (I kissed the warm live hand that held the thing.)

The cup of blessing that we bless,  
 is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

*Refrain for  
 Psalm 116.1,10-17*



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