

Maundy Thursday
April 1, 2021



Faith Presbyterian Church

LITURGY FOR A MEAL AT HOME*

Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter Sunday. "Maundy" comes from the Latin for mandatum, commandment. This points to Jesus' instructions to his disciples at their last supper together – "love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34b). As they gathered, he washed their feet. Then, they broke bread together and told them about his coming betrayal and death. The disciples did not know this would be their last meal with their teacher – only in retrospect do we see the significance of his words and actions. It is our tradition to remember this evening by gathering for worship and communion – sometimes washing one another's feet, or committing to other acts of service as Christ commanded us to do.

Use this liturgy to guide you through a meal at home on Maundy Thursday – with your family, by yourself, or with your friends or housemates. Then, gather with your Faith family on Zoom to share communion and reflect together at 7:00 PM. We give thanks that God meets us at every table; each meal is a chance to remember and give thanks for the sacramentality of everyday life.

Supplies Needed:

- Sink or bowl filled with warm water, hand soap, a towel
- a Bible
- Paper and a pen or pencil
- Candles and matches
- A meal – something simple, like soup and bread.
- Bread or cracker and juice or wine for communion
- Coloring pages for littles, crayons, markers, or colored pencils

We will gather on Zoom to share communion at 7:00.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86566200273?pwd=SmxvZzVocUc4MUwrekxOYXZrMTZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 6620 0273, Passcode: 996514

GATHER

As the table is set, gather around.

Light candles in the middle of the table, as a reminder that this night is special, time and space set apart as sacred. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of this life, this day, the warmth of the candlelight, the goodness of the meal and the hands that prepared it.

Remember that on this night, Jesus washed the feet of his friends. If you are alone, take time to wash your hands gently, and dry them on the towel. If you are with your family or a friend, wash one another's hands, gently, and dry them with care.

The Meal is Served

You may want to start the meal around 6:15 or 6:30, to give yourselves enough time to eat before it is time to gather on Zoom for communion.

As everyone sits and begins to eat, read John 13:1-17, 31b-35 aloud:

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.'

When he had gone out, 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.'

Reflect

As you share your meal, reflect on the following questions – either on your own, jotting a few thoughts on paper as they come to you, or with the others who have gathered with you:

- 1) Does anything stand out to you from the scripture reading? Why?
- 2) What was it like to wash your hands with care, or to have your hands washed by a friend or family member before the meal? Some people have advocated for foot washing to become the third sacrament (in addition to baptism and communion). When was the last time you showed such care for someone else/they extended care to you?
- 3) Do you remember your last supper before the pandemic? The last time you ate with friends or extended family? The last meal you shared in a restaurant? If you had known it would be your last, would you have said or done anything differently? Ordered dessert? Lingered over drinks? Would you have told your companions how much you love them?
- 4) Jesus gave thanks for the bread and the cup before sharing it with his friends. For what are you grateful this night? Write a list or share them with the others around the table.
- 5) Jesus shared this last meal with all of his disciples – even Judas who would betray him, and Peter who would deny even knowing him. Can you think of a time when you were welcomed, fed, and loved – even though you may not have felt like you deserved it? Have you ever extended that kind of grace to someone else? Talk about it or write down your memory.
- 6) If there are kids at your table, ask them what their favorite dinner blessing is and say or sing it together. Point out that Jesus says thanks to God before breaking and sharing the bread with his disciples, so when we pray before a meal, we are being like Jesus.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

At 7:00, we will gather on Zoom to share communion.

Meeting ID: 865 6620 0273, Passcode: 996514

Chant 205 Live in Charity

UBI CARITAS (Taizé)

Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love.
U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,

Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

Invitation to The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The prayer continues, concluding with

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be this day, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of Communion

When the bread is broken, please break the bread you have at home. When the cup is poured, please pour it at home, or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

Prayer After Communion

Loving God, we leave this table having been fed and cared for, knowing a love beyond our deserving, and bigger than we can comprehend. Thank you for welcoming us at your abundant feast; for serving us the bread of life, and for offering us – even us –the cup of salvation. Help us go forth from this night to love and serve one another as you have loved and served us. Give us courage and hope to follow you, to love you, to the end. In your many names we pray, Amen.

Chant 204 Stay with Me

STAY WITH ME

Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and
pray. Watch and pray.

**adapted from Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art, LLC, sanctifiedart.org*

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor

Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist

Daniel Rich, Soloist