

Maundy Thursday

About the Service

Welcome to our Maundy Thursday Service.

Our service has four parts. We will remember the Passover. We will remember Jesus instituting the Eucharist. We will recall Jesus humbling himself as he washed the disciples' feet. And we will remember Jesus going into the garden of Gethsemane to pray before he is arrested.

The first three parts of our Maundy Thursday service are designed for use in the home, around the dinner table (whatever shape that takes). As is traditional at All Saints, you may want to serve a simple meal of soup, salad, and bread. A recipe for bread can be found [here](#) if you wish to make it at home, but you can use any bread you have available. And if you'd like to make the familiar All Saints Maundy Thursday Black Bean Soup, you can find it on the last page of this bulletin.

The final part of our service tonight is a recorded service that you can access on the All Saints Facebook page.

*This service draws from the Eucharistic tradition, but it is not a sacramental meal. We call it Eukharistia: Ancient **Greek** (εὐχαριστία), meaning “gratitude, giving of thanks”. And this we can and should do whenever we share the bounty of the earth! All Christians are called to bless, and the service includes blessings of the food and drink shared, and the people gathered.*

The service has been written so that various parts can be shared among those present. Each part is either meant to be read by a single person, or by all. And this is indicated with “One” or “All.” While this service assumes a small gathering it can, when necessary, be done by an individual who while physically alone is nevertheless gathered in spirit with the rest of the church this night. If you are physically alone, you may wish to share a meal with others via Zoom.

One candle (called the Christ candle) should be placed on the table and lit before the service begins; it will remain lighted throughout. If possible, a candle should be given to each person present.

Preparation

One: I invite you to put the cares of the day aside and to enter into worship as we remember the last night of Jesus' life.

***All:* 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.**

Each person present then washes their hands thoroughly with soap and water. Once washed each should help with setting the table as they are able. The food should be set out in the middle with bread and wine and other good things. When all is ready those present take their places at the table and the one designated begins.

If a candle is available for each person, they may now take their candle, light it, and place it at their place at the table. Each person may say the following as they place the candle at the table:

As Jesus traveled he spread light wherever he went, light that could not be extinguished. Tonight I light my candle in honor of [the women who attended him/his mother Mary/the disciples/the crowds who followed him/the lepers he healed/the possessed he freed/the poor/the sick/the woman who anointed him with oil/etc].

When all have taken their places at the table.

Opening

One: Beloveds, tonight is a holy night. Tonight we join with Christians around the world as we remember the last night Jesus spent with his friends. We gather around a table, and with all those who remember tonight. Though we are dispersed, we are together, in spirit and in truth.

All those gathered may take turns reading a portion of the Passover story.

The Story of the Passover

We know that Jesus and his friends were Jewish. They lived in Israel, the land of the Jewish people, and tonight we remember that time when Jesus went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast one last time with his friends. The Passover is the great feast of the Jewish people, when they remember the moment God freed them from slavery. I wonder if you know that story? The story of the great miracles that God caused. The miracles that freed the Jews, the people of the land of Israel, from slavery in Egypt?

A thousand years before Jesus was born, the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. They were made to work for Egyptian masters and their lives were very sad and difficult. They were made to worship the gods that the Egyptians believed in, instead of their God, the one true God.

In the Bible we hear how God sent a man called Moses to the Pharaoh, the Egyptian king, to demand that Pharaoh free the Israelites to return to their own land in Israel. But the Pharaoh refused. So God sent horrible plagues to punish the Egyptians – frogs and bugs to bite them, diseases to kill their animals, and still Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go. Each time Moses warned Pharaoh, but still Pharaoh refused. Finally God sent a terrible disease to the Egyptians so that in every house the firstborn child died.

But God protected the Israelites. God told the Israelites that they should mark the doors of their houses with the blood of a lamb and the disease would “Passover” them. When the Pharaoh’s own son died, Pharaoh finally agreed to let the Israelites leave Egypt and return to Israel, but they must leave that very night. However, when Pharaoh saw the Israelites leaving and realized that Egypt was losing all their slaves, he changed his mind and sent his armies after them, to return them to slavery. But God had a plan... *(continue with the reading from Exodus below)*

A reading from Exodus 14:10, 13-30

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go

in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.”

Now, the angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians.

Blessing and Sharing of the Meal

The Jewish people have celebrated Passover recalling the events that we have just heard with a Seder meal for thousands of years. The Seder table has many symbolic foods on it including unleavened bread and many cups of wine, all of which are blessed at the table. As Christians, all of us are called to bless the food set before us. The person blessing the bread takes the bread and holds it where all may see it.

One On the night that Jesus gathered with his friends he took bread and he blessed it and shared it with his friends, for God who loves us, feeds us. As God’s people ate manna in the wilderness and were satisfied, so we share this bread with Christ, and with one another. May it be for us bread from heaven, strength for our bodies, balm for our souls, and may it empower us to be Christ’s body in this world.

The bread is passed around the table for all to take their fill.

The one who blesses the wine [or other beverage] then takes it and holds it where all may see it.

One On the night that Jesus gathered with his friends he took wine and he blessed it and shared it with them. For the God who made us delights in us, and gives us good gifts to delight our tongues, and give joy to our souls. As Jesus offered the Samaritan woman water that will not fail, so Jesus offers us the same. May this be for us the holy drink of heaven and may it quench the thirst of our souls.

The wine [or other beverage] is then poured out into each person's cup.

The whole company together then blesses the rest of the meal, saying together.

All Holy and life-giving God, we thank you for the bounty of your Creation laid before us. We ask you to bless it, that it may be to us a holy meal. We give thanks for all those who labored so that it might sustain us, and we ask that through it you would give us the strength to be your good stewards; to care, and tend your creation, and to care especially for our siblings, all the people of this world. Tonight, be with all the members of our community whom we love and miss, those whom we can be with only in spirit. We ask these things by the grace of Jesus Christ our Brother and the Holy Spirit our friend and guide. Amen.

The Washing of Feet or Hands

Clear away the dishes and the remains of the meal but leave the candles burning. Once the table is clear, bring to the table a basin, a pitcher (or other container) of warm water, soap, and several hand towels. Read the story below from John's Gospel. One person or several could read the story.

John 13.1-17, 31b-35

The Last Supper

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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Those gathered are then invited to wash one another’s feet or hands. When all who wish to participate are done, recite the following prayer together.

All

Blessed are you, Lord God.

The basin and the towel are signs to us of your Son’s servanthood.

You have made us partakers of Christ and of one another.

**Give us grace to count others more important than ourselves,
to love our enemies, to make peace.**

Send the Spirit of truth to keep alive in us

what Jesus taught and did, that our words may carry his good news, and

**that our lives may bear the shape of the cross of the One who lives and reigns with You
and with the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen**

*Those who wish to continue with the remainder of the service are invited to click
this link. https://www.facebook.com/allsaintschicago/?epa=SEARCH_BOX*

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.” Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

Song: Stay with Me

Reading: Matthew 26:45-56

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.”

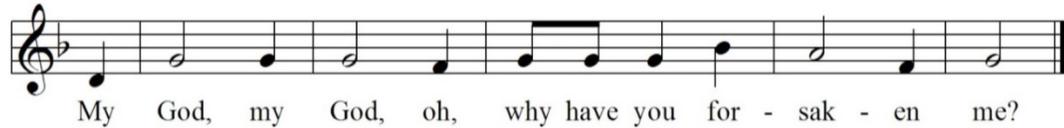
Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?” At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Song: Stay with Me

Musical reflection: Pange Lingua

Psalm 22

The congregation sings the following antiphon after the odd numbered verses of the Psalm.



O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest.
Yet you are holy one, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
Our forebears put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.
They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you, and were not put to shame.

Antiphon

But as for me, I am a worm, and no man; scorned by all, and despised by the people.
All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads,
“He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver, let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”
Yet it was you who took me out of the womb; and kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

Antiphon

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.
Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is none to help.
Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
they open wide their mouths at me. like a ravening and roaring lion.

Antiphon

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax;
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs evildoers circle around me; they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

Antiphon

Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength hasten to help me.
Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
I will declare your Name to my people, in the midst of the congregation, I will praise you

Antiphon

Praise the Lord, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all of you Jacob's line give glory.

For he does not despise not abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him; "May your heart live forever."

Antiphon

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who do down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's forever.

They shall come and make know to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

Antiphon

The service ends in silence with the extinguishing of the remaining light

If desired you may create advance a place to put flowers, potted plants, beloved objects, the Christ candle or other lights. A place to watch with Jesus (and a reminder of the Garden of Gethsemane) can be made with these things and those who feel so called spend an hour there at some point in the night reading scripture, praying, or simply keeping silent vigil.

Adapted from a Service by The Rev. Josephine Robertson, All Saints Episcopal Church, Bellevue, WA., www.barefoottheology.com

The Story of Passover was written by Polly Tangora

Prayer after foot washing from **A Footwashing Liturgy**, by Reggie A. Kidd

Quick Black Bean Mexican Soup

Prep time: 25 minutes

Cooking time: 35 minutes

Serves 4 to 6

2 TBSP olive oil

1 large onion, chopped

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 jalapeno pepper, minced

2 medium tomatoes, peeled and seeded (I recommend using canned diced)

4 cups chicken or vegetable broth

2 15 oz. cans black beans, drained

2 medium potatoes, peeled and diced small

¼ cup chopped cilantro, plus more for garnish

1 TBSP ground cumin

2 TBSP lime juice

Salt, pepper to taste

Sour cream

1. Heat olive oil in large saucepan over medium heat. Add onions; cook 2 minutes. Add garlic, jalapeno and tomatoes. Cook, stirring frequently, 2 to 3 minutes.
2. Add broth, beans and potatoes to pan. Heat to boil; reduce heat to medium-low. Cover, simmer 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Add chopped cilantro, cumin, lime juice, salt and pepper. Cook 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Cover, let stand 5 minutes. Serve with sour cream and minced cilantro.