

"A new command I give you:
Love one another.



As I have loved you, so you must
love one another.

John 13:34

MAUNDY THURSDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP
APRIL 9, 2020
7:00 PM

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

P: On this eve, we recall the events of that Thursday long ago when our Lord Jesus gave His mandate;

C: **“This is My command, love one another as I have loved you.”**

P: The New Covenant from our Lord takes the place of the old covenant God made with His chosen people Israel. In that covenant, God promised to remain faithful to His people, and they promised to always serve their living God and to obey all of His commands.

C: **“All the words that the Lord has spoken, we will do.”** (*Exodus 24:3b*)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Even though Your people Israel promised to obey You, O God, they quickly turned away from You, followed their own hearts and desires, and worshipped other gods. We too have failed to obey Your will. And we fail to uphold the command given to us by Your Son, our Lord Jesus. We continually love ourselves instead of loving our neighbor.

P: O God, we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: Against You, You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: All of us has become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: We know that we are ransomed from our futile ways not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ.

In Christ we have redemption through His blood, His blood of the new covenant. And by His blood we receive the forgiveness of our sins according to the riches of His grace which He has lavished upon us. It is this forgiveness I proclaim to you. By the blood of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven of all of your sins. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE **“Not All the Blood of Beasts”**
(sts. 1, 2, 3)

Hymn 431

**Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.**

**But Christ, the heav’nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.**

**My faith would lay its hand
On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand,
And there confess my sin.**

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 24:3-8

³When Moses went and told the people all the LORD’s words and laws, they responded with one voice, “Everything the LORD has said we will do.” ⁴Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said. He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD. ⁶Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he sprinkled on the altar. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, “We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey.” ⁸Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, “This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:11-22

¹¹When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made,

that is to say, not a part of this creation. ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! ¹⁵ For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance - now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶ In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, ¹⁷ because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. ¹⁸ This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. ¹⁹ When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. ²⁰ He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep." ²¹ In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. ²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

THE ANTHEM

"In an Upper Room" *(Mixed Quartet)*

N. Price, D. Besig

***THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 13:1-5, 12-17, 31b-35

P: The Gospel reading according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹ It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. ² The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him... ¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord

***HYMN OF RESPONSE “Go to Dark Gethsemane”**
(sts. 1 & 2)

Hymn 436

**Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;
Your Redeemer’s conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.**

***PRAYERS OF MAUNDY THURSDAY, THE CHURCH, AND THE WORLD**

***LORD’S PRAYER**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

P: After the Last Supper, less than twenty-four hours remained before our Lord would die. These final events moved rapidly:

 Jesus’ prayer in Gethsemane

 His betrayal by Judas

 His arrest, mock trial, painful beating

 The trudge to Golgotha and His execution

As His life was stripped from Him, so we strip our altar of signs of life to symbolize His purposeful, redemptive suffering and death for us.

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” (stanza 3)

Hymn 436

**Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

V: Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows Me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness.” The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world. Creation itself was dark when He suffered, so we have extinguished our candles and we now remove them.

- P: The missal stand holds the worship books that guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God. As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are not heard. As these sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand.
- V: Our altar is in the form of a table. It is here where our Lord Jesus serves us as both host and meal at His banquet feast. The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen and brocade; materials appropriate for feasting with our King. As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our altar is stripped of its coverings.

"O Dearest Jesus"
(tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU)

**O dearest Jesus, what law You broken
That such sharp sentence should on You be spoken?
Of what great crime have You to make confession,
What dark transgression?**

**How strange is this great paradox to ponder:
The Shepherd dies for sheep who love to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.**

(Because this liturgy flows directly into the Good Friday liturgy,
there is no blessing or postlude.)

PARTICIPANTS

The Preacher

The Liturgist

The Organist

The Mixed Quartet

The Sound Technician

Vicar Brendon Moore

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Wynn Bonner

Wynn Bonner, Peggy Jo Griffin, Micah Korb, Leah Welter

Chris Miller