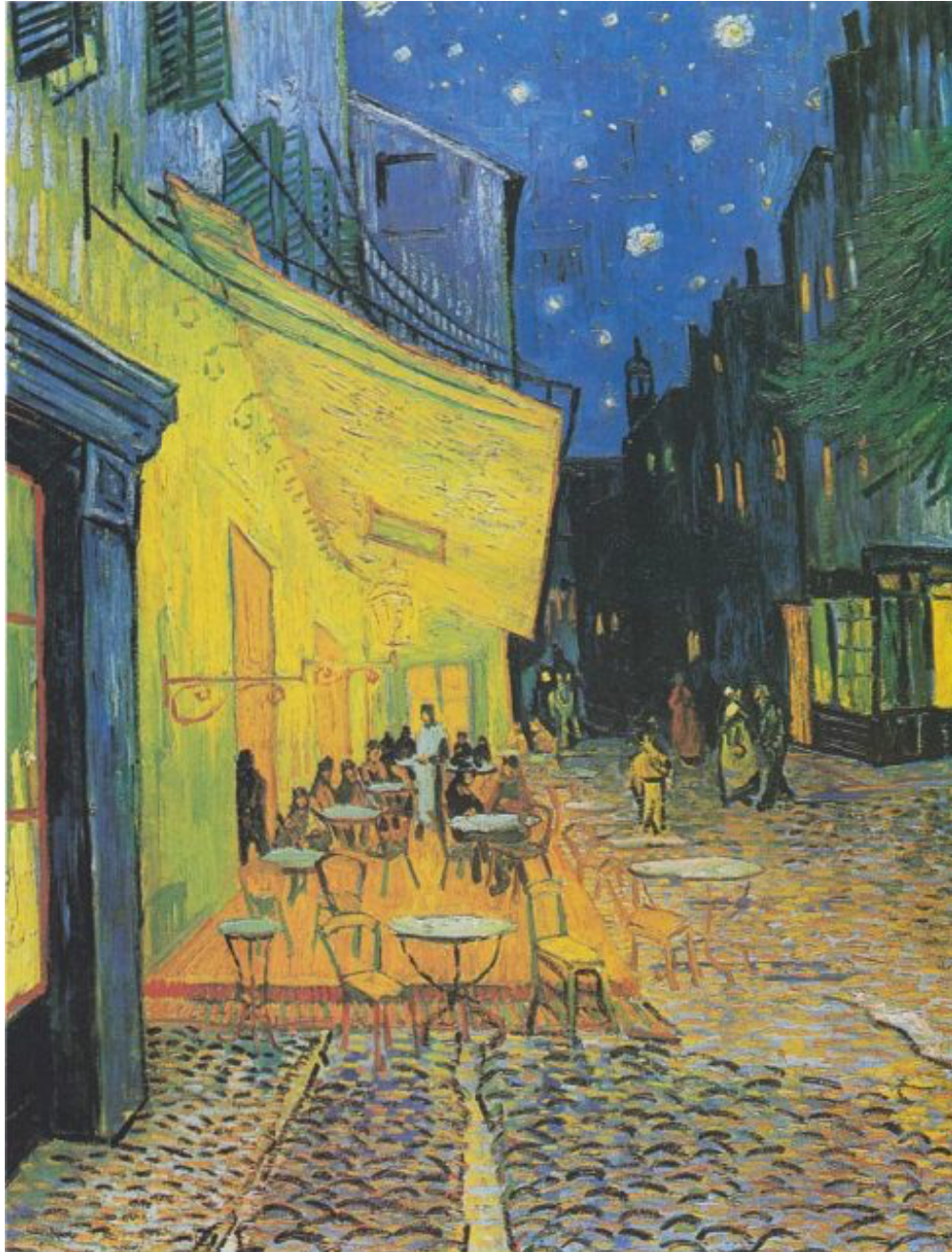


**“THEN HE Poured WATER INTO A BASIN AND BEGAN TO WASH THE DISCIPLES’ FEET AND TO WIPE THEM WITH THE TOWEL THAT WAS WRAPPED AROUND HIM.”
JOHN 13:6**



Vincent van Gogh | Café Terrace at Night | 1888 | Oil on Canvas

MAUNDY THURSDAY

God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence. Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in praise and adoration.

*Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be our God.

Now and for ever. Amen.

This is the night that Christ the Son of Man gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

This is the night that Christ our Lord and Master took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, calling us to love one another as he has loved us.

This is the night that Christ our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his perfect sacrifice.

This is the night that Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY*

Almighty Father, whose most dear Son, our the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it in thankful remembrance of Jesus Christ our Savior, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*A "collect" is a particular type of prayer that, in the context of a worship service, summarizes (or collects) all the parts of the worship service. Think of it as a prayer that focuses on the theme of this particular service.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness and disease among the people: Continue in our hospitals and research centers his gracious work among us especially those ministering to people affected by the novel coronavirus; console and heal the sick; grant to the researchers, physicians, nurses, and assisting staff wisdom and skill, diligence and patience; prosper their work, O Lord, and send down your blessing upon all who serve the suffering; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

JESUS CALLS US HERE TO MEET HIM

John L. Bell, Graham Maule; © 1998 WGRG, Iona Community; CCLI# 11096120.

Jesus calls us here to meet him
As through word and song and prayer
We affirm God's promised presence
Where his people live and care
Praise the God who keeps his promise
Praise the Son who calls us friends
Praise the Spirit who among
To our hopes and fears attends

Jesus calls us to confess him
Word of life and Lord of all
Sharer of our flesh and frailness
Saving all who fail or fall
Tell his holy human story
Tell his tales that all may hear
Tell the world that Christ in glory
Came to earth to meet us here

Jesus calls us to each other
Vastly different though we are
Race and color, class and gender
Neither limit nor debar
Join the hand of friend and stranger
Join the hands of age and youth
Join the faithful and the doubter
In their common search for truth

Jesus calls us to his table
Rooted firm in time and space
Where the church in earth and heaven
Finds a common meeting place
Share the Bread and Wine, his body
Share the love of which we sing
Share the feast for saints and sinners
Hosted by our Lord and King

HEARING GOD'S WORD

We encounter our Risen Lord in Scripture. As a people defined by God's Word, we respond to God through confession of faith, corporate prayer, and a demonstration of our reconciliation with one another in passing the peace of Christ

THE LESSONS

*Our psalm is **PSALM 78:15-25**, and will be read responsively by whole verse.*

Psalm 78:15 He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

16 He made streams come out of the rock and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.

17 Yet they sinned still more against him, rebelling against the Most High in the desert.

18 They tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved.

19 They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"

20 "He struck the rocks so that water gushed out and streams overflowed. Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?"

²¹ Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel,

²² ***because they did not believe in God and did not trust his saving power.***

²³ Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven,

²⁴ ***and he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven.***

²⁵ Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance.

A reading from **LUKE 22:14-30**

¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²²For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!” ²³And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

²⁴A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵And he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called

benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you. Rather let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

²⁸You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Here ends the reading.

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED*

***I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.***

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

*The Apostles' Creed is a theological summary of Christian beliefs, which dates back to the 7th century. However, similar forms of this creed date back to the 3rd century. Today this creed serves as an ecumenical symbol of faith.

*"Catholic," here means that every local church founded on the gospel is part of the one universal church founded by God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."**

*Since God first gathered a people to himself, a fundamental part of public worship has been that his people pray together. In the presence of God, we ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation.

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well being and unity of the people of God...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Clark, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service especially for our President...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For family members serving in the armed forces: Andrew, Steve, Keith, Ryan, Chris, Joshua, Katy, Adam, Alex, and Zach...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For medical personnel working to care for the sick and for those searching to find a cure to this disease; protect their health and bless their work that many may be restored...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity...Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray...
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*When we confess our sins to God we are not groveling in guilt; we are dealing with our guilt. If we deny our sins, we will never get free of from them.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN*

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of you holy Name. Amen.

*Only God can forgive sins. In announcing God's forgiveness, we are declaring the miraculous work of God to restore and unite us both to himself and one another.
(See 1 John 1:4-10).

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.
Amen.

AGAPE MEAL BLESSING

God welcomes his people to feast with him at his table. The Agape Meal, while not the same as Eucharist, is a shared experience designed to highlight our connectedness as a body. With roots in early Church practice, this meal is intended to strengthen the fellowship and love among Christ's followers. In this time of physical separation, the agape meal is a great way for us to be one in the Spirit.

Blessed are you, O Lord God, King of the Universe, for you give us food and drink to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us now share bread and wine and a time of silent prayer.

GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

AT THE CROSS (LOVE RAN RED)

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong, Matt Redman; © 2011 Countless Wonder; CCLI# 11096120.

There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies
There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood, comes flowing down

At the cross, at the cross I surrender my life
I'm in awe of you, I'm in awe of you
Where your love ran red and my sin washed white
I owe all to you, I owe all to you, Jesus

There's a place where sin and shame are powerless
Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood, comes flowing down

Here my hope is found, here on holy ground
Here I bow down, here I bow down
Here arms open wide, here you saved my life
Here I bow down, here I bow down

*Holy Week is about participating with Christ as he moves towards the cross. Stripping the table, our tables, bare and our uneasy silence are symbols pointing to Christ's suffering and death. The stripping calls to mind Christ's treatment from the guards as he is beaten and mocked. It also points us to Christ's volitional stripping as he washes his apostles' feet (John 13). Indeed, Christ's life is marked by this stripping, which we are called to imitate (Phil. 2:5-8).

THE STRIPPING OF ORNAMENTATION*

In silence without final blessing and dismissal.