



Readings and Reflections The Mandatum (commandment) Eucharist Watch of the Passion Compline

> 28th March 2024 7.30pm St John's, Riddells Creek

## Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for our worship as we commence our celebration of the Triduum [The Great Three Days] with the Liturgy for Maundy Thursday. This holiest time of the year contains differing emphases but it is, nevertheless, a continuum.

This is a very rich liturgy. The Gospel speaks of love and service, which are also expressed in the ceremony of the foot washing. The New Testament reading records the institution of the Lord's Supper. The evening setting highlights the nearness of the betrayal and approaching passion of Jesus.

A prayer vigil (the Watch of the Passion) is held in front of the Blessed Sacrament. The Watch will conclude with Compline, Prayer at the End of the Day.

Gathering In God's Name

The People gather in silence.

★Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures for ever.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Presider addresses the people

A candle is lit in the midst of the people.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us by your Commandments and commanded us to kindle the festival lights.

## Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who hast kept us alive and sustained us and brought us to this season.

## Blessed be God for ever.

May we all be consecrated, O God,

by the light of your countenance,

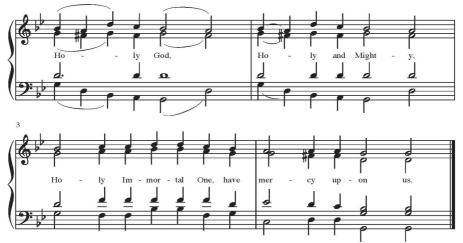
shining upon us in blessing, and bringing us all your peace.

## Blessed be God for ever.

(Modelled on a traditional Jewish prayer).

Our need for forgiveness

Jesus having sent his disciples ahead to find a place to share the Passover, they were all gathered together in the Upper Room. **They cleansed themselves in readiness to receive the Supper.** 



'I have ardently longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.'

## After he had said this, he took the bread and the cup and asked us to do this in remembrance of him.

### Holy God...

Jesus said, "Here with me on the table is the hand of the man who is betraying me. The Son of man is indeed going as it is decreed, only alas for that man by whom he is betrayed!'

### And they began to question one another which of them it could be who intended to do this. *Holy God...*

Holy Water is sprinkled over the congregation at this point.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51

The Absolution is pronouned:

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: ♣ pardon you and set you free from all yours sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Collect

God, our wisdom, in the cross of Christ you unmask our violence and execute judgement on the idols we serve. As we break the bread in thanksgiving and share the cup of blessing together, make known among us your will for peace, for reconciliation and mutual service, that your rule may be welcomed and our joy be complete. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

The Ministry Of The Word

The people sit for the reading from the Hebrew scriptures.

First Lesson:

Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14

After the Lesson, the reader says

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

In response to the first reading Psalm 116 is said

I love the Lord, because he heard my voice: the voice of my supplication; Because he inclined his ear to me: in the day that I called to him.

How shall I repay the Lord: for all his benefits to me? I will take up the cup of salvation: and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people. Grievous in the sight of the Lord: is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant, your servant and the child of your handmaid: you have unloosed my bonds. I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving: and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the Lord: even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

The people remain seated for the second reading

Second Lesson:

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

After the Lesson, the reader says

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

The people stand as the following is sung for the Gospel Procession.



I give you a new commandment, says the Lord Love one another as I have loved you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ. John 13.1-17, 31b-35

After the Gospel, the minister says

For the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

This is the Day

This is the day when Christ the true Lamb of God handed himself into the hands of those who would kill him.

> This is the day when Christ gathered his disciples in the upper room.

This is the day when Christ took the towel and washed his disciples feet, showing us the way to serve others as he himself serves us.

This is the day when Christ gave us his holy meal and commanded us to eat the bread and drink the cup, to proclaim his death until he comes in glory. Mandatum (commandment) Our Lord Jesus Christ says: 'If you love me, keep my commandments.' 'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.'

All of us, all 26 million of us, have been doing acts of service for each other during and after Covid. All of our mask wearing and social distancing and self-isolating and sanitising have been in the service of each other and of the vulnerable ones among us. Our vaccinations took this to the next level. And through these acts of service God blessed us enormously with the reduction in severity of the virus to the level of flu.

While washing each others' feet is not a part of our culture, sanitising has become so. We will symbolise our service to others with a ritual of sanitising. And while we are doing this, we could be thinking about all the inconvenience and bother of it all. Or we could be thinking about all the good that has been done in our looking after each other in so many ways. And also about the many places that still have Covid, and the many who have lost loved ones; and the many countries still struggling to bring the disease under control.

And lastly, but not least, we could be thinking abut how we are following in the footsteps of Jesus who acted out loving service as he washed his disciples' feet.

Tis 699

Tis 640	A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this will others know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another; by this will others know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another.	
	1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet: master who acts as a slave to them.	
	<i>Refrain</i> Yesu, Yesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you	
	<ol> <li>Neighbours are wealthy and poor, varied in colour and race, neighbours are near us and far away.</li> </ol>	Refrain
	<ol> <li>These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbours to us and you.</li> </ol>	Refrain
6	<ol> <li>Loving puts us on our knees, silently washing their feet, this is the way we should live with you.</li> </ol>	Refrain

# The Prayers of the People

The Presider says

Let us pray for the world and the Church.

The minister leads the prayers saying

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the Saviour of the world.

## Father,

on this, the night he was betrayed,

your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.

We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, hear us

## and humble us.

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one. We pray for the unity of your Church. Lord, hear us

## and unite us.

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through his disciples' message. We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, hear us

## and renew our zeal.

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love, but suffered rejection himself. We pray for the rejected and unloved. Lord, hear us

## and fill us with your love.

On this night, he reminded his disciples that if the world hated them it hated him first. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. Lord, hear us

## and give us your peace.

On this night, he accepted the cup of death and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom. We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ. Lord, hear us

# and welcome all your children into paradise.

At the conclusion of the prayers we pray together:

God our Father, listen to the prayer of your Son, that your people may be consecrated in truth even as he consecrated himself for the life of the world. For he is alive, now and for ever. Amen.

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.' The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.** 

### Offertory Hymn

'Prepare a room for me, your Saviour, Host and Priest, where I may gather you, my friends, to celebrate this feast'

This room we have prepared; the table now is set. We wait your promised presence, Lord, where we, once more, are met.

"Where even two or three have come the meal to share unseen, but living, loving still, I surely will be there!"

'Lord Christ, we seek the food your grace alone can give. We come with empty, hung'ring hearts that we may eat and live.

'My promise I will keep; your hunger will be fed. for in this meal I offer you myself, the living bread

'All thanks and praise to you, our Saviour, Lord and Friend, that through this loaf and cup you share your love, it has no end!

> Herman G Stuempfle, Jr © GIA Sing Praise 58

The Great Thanksgiving

The gifts of the people are presented and the Presider says

With this bread that we bring we shall remember Jesus. With this wine that we bring we shall remember Jesus. Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we bring.

> Gracious God, make us worthy to celebrate the Supper of the Lord, for as often as we do this to celebrate his sacrifice, the work of our redemption is made present. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people remain standing and the Presider says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Our responsibility

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The reason we gather tonight

Christ is the true and eternal priest who established for us the form and pattern of the eternal sacrifice. For he gave himself, his body and blood, and in the Eucharist, taught us to enter into the movement of his self-offering. And so, when we eat the bread and drink the cup we celebrate his saving Passover until he returns in glory. Eternal Praise:



Choir: Hosanna in the highest.

Response: Hosanna in the highest.

Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Response: Hosanna in the highest.

Choir: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Response: Hosanna in the highest.

Choir: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Response: Hosanna in the highest.

Setting aside our gifts

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

With this bread

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

With this cup

After supper he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

A minister says

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Repeat after Choir



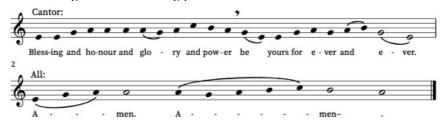
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Commandments and Atoning Grace

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Our baptismal commitment and discipleship

Renew us by your Holy Spirit unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

The Fraction and Communion

The Presider says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,

### for we all share in the one bread.

The Agnus Dei is sung by choir & people.

Lamb of God,

you take away the sins of the world,



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,



Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.

All are welcome at his supper. Come.

Anthem during Communion

Lamb of God, Samuel Webbe

Silence will be kept as the Ablutions are completed and the Altar of Repose is prepared.

The Presider says a post-communion prayer

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them.

### We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all.

The Lamentations are read as the candles are then extinguished and the Sanctuary is cleared.

The Quiet Melbourne - the Widow Jerusalem

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her.

## Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

Sorrow

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her children have gone away, captives before the foe. Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

### Where is my comforter?

From on high he sent fire; it went deep into my bones; he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back; he has left me stunned, faint all day long. For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears; for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage; my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed.

### Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

Wormwood and gall

All who pass along the way clap their hands at you; they hiss and wag their heads at daughter Jerusalem; 'Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty, the joy of all the earth?'

The thought of my affliction and homelessness is wormwood and gall.

### Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

The Lord is good

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

## Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

God's Salvation

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it, to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one's cheek to the smiter and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject for ever.

### Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

The Dismissal

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus prayed to the Father, 'If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me.' He said to his disciples, 'How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour? The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners.'

<u>After</u> the lights are dimmed and when the Table of Repose is ready, the following chant is sung:



You are welcome to stay and keep The Watch. Compline will follow after a brief time.

The Ministers leave; the Watch of the Passion begins. If you leave now, or later before Compline, please leave in silence

The Watch is a time of personal prayer:

The Church's celebration of the Paschal Triduum is a remembering (anamnesis) of the events of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. But it is not a historical re-enactment nor the telling of a story where the ending is not known. The events are both ritualised and celebrated from the perspective of Christ's Resurrection. In the period of watching it is both remembering the events following the Lord's supper and adoration of the Risen Christ, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Lord is here - what is on your heart to say to him? How does he reply?

# Compline

The minister says

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and for ever.

Psalm 22: 1-22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me: why are you so far from helping me and from the words of my groaning?

My God, I cry to you by day, but you do not answer:

and by night also I take no rest.

But you continue holy:

you that are the praise of Israel.

In you our forebears trusted:

they trusted, and you delivered them;

To you they cried and they were saved:

**they put their trust in you and were not confounded.** But as for me, I am a worm and no man: the scorn of all and despised by the people.

Those that see me laugh me to scorn:

they shoot out their lips at me

and wag their heads, saying,

'He trusted in the Lord—let him deliver him:

let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'

But you are he that took me out of the womb: that brought me to lie at peace on my mother's breast.

On you have I been cast since my birth: you are my God, even from my mother's womb. O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand: and there is none to help.

Many oxen surround me:

**fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.** They gape wide their mouths at me: like lions that roar and rend.

> I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart within my breast is like melting wax.

My mouth is dried up like a potsherd: and my tongue clings to my gums.

### My hands and my feet are withered:

and you lay me in the dust of death.

For many dogs are come about me: and a band of evildoers hem me in.

I can count all my bones: they stand staring and gazing upon me.

They part my garments among them: and cast lots for my clothing.

O Lord, do not stand far off:

you are my helper, hasten to my aid.

Deliver my body from the sword:

my life from the power of the dogs;

O save me from the lion's mouth: and my afflicted soul from the horns of the wild oxen.

#### Reading

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

1 Thessalonians 5.9-10

## Thanks be to God.

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit. Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit. You have redeemed us, Lord, God of truth.

## I commend my spirit.

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

The Canticle, the Song of Simeon

Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we are asleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.

> Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation: which you have prepared in the sight of every people: A light to reveal you to the nations: and the glory of your people Israel.

Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we are asleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Amen.

The service ends with the following prayers.

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray: and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. Send us in peace, Lord, to rest in safety and confidence beneath the arms of the cross, by which you have reconciled the world to yourself. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Reserved Sacrament is removed from the Church. All candles and lights are extinguished.* 

They all forsook him and fled. **And it was night.** 



Maundy Thursday – Thursday 28 March 2024

• Exodus 12.1-4 [5-10] 11-14; Psalm 116.1-2, 11-18; 1 Corinthians 11.23-36; John 13.1-17, 31b-35

"If only it were all so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?" – Alexander Solzhenitsyn How tempting it is to mentally segregate the "good" and the "bad" people! It is so much easier and comforting to think in terms of black vs white or Judas vs Peter. Yet human nature is so much more complex. Thankfully, my role is not to judge. It is to follow the Lord's command to serve and love.

- Pray for those who suffer violence and the repentance of those who inflict harm on others.
- Give thanks for the church's ordained ministers, remembering them as they renew their ordination vows at chrism masses this week.

*Text:* CJ, Diocese of Newcastle © Anglican Board of Mission, 2024

	Но	ly Week an	d Easter Services
30 March	Good Friday	9.00 am 12 noon	The Way of the Cross, St Paul's, Gisborne Solemn Liturgy, Church of the Resurrection, Macedon
31 March	Easter Day		First Eucharist of Easter, Church of the Resurrection, Macedon Easter Day Eucharist, St Paul's, Gisborne Sunday Arvo @5, St John's, Riddells Creek

Lent Studies There will be no Thursday night online as it is Maundy Thursday. Our Thursday night Lenten Study will continue in Easter week on Thursday April 4th to complete our time together.