

READING and PRAYERS for MAUNDY THURSDAY - 1ST APRIL 2021

A PRAYER FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you:
grant us to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GOSPEL: JOHN 13.1-17, 31b-35 *Jesus washes the feet of his disciples*

¹ 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.

² The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ 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. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' ⁷ Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.'

⁸ Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' ¹⁰ 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.' ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

¹² 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?' ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord - and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

³¹ 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify

him at once. ³³ 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." ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

PRAYERS

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 washed his disciples' feet. We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, hear us, **and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one. We pray for the unity of your Church and all who lead our churches, that they and we may be truly serve with honesty, integrity, humility and love.

Lord, hear us, **and unite us.**

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through the message of his disciples. We pray for the mission of your Church, and for the will to work for your kingdom with our fellow Christians in other traditions, Catholic, Orthodox, Reformed and Free, and to reach out to those who do not know Christ.

Lord, hear us, **and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love; but was himself rejected. We pray for the rejected and the unloved.

Lord, hear us, **and fill us with your love.**

On this night, he reminded them 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.**

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end and drank the cup prepared for him:
may we who seek to share his table
watch with him through the night of suffering
and be faithful to him all our days. **Amen.**