

Maundy Thursday

APRIL 6, 2023

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN *There is a Green Hill Far Away*

HYMN 167

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

People: **Christ have mercy.**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may remember this gift of love by Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1, 10-17 Dilexi, quoniam

**I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.**

**How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?**

**I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.**

**Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.**

**O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

ANTHEM *What Wondrous Love is This?*

Am. Folk Hymn 1835

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

People **Glory to you Lord Christ**

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev. Polly H. Robb

THE WASHING OF FEET (or HANDS)

Celebrant Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the life of the Kingdom of God come not by power, authority or even miracle, but by such lowly service. Tonight, we are all invited to join him in washing one another's feet or hands, as we remember his admonition that the one who is greatest must be the servant of all.

All are invited to participate in the foot or hand washing. If you wish to have your feet washed simply take off your shoes and socks before leaving your seat and come to one of the stations at the foot of the steps. Sit to have your feet washed. Stand to have your hands washed. Then wash the feet or hands of the next person who comes. Afterwards, please return to your seat.

HYMN Peace Give I to You

Alleluia III 96

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader, followed by the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Sing My Tongue the Glorious Battle*

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice

for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, all are invited to communion in the Episcopal Church.

COMMUNION HYMN **Let Us Break Bread Together**

HYMN 325

CONCLUDING PRAYER *In unison*

O God of the crucified and risen One,

from whom no trial or trouble can separate us:

you feed us with your Word and soothe us with your Spirit,

you are closer to us than breath itself.

Make us glad this night for the life of your servant Jesus;

And in the Name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord,

make us all servants for his sake of his love.

Amen.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR *the congregation is seated*

As Psalm 22 is read, the Altar is stripped and the lights are turned down, we prepare to enter the darkness of Good Friday.

Psalm 22 "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *

and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?"

[*The remainder of the Psalm may be found in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 610.*]

When the stripping and washing of the altar is concluded, we disperse in silence. There is no dismissal.

The Triduum continues tomorrow with the Good Friday liturgy at noon. Before leaving, you are welcome to stay and spend some time in silence.