

**A Service for Maundy Thursday for  
the Benefices of Hambleton,  
Haddlesey and Birkin and Carlton  
and Drax**

*During this service we will remember the events of the last evening Jesus spent with his disciples. We will hear familiar readings and sing the words of hymns we know well. You may find it helpful to have:*

*a bowl with water*

*a towel*

*In these difficult days and weeks we are unable to meet together in ways we would normally take for granted. These times we share together in a virtual world have become so much more significant. We would usually celebrate a simple service of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday. Part of the particular significance of that service, for me, is that we serve each other the bread and wine, but because of the current situation that is not possible. However, we believe that God is with us, and especially closely in times of greatest need, we will remember, in our own homes, the events Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before he died.*

*As we remember the last evening Jesus spent with his disciples, we will maybe find even more significance than we do in more normal times. Jesus and his friends were preparing for the unknown, just as we are in the midst of the unknown. Let us go to the Upper Room, apart, but together, and remember those deeply intimate moments they shared together and ask for grace to be faithful, even as he is faithful.*

This is the day,  
**that Christ gathered with his disciples in an upper room.**

This is the day,  
**that Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet and showed us how to serve others.**

This is the day,  
**that Christ shared a meal as a sign of his great love.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: 'if you love me, keep my commandments'. 'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.'

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love, and ask him to cleanse us.

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences .  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.  
Christ, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we will be whiter than snow.  
Lord, have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
May the Father forgive us  
by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us  
to live in the power of his Spirit  
all our days. **Amen**

*The Collect*

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

*Hymn*

*A new commandment I give unto to you  
that you love one another as I have loved you  
that you love one another as I have loved you*

By this, shall all know that you are my disciples  
If you have love, one for another.  
By this shall all know that you are my disciples,  
If you have love, one for another

*A new commandment...*

A reading from St John's Gospel 13:1-15

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment and set an example for them by washing their feet. In this act of service, he reminded them to care for and serve one another.*

*As you wash your hands, or the hands of those with you, remember your baptism, and the truth that, through Jesus, we are washed clean of the sin that blights us and separates us from God and each other, and remember you are called to serve humbly as Christ has served us.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers  
and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will 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 forever.

**Amen**

*We pray together*

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, he 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.**

And in these uncertain times we pray:  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need  
as if we were caring for you.  
In this time of anxiety, give us strength  
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,  
and to assure the isolated  
of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake.  
**Amen.**

*As our Saviour taught us, we pray together:*  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name  
your kingdom come, you 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.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

*Hymn: Drop, drop slow tears*

1 Drop, drop, slow tears,  
and bathe those beautiful feet,  
which brought from heaven  
the news and Prince of Peace.

2 Cease not, wet eyes,  
his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance  
sin doth never cease.

3 In your deep floods  
drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye  
see sin, but through my tears.

*We share the Peace*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give 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**

*After Jesus had washed his disciples' feet, they sat down together to share a Passover meal. This meal was one of the most important rituals for the Jewish people. It reminded them of their dramatic rescue from slavery in Egypt. Each household had to sacrifice a lamb, daub the blood around the lintel of their house, this would mark them out as Hebrews. They then ate the meat. In the night the Angel of death swept through the land killing the eldest son of every household not protected by the 'blood of the lamb'. Following this terrible night,*

*Pharaoh finally let the Israelites go. The people of Israel were commanded to commemorate this escape every year with the Passover meal, they were to eat lamb with unleavened bread and bitter herbs, to remind them of God's miraculous rescue and the bitter times they had experienced as slaves in Egypt.*

*Luke tells us that the Upper Room had been prepared for a Passover meal. So, after Jesus had washed his disciples feet, they all sat down together to celebrate the Passover. Let's listen to Luke's account of the meal.*

Bible Reading from The Gospel according to Luke 22:7-23,

*We take a short time to reflect on Jesus' words.*

*We listen to Luke 22:39-53*

The disciples ran away in shock and confusion.

*We will continue our worship tomorrow.*