



**Maundy Thursday meal**  
**at**  
**All Saints Anglican Church,**  
**Luxembourg**

“Maundy” comes from the Latin phrase “Mandatum novum” or “new commandment”

## **I Invitation to the Agapé meal**

Tonight, just as in the early church when they gathered for worship, we gather, first around a meal. The meal was and is known as an Agape meal. “Agape” is a word that means love, but a special kind of love—a Godly love. The meal reflects and expresses that love. With those first Christians, each household brought what they had to share with each other. Those who had much brought much. Those who had little brought what they could. But everyone shared. That’s what we do this night with this meal. We share food. We share fellowship. We share love. Agape. Godly love.

Let us pray.

We come before the Lord, God of all mercies.

**For a feast of love has been prepared for his own.**

We will bless the Lord at all times.

**Let his praise be always on our lips.**

O taste and see the goodness of the Lord

**Happy are they who take refuge in God.**

Gracious and giving God, we thank you for this holy evening, for the food you set before us and for the friends you place around us. Give us grace to accept these gifts with grateful hearts. Most of all, we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus, who gave himself as an offering for our sins and a sacrifice for the salvation of the world. **Amen.**

Let us eat.

## **2 An Invitation to be made clean**

On this night, when we remember and imitate the night that our Lord was with his disciples the last time before his death, Jesus set an example for his friends by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught them that strength and growth in the life of the kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by simple acts of service.

### **A reading from John 13:1-17**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John: **glory to you, O Lord**

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.

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, O Christ**

### **Washing of hands by one another**

Come remembering example of Jesus: that what will be done for you is also to be done by you for others, for "a servant is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

*Come forward to use the bowl of water and the towel*

Let us pray.

Holy God, source of all love,  
on the night of his betrayal,  
Jesus gave us a new commandment,  
to love one another as he loves us.

**Write this commandment in our hearts,  
and give us the will to serve others  
as he was servant of all,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Short Prayers of the People**

I invite each and all of you to name those people and places for whom we should pray and remember this night.

*Time is allowed for people to do so.*

### 3 An invitation to Communion

The Lord is here: **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts: **we lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: **it is right to give thanks and praise.**

*Holy, Holy, **Holy***

It is always right to give you thanks,

God our Creator,

loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe,

and filled your world with life.

*Holy, Holy, **Holy***

You sent your Son to live among us,

Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross;

he died to save us from our sins;

he rose in glory from the dead.

*Holy, Holy, **Holy***

You send your Spirit

to bring new life to the world,

and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels

to celebrate and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.

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

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share these gifts  
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.  
*Amen, Amen, **Amen.***

Pour your Spirit on us  
that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.  
*Amen, Amen, **Amen.***

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,

with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:

one God, for ever and ever.

Amen, Amen **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer** - each in your own natural language of prayer*

**We receive Communion**

***A Prayer after Communion***

**God our Father,**

**your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end**

**and drank the cup prepared for him:**

**may we who share his table**

**watch with him through the night of suffering**

**and be faithful. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*You are welcome to leave quietly or to stay on as we strip the altar and to pray in silence*

*Tomorrow at 12:00 we have a short service Reflections on the Cross*

**+ Reflection +**

- What stands out to you from what we did tonight? What did you notice?
- Was there a moment you felt particularly close to God or one another?
- How might Jesus be inviting you to serve others in your actions?

## 4 In invitation to watch with Jesus

*You are welcome to leave quietly or to stay on*

*First, our priests will strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday, then we stay on to pray and meditate on Jesus' prayer for us and his time in the garden of Gethsemane*

*As the altar is stripped Psalm 88 is read*

*Then reflect on Jesus' prayer for us and his arrest in John 17:1-5, 18:1-12*

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup> Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" <sup>5</sup> They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus<sup>[c]</sup> said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he.<sup>[f]</sup> So if you are looking for me, let these people go." <sup>9</sup> This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." <sup>10</sup> Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup> Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

<sup>12</sup> So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

