

f ST. NICHOLAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A PLACE TO BELONG • A PLACE TO BECOME

Maundy Thursday



Collect of the Day

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 receive it thankfully in remembrance of 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Hebrew Scripture Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

A reading from the book of Exodus...

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. [Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians...

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Agapé Feast

When all are seated at the tables, the table hosts light the candles and the Presider begins:

The Washing of the Hands

Presider: Before Jesus gathered for supper with his friends, he took the role of servant and washed the feet of his followers. In our culture and time we do not wash our feet before a meal, but rather we wash our hands. Tonight we have an opportunity to re-enact the ritual of being both servant in washing another's hands and also of being the beloved guest in receiving the washing.

Presider: At your table is a warm bowl of water with several drying cloths. We ask someone to begin by playing the role of the servant and turning to the person seated to the right and washing that person's hands and then drying the hands. The person whose hands are being washed is the beloved guest and simply receives the gesture. Then that beloved guest in turn becomes the servant and washes the hands of the next one at the table until all have had a turn. Allow a moment of reflection.

Blessing of the Meal

Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. On this night, you give us the bread of life and the cup of salvation in the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

People: Let this food strengthen us in the trials that are before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

The meal ends by 8:00pm, at which time the tables are cleared of everything but candles, wine chalices, and bread baskets.

The Liturgy of The Word

The People are seated at tables for this service.

Taizé | Chant | Sing 3 times

Ubi caritas



U-bi ca-ri - tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri - tas De-us i - bi est.

Translation: Where there is charity, selfless love, God is truly there

Taizé | Chant | Sing 3 times

Bless the Lord

$\text{♩} = 28$

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a chant. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system is for the lyrics 'Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.' The second system is for the lyrics 'Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.' The tempo is indicated as quarter note = 28. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

The Gospel | John 13:1-17, 31b-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- Leader: Everyone is invited to offer prayers, thanksgivings, and petitions, closing with, "Lord, in your mercy." The congregation will respond with, "Hear our prayer."
- Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Silence Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
- Presider: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Sanctus: S-130 | Holy, holy, holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, Hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: 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 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, Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 Blessed Nicholas and 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 God, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction: S-161 | O Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

All who love God and seek a deeper relationship with Christ are welcome to receive the bread and wine, which will be administered at each table.

During the singing of this chant the representatives retrieve from the altar the consecrated bread and wine And return to their tables. Communion begins at the end of the chant.

Taizé | Chant | Sing 3 times

Eat This Bread

Musical score for "Eat This Bread" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of vocal lines with lyrics. The first system includes a *mp* dynamic marking and a *cresc.* marking. The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and ne-ver be (or) Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - gry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, Ri - sen Lord, trust in him and you will not thirst. those who trust in you will not thirst."

THE COMMUNION

Communion begins after the chant with the representative passing the consecrated bread from person to person, each person saying to the next, "The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven." Next, the representative passes the chalice containing the consecrated wine. The chalice is passed from person to person, each person saying to the next, "The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation." Those who do not consume wine should simply say, "Amen," then take the chalice, and pass it to the next person, saying, "The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation." People may sip or dip.

Taizé | Chant | Sing 3 times

Wait for the Lord

Musical score for "Wait for the Lord" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of vocal lines with lyrics. The tempo is marked *♩ = 40*. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heed!"

The bread baskets and wine chalices are returned to the altar. Nothing is left but two lighted candles.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Creator, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The People remain seated during the Stripping of the Altar.

Taizé | Chant | Sing until crown of thorns is placed on the altar

Stay With Me

Musical score for "Stay With Me" in G major, 4/4 time, tempo J=72. The score consists of two systems of vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re-main here with me, watch and pray watch and pray." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

The lights of the church are dimmed.

The Altar Party and representatives of the Altar Guild come forward and strip the Altar in silence.

Next the Presider pours out consecrated wine upon the Altar, symbolizing the blood of Christ shed for us,

Next the Presider washes the Altar with water and anoints it with oil, symbolizing the women's preparation of Jesus' body for burial. Finally, the Presider places upon the Altar a crown of thorns, and all the lights of the church are extinguished save the outside spotlight.

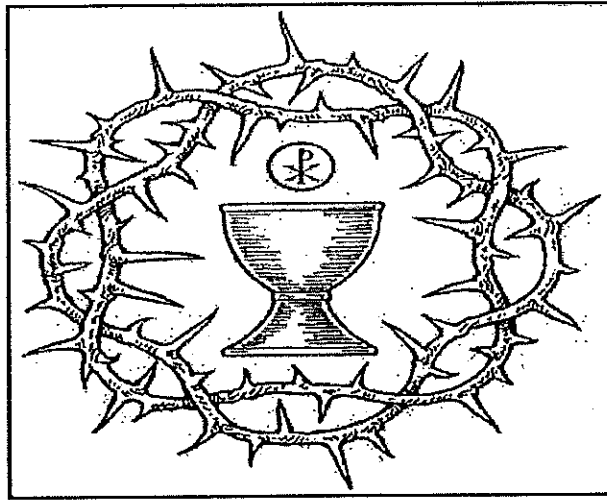
Taizé | Chant | Sing 3 times

Jesus, remember me

Musical score for "Jesus, remember me" in G major, 3/4 time, tempo J=63. The score consists of two systems of vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

The People then depart in silence.

(Please remember to take home with you the dishes you brought for this service.)



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