



**Eucharist
of the Last Supper
2026**

The Gathering of the Community

Introit: Drop, Drop slow tears – V. James

Grace and peace to you from God.

God fill you with truth and joy.

This is the night of Jesus' betrayal – the night that he was handed over to those who would crucify him. This is the night that Jesus gathered with his disciples in the upper room and shared with them a final meal. This is the night that Jesus took a towel and washed his disciples' feet – giving us an example of loving service. This is the night that Jesus gave this holy feast in which we receive the benefits of his passion and are filled with the power of his resurrection.

Hymn:

**An upper room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there
to celebrate their risen friend.**

**A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

**And after supper he washed their feet,
for service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:
sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

**No end there is! We depart in peace,
he loves beyond the uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.**

(F. Pratt Green)

We sit or kneel

On this night Jesus said,

“A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.”

In silence before God,
we confess our sins

Silence

God forgives you.
Be at peace.

Silence

Infinite, intimate God;
this night you kneel before your friends
and wash our feet.

**Bound together in your love,
trembling,
we drink your cup and watch.
Hear this prayer for your love’s sake. Amen.**

The Proclamation

The Readings

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14 (*The First Passover Instituted*)

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 neighbour 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 judgements: 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-2, 11-18. Sung by the choir

I love you O Lord because you heard my voice:
when I made my supplication,
because you turned your ear to me:
when I called upon your name.

How can I repay you O Lord:
for all the good things you have done to me?
I will take up the cup of salvation:
and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all God's people.
Grievous in the sight of the Lord:
is the death of a faithful servant.

Lord I am your servant, the child of your maidservant:
you have freed me from my bonds.
I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving:
and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all God's people,
in the courts of the Lord's house:
in your midst O Jerusalem. O praise the Lord.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (*The Institution of the Lord's Supper*)

For 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey;
We're together on this road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow,
Till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

(Richard Gillard © Scripture & Songs)

The Holy Gospel according to John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Praise and glory to God.

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.'

When he had gone out, Jesus said, '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.'

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ, the Word.

Reflection

The Footwashing

Fellow servants of Christ,
on this night Jesus set an example for the disciples
by washing their feet.
As our feet are washed
remember that strength and growth in God's reign
come by humble service such as this.

*Those gathered may wash one another's feet –
during which the choir sing "Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est"-
"Where charity and love are, God is there".*

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 in obedience gave your life for us. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

On this holy night we dine together as the body of Christ, and at the table commit ourselves to love and serve one another. Let us pray then for the church and all humankind.

God our provider, on this night Jesus gave us this holy feast: may all who gather at your table receive a foretaste of the eternal banquet.

God of love,

grant our prayer.

Servant God, on this night Jesus washed his disciples' feet: may we follow this example of love and service.

God of love,

grant our prayer.

God of compassion, on this night Jesus prayed for those who would believe through the message of the disciples: may those who gathered this week to renew their ordination vows so live what they proclaim that all may come to know your saving love.

God of love,

grant our prayer.

God our companion, we pray for those unable to eat at the Lord's table or at any other table; for those who betray and for those betrayed, and for all innocent victims.

God of love,

grant our prayer.

God of hope, remember all those in need, especially those we silently hold before you now ...

God of love,

grant our prayer.

On this holy night, Jesus our brother did not shrink from death. We pray for those who are dying, and those who have died ...

May we so follow him in life, that we may face our death
unafraid and, with all your saints, come to share with you in
your heavenly banquet.
God of love,
grant our prayer.

The Peace

Jesus says: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The Preparation of the Gifts

Hymn:

**And now, O Father, mindful of the love
which bought us once for all on Calvary's tree,
and having with us Christ who reigns above,
we celebrate with joy for all to see
that only offering perfect in your eyes:
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.**

**Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of your grace,
our prayer so feeble and our faith so dim;
for, set between our sins and their reward,
we see the cross of Christ, your Son, our Lord.**

**And so we come: O draw us to your feet,
most patient Saviour, who can love us still;
and by this food, so awesome and so sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill;
for your glad service, Master, set us free,
and make of us what you would have us be.**

(Jubilate Hymns version - William Bright (1824 - 1901) © Jubilate Hymns Ltd)

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.

God's 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 offer thanks and praise.

It is truly right to give you thanks,
it is fitting to give you glory,
most holy and loving God,
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

For on this very night he wrapped himself with a towel
and, taking the place of a servant,
washed his disciples' feet.

He gave us a new commandment
that we should love one another as he has loved us.

Knowing that his hour had come,
in his great love he gave this holy meal to his disciples
to be a memorial of his passion,
that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,
and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven
to sing a new song of praise.
We, too, join with the angels and archangels singing:

*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.*

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father;
on this very night before he died
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins;
do this as often as you drink it,
to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Therefore loving God,
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,

we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life
and this cup of salvation.
Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive
may be to us the body and blood of Christ,
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.
United in Christ with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Communion

As Christ teaches us we pray, saying

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your 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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the bread in silence and then says

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

The priest lifts the cup and says

The cup of blessing for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The Invitation

Lifting the bread and cup, the priest invites the people, saying

Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.
**May we who share these gifts
be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

The priest and people receive communion.

Prayer after Communion

Hymn

**From heaven you came, helpless babe;
entered our world, your glory veiled.
Not to be served but to serve
and give your life that we might live.**

*This is our God, The Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to The Servant King.*

**There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear
his heart with sorrow was torn
yet 'Not my will but yours,' he said.
*This is our God...***

**Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice.
Hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.
*This is our God...***

**So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.
*This is our God...***

Words and music by Graham Kendrick. Tune: THE SERVANT KING

Holy God, source of all love,
on the night of his betrayal
Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment,
to love one another as he had loved them.
Write this commandment in our hearts.
**Give us the will to serve others
as he was the servant of all,
who gave his life and died for us,
yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Stripping of the Sanctuary

*As the sanctuary is stripped the choir sings Psalm 22
The stark, bare worship space reflects the desolation and
abandonment of Jesus' long night in Gethsemane.*

When the disciples had sung a hymn
they went out to the Mount of Olives.
Jesus prayed to the Father,
“If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me.”
He said to his disciples,
“How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me
for one hour?
The hour has come for the Son of Man
to be handed over to the power of sinners.”

Christ was obedient unto death.
Go in his peace.

*After the choir and clergy have left,
you are invited to remain for a time.*

Please depart in silence.

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