

SERVICE ORDER

Thursday, 6th April Maundy Thursday



OPENING SENTENCE: JOHN 13:34

Jesus said: 'A new commandment I give to you:

Love one another, as I have loved you.'

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SPEAK, O LORD

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.

Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility; test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.

Words of power that can never fail— let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,

and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.

Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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CONFESSION

Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins, and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

PSALM 116:1,2,12-19

¹I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. 2 Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants.

¹⁶ Truly I am your servant, LORD; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

¹⁷ I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the LORD.
 ¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,
 ¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD— in your midst, Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray for strengthening through Christ's body and blood. [silence]

Jesus Christ our Saviour,
thank you for giving your followers your holy supper
to commemorate your suffering and death.
Through your body and blood,
revive our faith in you
and increase our love to others.
For you live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14 The institution of the Passover (NIVUK)

¹²The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb[a] for his family, one for each household. 4 If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. 5 The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. 8 That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. 9 Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. 10 Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. 11 This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. 12 "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. 13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. 14 "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.

After the reading This is the Word of the LORD. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 The institution of the Lord's supper (NIVUK)

³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

LENTEN VERSE: PHILLIPIANS 2:8

Christ humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 Jesus washes his disciple's feet (NIVUK)

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

¹³ It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." ⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" ¹⁰ Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only

to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. ¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving us and giving your life in service for us. Help us to love and serve one another.

Amen.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

BROTHER, SISTER, LET ME SERVE YOU

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

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travellers on the 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.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Richard Gillard
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SERMON

At this point you may wish to Listen to Sermon, or Read and Discuss the Sermon
For Church YouTube Channel (click here)
The Sermon online may be different to the manuscript.
For LCA Worship Resources (click here)

THE CANDLES ARE LIT

The candles are lit and the table is laid; everything's set to begin: parents and children, and husbands and wives, brothers and sisters and friends.

The words that are spoken are simple but true, 'This is My body and blood'; here is forgiveness for all of your sins, here is the promise of God.

Here we meet You once again, God of mercy, God of grace, taste Your love in bread and wine, we meet You face to face.

The candles are lit and the table is laid; God's invitation says, 'Come!' Come, all is ready, our host is at hand, Father, and Spirit, and Son.

No need to be anxious, or troubled with fear, Jesus is with us always. If you need healing, or comfort, or strength, come to this table today.

Here we meet You once again, God of mercy, God of grace, taste Your love in bread and wine, we meet You face to face.

We're free from our sin and we're free from our death, free from the chains of the past; free to be lovers and givers and friends, free to be people at last!

Here we meet You once again, God of mercy, God of grace, taste Your love in bread and wine, we meet You face to face.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The LORD bless us and keep us.
The LORD make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.
The LORD look upon us with favour, and give us peace.

Amen!

SILENT PRAYER

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? ² My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.^[b]

³ Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.^[c]
⁴ In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.
⁵ To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.

⁸ "He trusts in the LORD," they say, "let the LORD rescue him.

Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

⁹ Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast. ¹⁰ From birth I was cast on you; from my mother's womb you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
 Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
 Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me.
 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.
 My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me.
 My mouth^[d] is dried up like a potsherd,
 and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
 you lay me in the dust of death.

16 Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce^[e] my hands and my feet. 17 All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. 18 They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

¹⁹ But you, LORD, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.

²⁰ Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.

²¹ Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

²² I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you.
 ²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
 All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!
 ²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you^[f] I will fulfill my vows.
²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the LORD will praise him—may your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, ²⁸ for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
 all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—
 those who cannot keep themselves alive.
 ³⁰ Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.
 ³¹ They will proclaim his righteousness,
 declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!

HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Exodus 12:1-4(5-10)11-14 LHS

48 Lamb of God most holy * G5

89 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands (esp v 3) * G5

112 Hail Thou once despised Jesus (vv 1,2) G3

The Lamb's high banquet called to share (alt tune 227) G5

ΑT

349 There is a Redeemer

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-36

LHS

- 85 According to Thy gracious word G5
- 282 Draw nigh, and take the body of the Lord*
- 285 To Thy most holy supper, Lord* G5
- 287 Deck thyself, my soul, in gladness* G5
- 291 Thy table I approach* G5
- 292 The death of Christ, our blessed Lord G5
- 320 I come to Thee, O blessed Lord* G3
- 837 Feed us now, Bread of life GS

839 I come, invited by your Word G7 The candles are lit GS 846 848 With deep humility, O Lord G5 AT 69 Fill my house The candles are lit 71 79 Feed us now 170 Take this bread 176 Take, eat, this is My body 279 And so we meet again Take and eat 288 374 Always remember me Real food, real drink 393 397 Before I take (These I lay down) 476 Here is bread 478 This is the body 479 For living, for dying Gospel: John 13:1-17,31b -35 LHS 295 O Lord, we praise Thee* G3 Our God is love* G6 344 Lord of glory, who hast bought us* G3 356 381 O God our Father, throned on high G7 853 A new commandment GS 855 Brother, let me be your servant GS ΑT 65 A new commandment Love one another 177 191 Brother, let me be your servant 261 The Servant King 310 Yesu, Yesu 340 Jesus was a servant 373 Bound by love 443 Like an angel

Bread for the world

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