

## SERVICE ORDER

Maundy Thursday

24 March 2024

### OPENING SENTENCES

On the night he was to be betrayed, Jesus rose from supper,  
took a towel, girded himself with it, and washed his disciples' feet.

**We come tonight to remember his humble service,  
and to be strengthened to be servants like him.**

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread  
and the cup and gave himself to his disciples.

**We come tonight to receive Jesus again in his holy supper  
and to celebrate his gift to us.**

### INVOCATION

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

**Amen.**

### THERE IS A GREEN HILL FAR AWAY

**There is a green hill far away,  
outside a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was crucified,  
who died to save us all.**

**We may not know, we cannot tell  
what pains He had to bear;  
but we believe it was for us  
He hung and suffered there.**

**He died that we might be forgiven,  
He died to make us good;  
that we might go at last to heaven,  
saved by His precious blood.**

**There was no other good enough  
to pay the price of sin;  
He only could unlock the gate  
of heaven, and let us in.**

**O dearly, dearly has He loved,  
and we must love Him too,  
and trust in His redeeming blood,  
and try His works to do.**

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### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*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.*

### **IN CHRIST ALONE**

**In Christ alone my heart is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought & storm.**

**What heights of love,  
What depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled,  
When strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in all;  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless Babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones he came to save.**

**'Til on that Cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied,  
For every sin on him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground his body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave he rose again!**

**And as he stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am his and he is mine,  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, No fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.**

**No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from his hand;  
'Til he returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

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### **GREETINGS & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The Lord be with you.*  
**And also with you.**

*Let us pray:*

**Ever-gracious God, we gather in this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks and burdens of a bitter and broken world. Remind us, in the breaking of the bread and in washing of feet, of our**

need and of your great provision. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of healing and forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to you in faith and thanksgiving. As the night advances, prepare us to stay and watch with you this Easter season, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **BIBLE READING**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14** The institution of the Passover

**12** The 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 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 neighbour, 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 door-frames 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: Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26** The institution of the Lord's supper

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> 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.' <sup>25</sup> 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.' <sup>26</sup> 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.**

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

*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. <sup>2</sup> The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup> Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; <sup>4</sup> so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. <sup>5</sup> After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' <sup>7</sup> Jesus replied, 'You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' <sup>8</sup> 'No,' said Peter, 'you shall never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.' <sup>9</sup> 'Then, Lord,' Simon Peter replied, 'not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!' <sup>10</sup> 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.' <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 'You call me "Teacher" and "Lord", and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. <sup>31</sup> When he was gone, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> 'My children, I will be with you only a little

longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: where I am going, you cannot come. <sup>34</sup> 'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'

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

### **MESSAGE**

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.  
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

### **CLEANSING OF FEET**

When Jesus washed the feet of his disciples' at the Last Supper he declared to Peter: *"Unless I wash you, you have no part with me"* (John 13:8). The footwashing was a symbolic action, pointing forward to the cleansing of sin that Jesus would accomplish through this death and resurrection. It also emphasised Jesus' mission *"not to be served but to serve"* (Matthew 20:28). In washing his disciple's feet, Jesus took upon himself the role and posture of a servant. His service would soon find its ultimate expression on the cross of Calvary. In turn, he called his disciples – then and now - to serve others, saying: *"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"* (John 13:15,34-35).

I will now clean the feet of one of Jesus disciples as a sign of Christ's cleansing of each of our sins through his sufferings on the cross, and of our service of one another in the name of Christ.

*(Time for foot cleaning)*

### **ENCOURAGEMENT AND RESPONSE**

After Jesus had finished washing the disciples' feet, he said,  
*"Do you understand what I have done to you? You address me as 'Teacher' and 'Master,' and rightly so. That is what I am. So if I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other's feet. I've laid down a pattern for you. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."* (John 13:12-15,17)

**Lord Jesus, Master and Teacher, you have given your life for us in loving service. Your nail-pierced hands have washed away our sins. Give us strength to follow your example by loving and serving others. Amen.**

### **THE SERVANT KING**

**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, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.**

**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, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.**

**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, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.**

Graham Kendrick  
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### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Let us pray:*

**Loving heavenly Father, lead us to follow the example of humble service given by your Son. Strengthen us through his body and blood to give ourselves to you and to those in need. Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER LITANY**

*O Lord:*

**Have mercy on us.**

*O Christ:*

**Have mercy on us.**

*O Lord:*

**Have mercy on us.**

*You have taken away the sins of the world.*

**Have mercy on us.**

*You sit at the right hand of the Father.*

**Receive our prayer.**

*You were silent before your accusers.*

**Open our lips to sing your praise.**

*You prayed for your enemies:*

**Help us to love those who hurt and upset us.**

*You glorified God before those who accused you.*

**Help us to bear witness to you, our Lord and our Redeemer.**

*You humbled yourself and washed your disciples' feet.*

**Teach us true humility.**

*You willingly bore your cross.*

**Help us to accept what cross may be placed upon us.**

*You said "I am the Son of God".*



**Hallowed be your name.**

*You said "I am a King."*

**Your kingdom come.**

*You prayed, "Not my will but yours be done."*

**Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*You cried, "I am thirsty."*

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

*You asked forgiveness for your enemies.*

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

*You were tempted in the wilderness.*

**Lead us not into temptation.**

*You commended your spirit into the hands of your Father.*

**Deliver us from evil.**

*You were crowned with thorns.*

**Yours is the kingdom.**

*You sank into the arms of death.*

**Yours is the power.**

*You redeemed us from sin, death and the devil.*

**Yours is the glory, forever and ever. 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 God of love and peace be with you, now and always.

**Amen.**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

*Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?*

*<sup>2</sup> My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,  
by night, but I find no rest.<sup>[b]</sup>*

*<sup>3</sup> Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.<sup>[c]</sup>*

*<sup>4</sup> In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.*

*<sup>5</sup> To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.*

*<sup>6</sup> But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.*

*<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.*

*<sup>8</sup> "He trusts in the LORD," they say, "let the LORD rescue him.  
Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."*

*<sup>9</sup> Yet you brought me out of the womb;  
you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.*

*<sup>10</sup> From birth I was cast on you;  
from my mother's womb you have been my God.*

*<sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.*

*<sup>12</sup> Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.*

*<sup>13</sup> Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me.*

*<sup>14</sup> 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.*

*<sup>15</sup> My mouth<sup>[d]</sup> is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
you lay me in the dust of death.*

*<sup>16</sup> Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me;  
they pierce<sup>[e]</sup> my hands and my feet.*

*<sup>17</sup> All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me.*

*<sup>18</sup> They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.*

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

*<sup>20</sup> Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.*

*<sup>21</sup> Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.*

*<sup>22</sup> I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you.*

*<sup>23</sup> 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<sup>[1]</sup> 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

89 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong  
bands

#### **AT**

349 There is a Redeemer

#### **TIS**

364 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands

373 Hail, our once-despised Jesus

112 Hail Thou once despised Jesus

847 The Lamb's high banquet called to  
share

### **Second reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-36**

#### **LHS**

85 According to Thy gracious word

282 Draw nigh, and take the body of  
the Lord

285 To Thy most holy supper, Lord

287 Deck thyself, my soul, in gladness

291 Thy table I approach

292 The death of Christ, our blessed  
Lord

320 I come to Thee, O blessed Lord

837 Feed us now, Bread of life

839 I come, invited by your Word

846 The candles are lit

848 With deep humility, O Lord

**AT**

69 Fill my house

71 The candles are lit

79 Feed us now

170 Take this bread

176 Take, eat, this is My body

279 And so we meet again

288 Take and eat

**TIS**

498 Draw near and take the body of our  
Lord

503 Robe yourself, my soul, in gladness

510 My God, your table now is spread

515 According to thy gracious word

374 Always remember me

393 Real food, real drink

397 Before I take (These I lay down)

476 Here is bread

478 This is the body

479 For living, for dying

538 Feed us now

540 Christians, lift your hearts and  
voices

707 Bread is blessed and broken

**Gospel: John 13:1-17,31b -35**

**LHS**

295 O Lord, we praise Thee

344 Our God is love

356 Lord of glory, who hast bought us

**AT**

65 A new commandment

177 Love one another

191 Brother, let me be your servant

261 The Servant King

310 Yesu, Yesu

**TIS**

256 From heaven you came

434 Where there is charity and love

534 Love is his word (esp vv 1-4,6)

536 An upper room did our Lord  
prepare

381 O God our Father, throned on high

853 A new commandment

855 Brother, let me be your servant

340 Jesus was a servant

373 Bound by love

443 Like an angel

473 Bread for the world

640 Yesu, Yesu

648 Help us accept each other

650 Brother, sister, let me serve you

699 A new commandment