



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

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Maundy Thursday

With Rites of Footwashing,
the Reservation of the Holy Sacrament,
and the Stripping of the Altar

April 1, 2021

Opening Collect

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 Lessons

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 12:1-14

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.

Here ends the reading.

The Psalm

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

Dilexi, quoniam

1. I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
10. How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?
11. I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
12. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
13. Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his servants.
14. O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15. I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
16. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
17. In the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Church at Corinth *I Corinthians 11:23-26*

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.

Here ends the reading.

A Reading from the Gospel of John

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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."

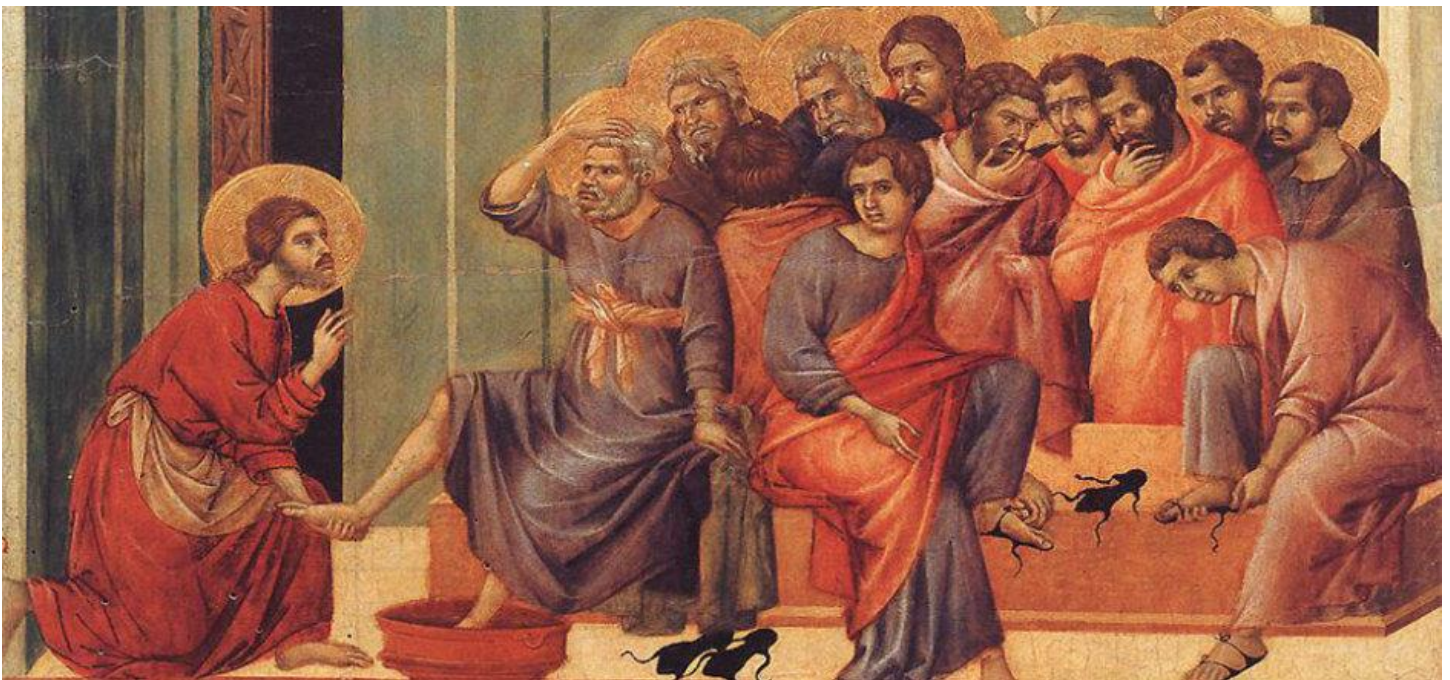
After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily



The Footwashing

Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the life of the Kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service. We all need to remember his example, but none stand more in need of this reminder than those whom the Lord has called to the ordained ministry.

Therefore, I invite you who share in the royal priesthood of Christ, to come forward, that I may recall whose servant I am by following the example of my Master. But come remembering his admonition that what will be done for you is also to be done by you to 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.”

At this time the feet of the congregation are washed.

The Prayers

Forgive us, Lord, for forgetting your sacrifice
and for thinking your grace is cheap.

Forgive us, Lord, for using the cross as a trinket,
forgetting the agony it represents.

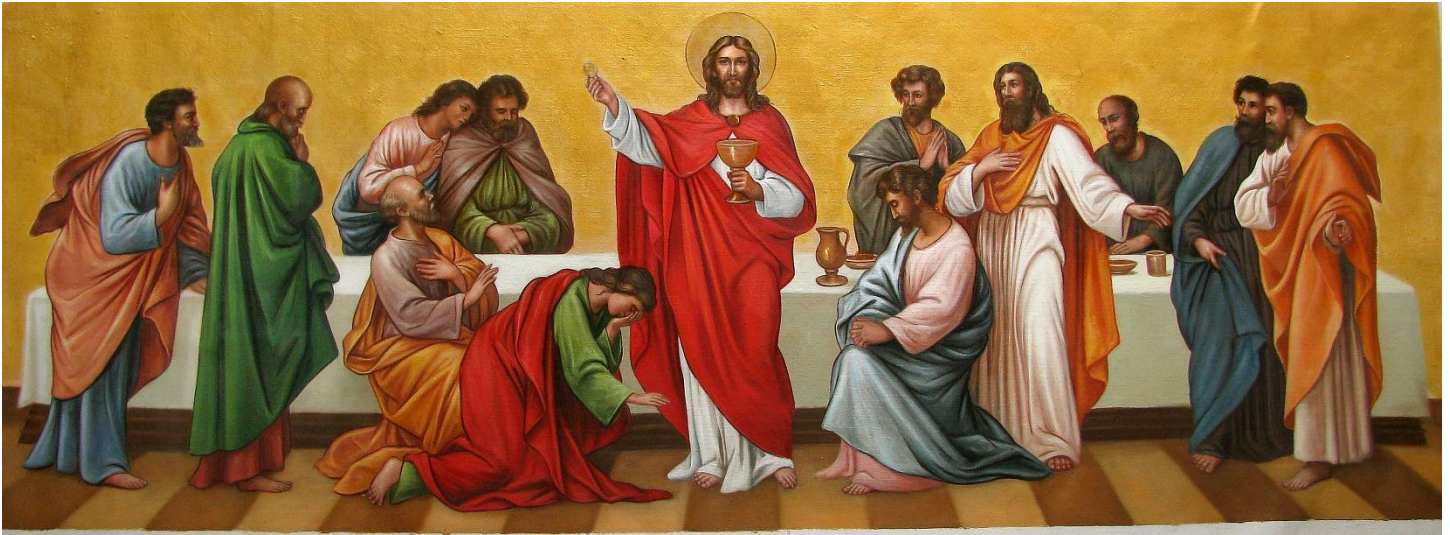
Forgive us, Lord, for wanting a seat at every table you would have flipped,
forgetting to do justice and love mercy.

Forgive us, Lord, for being calloused to human cruelty,
forgetting that every victim is a creature of God.

Forgive us, Lord, for being indifferent about injustice,
forgetting that it still nails innocence to the cross.

Forgive us, Lord, for thinking that sacrifice is obsolete,
forgetting that we still contend against the powers of darkness.

Receive our prayers offered in all humility,
as we remember and honor Christ our Lord who prays for us still. Amen.



The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called the Mass

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People

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.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

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 Fraction

Celebrant God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

People Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.



The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

Celebrant

The receipt of the bread and wine, which is the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. In as much as you would like to partake of this holy food, the spiritual grace provided by the same is supplied to you.

Reader

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Reservation of the Holy Sacrament

A portion of the Sacrament will be reserved for distribution at the Solemnity of Good Friday.

The Post Communion Prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Stripping of the Altar

The altar is prepared for the atoning sacrifice. It is stripped bare and washed with wine and water.

Psalm 22

1. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
2. O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
3. Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

4. In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
5. To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
6. But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.
7. All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
8. ‘Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!’
9. Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
10. On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
11. Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.
12. Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
13. they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
14. I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
15. my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
16. For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shrivelled;
17. I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
18. they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

19. But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
20. Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!
21. Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
22. I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
23. You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
24. For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.
25. From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
26. The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live for ever!
27. All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.
28. For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.
29. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.
30. Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,
31. and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

After the Altar is stripped the Celebrant spends a moment in prayer before the Altar and then all depart in silence.

