



## St John the Divine

*Eucharist Service*

### **Maundy Thursday**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

*Welcome to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: [www.stjohndivine.org.au](http://www.stjohndivine.org.au)*

#### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins  
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

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

Tonight we begin the Great Three Days of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection, the journey from the supper table to the cross, from the cross to Easter dawn. We are followers in his way, exploring his truth, encountering his life.

This is the night when Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would betray him.

This is the night when Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

This is the night when Christ our Lord gave us this holy feast, that as we break the bread and drink the cup we may here proclaim his holy sacrifice, and come to his table in heaven.

This is the night when Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, showing us how to honour and serve one another in love.

This is the night for watching and prayer.

We give ourselves freely to the demands of these great days, confident that those who die in Christ will surely live with him.

Hymn: [An upper room did our Lord prepare](#)

*Frederick Pratt Green (b.1903) - tune: O Waly, Waly*

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*This familiar hymn serves as an introduction to the different aspects we will observe in tonight's service: unity in love, the Last Supper, the washing of feet, and then departing - open to whatever follows.*

- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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.**
- 3. And after supper he washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament. In him our joy shall be made complete – sent out to serve, as he was sent.**
- 4. No end there is! We depart in peace. He loves beyond the uttermost: in every room in our Father's house he will be there, as Lord and host.**

#### PRAYERS OF PENITENCE & COLLECT

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

'If you love me, keep my commandments.'

'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.'

Let us confess to almighty God  
our sins against his love,  
and ask him to cleanse us.

*Silence is kept.*

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive you  
by the death of his Son  
and strengthen you  
to live in the power of the Spirit  
all your days. **Amen.**

Loving God

your Son Jesus Christ has left us this meal  
of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood.  
May we who celebrate this sign of his great love  
show in our lives the fruits of his redemption;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14

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 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.

May your word live in us,  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Psalm 116.1-2, 11-18

- <sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:  
the voice of my supplication;
- <sup>2</sup> **Because he inclined his ear to me:  
in the day that I called to him.**
- <sup>11</sup> How shall I repay the Lord:  
for all his benefits to me?
- <sup>12</sup> **I will take up the cup of salvation:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**
- <sup>13</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people.
- <sup>14</sup> **Grievous in the sight of the Lord:  
is the death of his faithful ones.**
- <sup>15</sup> O Lord, I am your servant,  
your servant and the child of your handmaid:  
you have unloosed my bonds.
- <sup>16</sup> **I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**
- <sup>17</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people,
- <sup>18</sup> **In the courts of the house of the Lord:  
even in your midst, O Jerusalem.  
Praise the Lord.**

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians  
11.23-26

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.

May your word live in us,  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Hymn: *A bowl of water and a towel*

*Martin E Leckebusch (b.1962) - tune: Kingsfold*

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- 1. A bowl of water and a towel  
became a sign of grace  
when Christ, the Lord, the Teacher, took  
the lowest servant's place:  
his work of power and parable  
could only be complete  
when he had knelt before his friends  
and washed their grimy feet.**

- 2. What scandalous humility!  
Our hearts recoil in dread:  
should we not kneel to worship him?  
Can he serve us instead?  
Yet answered by his firm rebuke  
our protest quickly ends -  
unless we let him wash our feet  
we cannot be his friends!**
- 3. And still, across the centuries,  
he presses home his claim:  
that we who know the things he did  
must learn to do the same;  
for we have felt love's gracious touch  
far more than we deserve!  
and with it, heard love's highest prize:  
the call to go and serve.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St John 13.1-17, 31b-35

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Homily*

#### THE WASHING OF FEET

*While we would normally invite everyone to come forward for their feet to be washed, current Covid regulations require each person to be provided with a fresh bowl of warm water and soap - which is not practical.*

*In the same way that the Gospel particularly describes the interaction between Jesus and one disciple when Jesus washes their feet, so you are invited participate vicariously with the one parishioner having their feet washed on behalf of everyone.*

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the Saviour of the world.

Father,  
on this, the night he was betrayed,  
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.  
We commit ourselves to follow his example  
of love and service.  
Humble us, and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.  
Unite us, and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through his disciples' message.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.  
Unite us, and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.  
We pray for the rejected and unloved.  
Fill us with your love, and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

On this night, he reminded his disciples  
that if the world hated them it hated him first.  
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.  
Give us your peace, and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

On this night, he accepted the cup of death  
and looked forward  
to the new wine of the kingdom.  
We remember those who have died  
in the peace of Christ.  
Welcome all your children into paradise,  
and in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God,  
you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith  
we may by your grace receive,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### THE GREETING OF 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 the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Offertory hymn: Prepare a room for me  
Herman G Stuempfle, Jr (1923-2007) - tune: Southwell  
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1. 'Prepare a room for me,  
your Saviour, Host and Priest,  
where I may gather you, my friends,  
to celebrate the feast.'
2. 'This room we have prepared;  
the Table now is set.  
We wait your promised presence, Lord,  
where we once more are met.'
3. 'Where even two of three  
have come the meal to share,  
unseen, but living, loving still,  
I surely will be there!'
4. 'Lord Christ, we seek the food  
your grace alone can give.  
We come with empty, hungry hearts  
that we may eat and live.'
5. 'My promise I will keep;  
your hunger will be fed,  
for in this meal I offer you  
myself, the living Bread!'
6. 'All thanks and praise to you,  
our Saviour, Lord and Friend,  
that through this Loaf and Cup you share  
your love that has no end!'

#### PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

At the eucharist  
we are with our crucified and risen Lord.  
We know that it was not only our ancestors, but we  
who were redeemed and brought forth  
from bondage to freedom  
from mourning to feasting.  
We know that as he was with them  
in the upper room, so our Lord is with us now.  
Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe.  
you bring forth bread from the earth.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe.  
you create the fruit of the vine.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Meek and majestic God,  
you set aside the perfection of your Trinitarian life  
to create the universe,  
and you called the children of Abraham  
to be your priestly kingdom.

You gave your people freedom  
in the parting of the sea  
and marked them for life  
with the blood of the Lamb.

In Jesus you laid aside the robe of your majesty  
and knelt among your children,  
facing humiliation and rejection.

In his agony in the garden  
and suffering on the cross  
you showed the world the extent of your love  
and your longing to bring us home to the throne  
where we shall join angels and archangels  
and all the company of heaven,  
praising your holy name in the unending hymn:

**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.**

Self-giving God,  
in Jesus you became the Lamb  
who takes away the sins of the world,  
and the living bread,  
broken for the life of your children.

Come among us in the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that your people,  
as fragile and fitful as your disciples,  
may become your temple,  
and that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us  
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread,  
gave you thanks, broke the bread,  
and gave it to them, saying,  
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink this, all of you:  
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,  
in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Blessed and broken God, be among your people  
who taste the bitter herbs  
of slavery and oppression;  
be close to your children who are poured out  
in grief and despair;  
remake the church, your Son's body,  
where it is broken by discord,  
dispute and disease;  
and renew your creation  
in the joy of thanksgiving.

Spread your table  
in the face of friends and enemies,  
that all may know your peace  
and gather in the company of your saints,  
to worship you Father, in the presence of Christ  
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**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 for ever. Amen.**

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies,  
it remains just a single grain;  
but if it dies it bears much fruit.

**If we have died with him, we shall live with him.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and  
blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us,  
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Please come forward to receive the consecrated bread  
only - or a blessing - queueing up behind each other on  
the carpet marks, and keeping your distance from others.*

## STRIPPING THE ALTAR

Let us pray.

Holy God, source of all love  
on this night of betrayal  
Jesus commanded his disciples  
to love one another as he loved them.  
We thank you for feeding us in this supper.  
Give us the will to serve others  
as he was servant of all.

*While Psalm 88 is read, the altar is stripped - reminding us of the stripping of Jesus for his crucifixion, and the emptiness of Good Friday - and the lights are turned off, reminding us of the darkness that Jesus entered into on the cross.*

### Psalm 88

- 1 O Lord my God, I call for help by day:  
and by night also I cry out before you.
- 2 Let my prayer come into your presence:  
and turn your ear to my loud crying.
- 3 For my soul is filled with trouble:  
and my life has come  
even to the brink of the grave.
- 4 I am reckoned among those that go down to the Pit:  
I am as one that has no help.
- 5 I lie among the dead,  
like the slain that sleep in the grave:  
whom you remember no more,  
who are cut off from your power.
- 6 You have laid me in the lowest Pit:  
in darkness and in the watery depths.
- 7 Your wrath lies heavy upon me:  
and all your waves are brought against me.
- 8 You have put my friends far from me:  
and made me to be abhorred by them.
- 9 I am so fast in prison I cannot get free:  
my eyes fail because of my affliction.
- 10 Lord, I call to you every day:  
I stretch out my hands toward you.
- 11 Will you work wonders for the dead:  
or will the shades rise up again to praise you?
- 12 Shall your love be declared in the grave:  
or your faithfulness in the place of destruction?
- 13 Will your wonders be made known in the dark:  
or your righteousness in the land  
where all things are forgotten?
- 14 But to you, Lord, will I cry:  
early in the morning  
my prayer shall come before you.
- 15 O Lord, why have you rejected me:  
why do you hide your face from me?
- 16 I have been afflicted and wearied from my youth  
upward:  
I am tossed high and low, I cease to be.

- 17 Your fierce anger has overwhelmed me:  
and your terrors have put me to silence.
- 18 They surround me like a flood all the day long:  
they close upon me from every side.
- 19 Friend and acquaintance you have put far from me:  
and kept my companions from my sight.

*Depart in silence without a blessing or dismissal*

### **Permissions**

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### NOTICES

*Fri 2 Apr - Good Friday - 9.30am*  
*Commemoration of the death of Christ*

*Sat 3 Apr - Holy Saturday - 7.30pm*  
*Vigil & Service of Light (no eucharist)*  
*part A: anticipating the resurrection*

*[Daylight Savings ends]*

*Sun 4 Apr - Easter Day - 9.30am*  
*Renewal of baptismal vows & Eucharist*  
*part B: celebrating the resurrection*