



# St. Cross

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1818 Monterey Boulevard · Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 · 310.376.8989 · [www.stcross.org](http://www.stcross.org)



## Maundy Thursday Service

April 9, 2020

7:00 p.m.

[www.stcross.org/live](http://www.stcross.org/live)

## Maundy Thursday

*Tonight's service—on the eve of Good Friday—begins the Sacred Triduum, or Three Sacred Days, of our redemption. Tonight is a celebration of our Lord's institution of the sacrament of his Body and Blood, but it is pervaded by the shadow of the cross.*

*Jesus gathered with his disciples in the context of the greatest of all events in Israel's redemption—the Exodus and the Passover. Yet the normal joy of such an evening was muted by betrayal, the failure of his friends to understand what he was doing, and his own fear of what was to come. It was a farewell dinner in which Jesus, by washing his disciples' feet, sought to illustrate one final time the character of love and ministry which is central in the life to which he calls us: self-giving love to the point of dying for one's friends.*

*We hear the ancient instructions for celebrating the Passover and John's account of the moment when Jesus washed his disciples' feet.*

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.  
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### A Note about this Evening's Liturgy

*This evening's service has been adapted from its original form due to the shelter in place rules in regards to the coronavirus. The following service can be used in two ways. It can be used by individuals or families for your own devotions at home. The red rubrics will guide you through the service. Or, you can join us as we gather online as a community to pray this service together.*

*The congregation is encouraged to participate throughout the service. Congregational responses are printed in **bold** type.*

## Holy Week and Easter Online at St. Cross Live

<i>Friday, April 10</i>	<i>7:00pm</i>	<i>Good Friday Service</i>
<i>Sunday, April 12</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Easter Morning Service</i>

**[www.stcross.org/live](http://www.stcross.org/live)**

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Set out a bowl of water and a clean towel. Sit with them before you and begin with these texts. First, remember God's forgiveness:*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us  
even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Our sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.  
Almighty God strengthen us with power  
through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*Then pray the prayer for this night:*

Holy God, source of all love,  
on the night of his betrayal,  
Jesus gave us a new commandment,  
to love one another as he loves us.  
Write this commandment in our hearts,  
and give us the will to serve others  
as he was servant of all,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Then read this reading:*

### **First Reading**

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Then pray this Psalm.*

### **Psalm 116:1, 10-17**

**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.**

**How shall I repay the LORD \*  
for all the good things he has done for me?**

**I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people.**

**Precious in the sight of the LORD \*  
is the death of his servants.**

**O LORD, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.**

**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people,  
In the courts of the LORD's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

*Then read the Gospel.*

## **Holy Gospel**

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

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. "

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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*If you are doing this service on your own, here are some questions to help you reflect on the night: Meditate on Jesus taking on the role of a servant and washing his disciples' feet. What emotions does it stir up for you? What are some ways in which you experience God's self-giving love? Think about Jesus' command, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." How can we do that in today's context?*

## Homily

The Rev. Stephen Smith

*Here you may wash your hands, using the water in the bowl, recalling Jesus washing his disciples' feet. We begin by washing, as we were washed in our baptism. We cleanse our hands as we were cleansed in the waters of new birth. We do this not because we are afraid, but because we were commanded to love, and to cleanse our hands, and gather in spirit, is how we love the vulnerable, whom Jesus loved. May we be instruments of love. May the sacrifices we make be for the good of our human family near and far.*

## Hymn

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

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Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community  
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
© 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

*Then you may pray together these intercessions for our church and world.*

## Prayers of the People

United with Christians around the globe on this Maundy Thursday, let us pray for the church, the earth, our troubled world, and all in need, responding to each petition with the words **Your mercy is great.**

*A brief silence.*

Blessed are you, holy God, for the church. Gather all the baptized around your presence in the Word. Strengthen the body of your people even when we cannot assemble for worship. Grant Michael our Presiding Bishop, John and Diane our Bishops, and all our clergy faithfulness and creativity for their ministry in this time, and accompany those preparing for baptism.

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, holy God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, bountiful God, for this good earth and for the flowering of springtime. Save dry lands from destructive droughts. Protect the waters from pollution. Allow in this time the planting of fields for food. Make us into care-givers of your plants and animals.

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, bountiful God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God, for our nation. Inspire all people to live in peace and concord. Grant wisdom and courage to heads of state and to legislators as they face the coronavirus. Lead our elected officials to champion the cause of the needy.

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, sovereign God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, faithful God, for you accompany suffering humanity with love. Abide wherever the coronavirus has struck. Visit all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost their employment; those who fear the present and the future. Support physicians, nurses, and home health aides; medical researchers; and the World Health Organization.

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, faithful God **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, for you care for the needy. We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying. Especially we pray for the needs of our congregation, and for those we name before you now.

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, gracious God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, loving God, that your Son knelt before us, your unworthy servants. Preserve our lives, comfort our anxiety, and receive now the petitions of our hearts.

*A longer period of silence.*

Hear us, loving God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, eternal God, for all who have died in the faith, whom we commemorate today, and those whom we name before you here.

*A brief silence.*

At the end, bring us with them into your everlasting glory.  
Hear us, eternal God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Celebrant*

Receive, merciful God, our prayers, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the host of our meal of life, who died and rose that we might live with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Finally, remembering Jesus going to his arrest and his death, the events from which all the mercy that fills this night flows, pray this prayer. If you have a sacred space set-up at home, you may strip it of any ornamentation leaving only the cross as a reference to the coming death of Jesus.*

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples and had washed their feet, said to them, "Do you know what I, your Lord and Master, have done to you? I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done."

**Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.**

I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you.

**Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.**

By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another.

*When we are worshipping in our church, members are invited to keep vigil for a time (or overnight) in the Garden Chapel in response to Jesus' question "Could you not watch with me for one hour?" You are welcome to take an hour at home this night to pray the psalms, meditate, journal, or be silent in response to Jesus' question.*

*The Three Days continue tomorrow with the service for Good Friday.*