

# Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

An open door between heaven and earth,  
showing God's love to all



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

## Introduction

The service for Maundy Thursday can seem an awkward mixture of both celebration and sadness. Celebration because, traditionally, Christians see the events of this night as those which gave us the Eucharist itself; and sadness because there is the inevitable note of impending tragedy. There is betrayal, the painful lesson of humility and service (and, indeed, of learning to be served) and the anticipation of Christ's agony in Gethsemane. And yet such can be the nature of life with God – that in the midst of the deepest darkness it is possible to find light, or the seeds of what will become light for us as we persevere through that darkness.

The service takes the form of a celebration of the Eucharist. The gospel reading introduces the theme of serving and being served through the story of the washing of the disciples' feet. *If you would like to take part in the foot-washing ritual, please sit near the central aisle and the president and deacon will come to you where you are.*

At the end of the service, the stark reality of what is to come is anticipated by the stripping of the sanctuary of all the comforting symbols of our faith. Finally, we keep watch with Jesus as we seek to stay with our Lord through his sufferings and in so doing allow perseverance and compassion to be written more deeply into our own lives.

*Please stand.*

## **Hymn 763**

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise;  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight,  
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! That flesh and blood,  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against the foe,  
should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace  
should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very self,  
and essence all-divine.

O generous love! That he, who smote  
In man for man the foe,  
The double agony in man  
For man should undergo.

And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his brethren, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise;  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

*The president says*

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

**Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you

**And also with you.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

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 our sins and our failure to love one another  
as Christ has loved 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.**

*During the Gloria, the church bells are rung; afterwards, they remain silent until Easter Eve.*

## Gloria

**Firmly** (♩ = 108) *f*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on  
earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and  
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your  
glo-ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the  
Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world: have mer-cy on us; you are sea-ted at the  
right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For  
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
you a-lone are the most high, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly  
Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - - - men.

## The Collect

Let us pray that we may love one another  
as Christ has loved us.

*Silence is kept*

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes:  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*

## Reading

### **1 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.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn 165**

*Please stand*

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.

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.

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.

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.

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

## **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel  
of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **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. Jesus 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.

When he had gone out, 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

## **The Washing of Feet**

*During the foot-washing, the choir sings a setting of Ubi Caritas:*

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.  
(Where charity and love are; there God is)

*The washing of feet concludes with this prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do  
also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen**



## Prayers

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.

Lord, hear us  
**and humble us.**

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.

Lord, hear us  
**and unite us.**

On this night, Jesus prayed for those who were to believe  
through the disciples' message.  
We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, hear us  
**and renew our zeal.**

On this night, Jesus commanded his disciples to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.  
We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, hear us  
**and fill us with your love.**

On this night, Jesus reminded his disciples  
that if the world hated them it hated him first.  
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, hear us  
**and give us your peace.**

On this night, Jesus 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.

Lord, hear us  
**and welcome all your children into paradise.**

## **The Peace**

*Please stand. The president introduces the Peace*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give 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.**

*A minister says*

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

*All may exchange a sign of Peace.*

## **Hymn 489**

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.

Come, see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.

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.

*Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)*

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it*

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 here with us now.  
**Until the kingdom of God comes  
let us celebrate this feast.**

*The President takes the bread and wine and says*

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 Eucharistic Prayer**

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give you thanks,  
 Father most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 For on this night he girded himself with a towel  
 and, taking the form of a servant,  
 washed the feet of his disciples.  
 He gave us a new commandment  
 that we should love one another as he has loved us.  
 Knowing that his hour had come,  
 in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples  
 to be a memorial of his passion,  
 that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,  
 and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven  
 to sing a new song of praise;  
 we too join with angels and archangels  
 as they proclaim your glory without end:

## Sanctus

**Easily** (♩ = 100)      **mp** UPPER VOICES ONLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

**mf** ALL      *cresc.*

God of power and might, God of power and might,

**f**

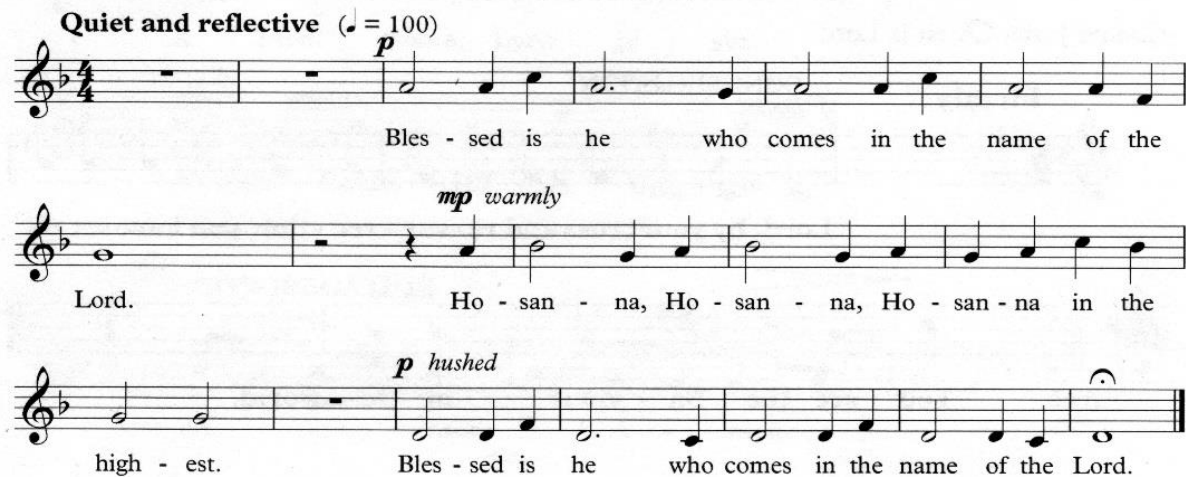
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

**ff**

san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Benedictus

Quiet and reflective ( $\text{♩} = 100$ )



Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
that is, this very night,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, 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.

Christ is the bread of life:  
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever

**Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

**Agnus Dei**

Gently flowing (♩ = 63)

*mf* CONGREGATION

Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sins of the world: have mer-cy, have mer-cy on us.

*p* Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: *poco rit*

a little slower

Grant us, grant us peace.

## Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The president and people receive communion. The choir sings an anthem.*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

*The post-communion prayer is said*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood  
that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruit of your redemption,  
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **The Sacrament is transferred to the Altar of Repose**

*Please stand while the ministers process to the Lady Chapel and place the Sacrament on the Altar of Repose. You are welcome to move from your seats to be closer to the Lady Chapel. The clergy kneel before the altar and the 'Tantum Ergo' (hymn 457) is sung.*

Therefore we, before him bending,  
This great sacrament revere;  
Types and shadows have their ending,  
For the newer rite is here;  
Faith, our outward sense befriending,  
Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing  
To the Father and the Son,  
Honour, might and praise addressing,  
While eternal ages run;  
Ever to his love confessing,  
Who, from both, with both is one. Amen.

St. Thomas, Aquinas (1227-74); Translator: J. M. Neale (1818-66)

*After a period of silence, the stripping of the altar and sanctuary is done in silence. Please be seated.*



## The Watch

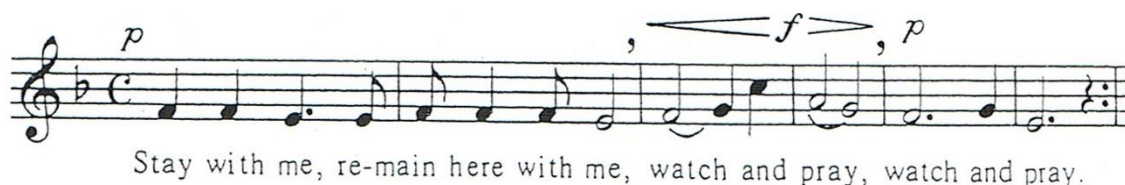
*The story of Christ's agony in the garden is read.*

### Mark 14.32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

### Taizé Chant (172)



*We keep watch until midnight.*

*During the Watch, you may wish to use any of the following meditations to help focus your prayer:*

### Meditation One

Jesus said to Peter, James, and John, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'

*Mark 14:34-36*

*In the Garden of Gethsemane, our God feels the weight of human misery. Alone, weeping, and overwhelmed with grief, the weakness of humanity meets the strength of God in Jesus.*

*And in that strength he prays that God's will be done.*

*As we watch with him in this garden, let us pray for God to fill us with that same courage, and strengthen us for whatever lies ahead.*

My God (oh, let me call thee mine,  
Weak, wretched sinner though I be),  
My trembling soul would fain be thine;  
My feeble faith still clings to thee.  
Not only for the past I grieve,  
The future fills me with dismay;  
Unless thou hasten to relieve,  
Thy suppliant is a castaway.

I cannot say my faith is strong,  
I dare not hope my love is great;  
But strength and love to thee belong:  
Oh, do not leave me desolate!  
I know I owe my all to thee;  
Oh, take the heart I cannot give;  
Do thou my Strength, my Saviour be,  
And make me to thy glory live!

*'A Prayer', Anne Brontë (1820-1849)*

## **Meditation Two**

Jesus came and found the disciples sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

*Mark 14:37-38*

*Sleep claims those whose eyelids are heavy, and the disciples squander those last precious hours. They would not sleep if their hearts could understand.*

*And we, who keep watch because we know what is coming, we are no more faithful, no more loving, no more wise.*

*As we wait with Christ tonight, let us pray that God would weave our failures into the story of his victory.*

The grass never sleeps.  
Or the roses.  
Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning.  
Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept.

The cricket has such splendid fringe on his feet,  
and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body,  
and heaven knows if it ever sleeps.

Jesus said, wait with me. And maybe the stars did, maybe  
the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move.  
Maybe the lake far away, where once he walked  
as on a blue pavement,  
lay still and waited, wild awake.

Oh the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not  
keep that vigil, how they must have wept,  
so utterly human, knowing this too  
must be part of the story.

*'Gethsemane', Mary Oliver (1935-2019)*

### **Meditation Three**

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, 'You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.' But he denied it, saying, 'I do not know or understand what you are talking about.'

*Mark 14:66-68*

*The disciples flee and Peter denies he ever met Jesus. His fear is so great he doesn't even remember that Jesus predicted this.*

*We deny him too when we fail to live as he has asked us, when we refuse to let our faith be known, when we deny what is right for fear of losing what is comfortable.*

*As we pray in silence, let us ask forgiveness for our failure to speak out for Jesus.*

Ah, holy Jesu, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended!  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesu, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesu, I it was denied thee:  
I crucified thee.

For me, kind Jesu, was thy incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesu, since I cannot pay thee,  
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,  
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,  
not my deserving.

## **Meditation Four**

At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' And he broke down and wept.

*Mark 14:72*

*At dawn, Peter wept for his unfaithfulness; in the darkness, we remember ours. We watch with the same Jesus who will hang upon the cross, who suffers for our sin.*

*But Easter is coming, and the dawning day will bring with it the love that conquers death. And in that love we too are forgiven and restored.*

*As we rest in the presence of God, pray for that love to surround us.*

Here is the source of every sacrament,  
The all-transforming presence of the Lord,  
Replenishing our every element  
Remaking us in his creative Word.  
For here the earth herself gives bread and wine,  
The air delights to bear his Spirit's speech,  
The fire dances where the candles shine,  
The waters cleanse us with His gentle touch.  
And here He shows the full extent of love  
To us whose love is always incomplete,  
In vain we search the heavens high above,  
The God of love is kneeling at our feet.  
Though we betray Him, though it is the night.  
He meets us here and loves us into light.

*'Maundy Thursday', Malcolm Guite (b.1957)*