



“Our Welcome”

In the light of God’s unconditional love, we respect the dignity of every human being by welcoming and supporting all persons whatever their race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, health status, marital status or stage of spiritual journeying. We invite you to explore, investigate, and grow in your faith and become a part of our shared journey with God.

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 1, 2021 – An Order for Evening

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Office: 517-482-9454

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
www.stpaulslansing.org



St. Paul's Staff: The Rev. Karen C. Lewis, Rector; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Mr. Brandon Blanchard, Sexton; Ms. Ciera Hart, Nursery Attendant; Ms. Kathy Vogel, Wedding Coordinator.

St. Paul's Vestry: Dave Parks, Sr. Warden; Sue Le Duc, Jr. Warden; Jack Baker, Jane Bryce, Diane Clark, Graham Crabtree, Michael Hart, Susan Henderson, Martha Seaman McKee, Margaret Schulte, Gloria Sutton, Jeff Irwin, Treasurer, Sally Boron, Secretary.

Please prepare yourself for worship. Find a space where you can be comfortable and undisturbed for awhile. Perhaps have a small cross and/or a candle placed on a small table by you.

Take a moment to be still and think of all those who will be joining you this morning in prayer.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
AN ORDER FOR EVENING – APRIL 1, 2021

PRELUDE

The Officiant begins the service inviting everyone to join in a moment of holy silence. Then,

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Officiant says

If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,” darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10-11*

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and made worthy to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People pray together the following

O GRACIOUS LIGHT *Phos hilaron*

**O Gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

Then follows the appointed Psalm. The People pray it together

PSALM 116:1, 10-17

- 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.

At the end of the Psalm is said by all

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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.**

Silence

A GOSPEL READING

JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35

Reader A Reading from the Gospel of John.

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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

The following Canticle is said by all

A SONG OF CHRIST'S HUMILITY *Philippians 2:6-11*

**Though in the form of God,*
Christ Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
But emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,*
and was born in human likeness.
Being found in human form, he humbled himself*
and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Therefore, God has highly exalted him*
and given him the name above every name,
That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow,*
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,*
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People pray together

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

When the hour had come for Christ to be glorified, Jesus washed the disciples' feet, giving us his example of servanthood, and he fed us with bread and wine so that we might participate

in his death and resurrection: Loving God, be present with us as we bring into your compassionate heart all of the suffering and need of the world.

Gracious One, Christ gave the disciples the new commandment to love one another: Empower us with your Spirit, that we may walk in the way of the cross with such courage and compassion that everyone will know that we are Christ's disciples. O God, **hear our prayer.**

Holy, Immortal One, you absorbed the injustice, evil, and violence of every power and principality in Christ's glorification upon the cross: Empower those who work for reconciliation and peace, that everyone exercising a position of authority in the world may share in your work of healing and reunion. O God, **hear our prayer.**

Giver of Eternal Life, we ask your compassionate presence to be active in every place where people suffer or mourn or die. We pray especially for those incarcerated; those struggling with mental illness, loneliness, homelessness or hunger; for first responders who give of themselves to keep our communities safe. O God, **hear our prayer.**

Healer of bodies and souls, we bring our prayers of intercession and supplication for those we love or are in need, especially those on our parish prayer list; those battling COVID-19 and those who care for them; and those we now name either silently or aloud _____; O God, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our words of thanksgiving and praise to you, especially for our family and friends; for the community of St. Paul's and our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Michigan; O God, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to Christ's cross and resurrection those who have died, especially victims of violence and others we now name _____. Precious in your sight, O God, is the death of your servants. O God, **hear our prayer.**

The Officiant concludes the prayers saying,

In Jesus, the divine life has been revealed to us as servant and sacrifice: Hear our prayers on behalf of your whole creation, O God, that you may receive our offering as you received Christ's death for us, consecrating everything into the life of the Spirit, for you live and reign, One God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Officiant says the following prayer

Almighty, everlasting God, let our prayer in your sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Officiant Bow down before the Lord.

The people bow their heads.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between

preserving their health or making their rent

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbor.

Amen.

Author unknown

