



Agapé & Footwashing

Maundy Thursday for Home Worship (Year A)

APRIL 9, 2020

DISTRIBUTED WORSHIP

Welcome to St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church where we celebrate the glory of God in Jesus Christ through worship, service, and fellowship. We believe God calls us to grow by expanding our spiritual life, focusing our outreach, and increasing our ministry to one another.

This liturgy is intended to be celebrated safely by home groups during the pandemic, and is assembled from resources provided by the Rev. Dr.'s Gortner & Farwell and Dr. Kimball of VTS.

The Preparation

The *mandate* of Jesus was given in the context of a meal shared amongst dear friends. Let us also celebrate together, in our separate places, over a meal.

1. For an Agapé Meal, vegetarian or vegan dishes are preferred. The setting should be austere and the foods sparse and simple. A Mediterranean-style meal is often chosen, but any foods are fine as long as they are simple. Salads, soups, simple meatless proteins, cheese, olives, fruits and nuts, and simple grains or pastas can all be fine. Include a bit of bread and wine, according to what is in keeping with your dietary requirements.
2. If there are several persons present, one will officiate.

3. If you are to include the foot washing, set up what you need to wash each other's feet before hand. A wash basin, a pitcher with warm water, and a few towels are sufficient. If you wish to use a bit of soap, feel free. Set a foot-washing space in the room, just a bit away from the table. Have what you need for good washing and drying of hands at a nearby sink.
4. Set your table with your meal, and bring a Bible and a *Book of Common Prayer* to the table with you. If you wish, you may light a couple of candles.
5. Be prepared to clear your table completely at the conclusion of the service.

The Gathering

In the evening, all gather around the table, standing as able. After a time of silence, the chosen officiant begins:

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, gave freely of himself to his beloved in the washing of feet and in instituting the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that as we gather in our households we may remember these great gifts of love by Jesus Christ our Lord, and follow his great command to love one another as he eternally loves us all; who has given himself for the whole world, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (22:7-16)

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." So they went and

found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A BLESSING OVER THE FOOD

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the fast that is before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Meal

The People now sit.

The Officiant begins passing around the bread or pasta and the following blessing is said All together:

A BLESSING OVER THE BREAD

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth; and you have fed us on our way with the bread of life in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. Let us be fed again soon with that bread of life. And as grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

The Officiant now passes around the wine or other drink and the following blessing is said All together:

A BLESSING OVER THE WINE

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine; and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May the time come quickly when we can share that cup again, even as you are with us now in our very thirst for you. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

The Footwashing

After the meal is eaten, but before the table is cleared, you may serve each other in footwashing

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN (13:1-15)

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."

WASH FEET

One at a time, sit on a chair barefoot and allow another to wash your feet in silence.

After all have rotated through, continue the reading

FINISH THE READING

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.

THE PSALM APPOINTED FOR TODAY IS 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no
water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place;
that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips.

When I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you,
your right hand holds me fast.

The Prayers

The People may stand or kneel for the prayers

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

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BCP 97

All 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.

COLLECT

Led by the Officiant

O God of the crucified and risen One, from whom
no trial or trouble can separate us: you feed us with
your Word and soothe us with your Spirit, closer to
us than breath itself.

Make us glad this night for the life of your servant
Jesus; Make us servants of all for the sake of Jesus;
who for our sake gave his life for the salvation of all.

In the Name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

The Stripping of the Table

*The Maundy Thursday liturgy traditionally ends
with a ritual stripping of the altar
which is left empty until the Easter Vigil on Saturday.*

*If you have a home altar, go to it now and together in silence
reverently remove all items from it.*

*If you do not have a home altar, you may choose to clear your
dinner table in this same manner, leaving the room in silence.*



CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK

- Apr. 9:** Maundy Thursday @ Home
Apr. 10: Good Friday at 7:00 pm
Apr. 11: Easter Vigil Saturday at 8:00 pm
Apr. 12: Easter Sunday with the Most Rev. Curry at the Washington National Cathedral, 11:15 am

OUR PARISH STAFF

The Rev. John Elliott Lein, *Priest-in-Charge*
The Rev. Al Prichard, *Deacon*
Natalie Homer, *Parish Administrator*
Dr. William Haller, *Director of Music*
Angela Carver, *Youth Formation Leader*
Corina Chang, *Children's Formation Leader*
Bethany Kulchock, *Nursery Attendant*
Tyler Rigby, *Nursery Attendant*

OUR VESTRY

Kathy Fedan, *Senior Warden*
Roy Spears, *Junior Warden*
John McFerrin, *Secretary*
Linda Yost, *Treasurer*
Carol Beall
Linda Durfee
Mark Dutkevicz
Cary Johnson
Rebecca Krehbiel
Neha Lal
Jeff O'Neil
Susan Seitz



St. Thomas à Becket
Episcopal Church in Morgantown, WV

75 Old Cheat Road, Morgantown, WV 26508

(304) 296-0270 • parish@stthomasabecket.org

Church Office Hours:

The Church Office is closed for now;
you may call or text Natalie at 208-360-2787 (leave message).

Appointments with Father John, our Priest-in-Charge:

Call 681-285-2158 or email rector@stthomasabecket.org for a video chat.