

Liturgy for Maundy Thursday 8.05pm Thursday 9 April 2020

Voluntary: JS Bach - Erbarm' dich mein, oh Herre Gott, BWV 721

We begin at 8.05pm after the national Clap for Carers.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All Amen.**

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

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

All Lord, have mercy.

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

All 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.

All Christ, have mercy.

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days.

All Amen.

The Collect

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

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.

All Amen.

First Reading

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

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.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

John 13.1–17,31b–35

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

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.

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 gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn (NEH 83)

Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains Poured for me the life-blood From His sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal In that Blood I find; Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream, Which from endless torments Did the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies; But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

Oft as it is sprinkled, On our guilty hearts; Satan in confusion Terror-struck departs. Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high, Hell with terror trembles Heaven is filled with joy.

Lift ye then your voices; Swell the mighty flood; Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood.

Sermon

The Revd Dr Patrick Miller

Prayers

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Standing at the foot of the cross, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All Peace be with you.

The Conclusion

When the Liturgy of Maundy Thursday is held in church, the Stripping of Sanctuary takes place.

From Psalm 88

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her children have gone away, captives before the foe. Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it, to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one's cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject for ever.

When the Liturgy of Maundy Thursday is held in church, there is no formal end to the service. The watch of silent prayer goes on into the night. Although the livestream service ends, prayer in our homes continues.

On this evening Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest, and asked his disciples to watch and pray with him. This evening, please make a time to pray privately. Then read the account of Jesus's arrest from one of the gospels.

Mark 14:43-49

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.' So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, 'Rabbi!' and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.' All of them deserted him and fled.

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