

CONGREGATIONS OF THE AELC
TRINITY OAKEY, ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY, BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA
TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD

9 April 2020

Bulletin for Maundy Thursday

ORDER OF SERVICE WITHOUT HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVOCATION

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

HYMN 71 COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN

1
Come to Calvary's holy mountain,
Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows to you, to me, to all,
In a full perpetual tide,
Opened when our Saviour died.

2
Come in poverty and meanness,
Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness,
From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white;
Ye shall walk with God in light.

3
Come in sorrow and contrition,
Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty free remission,
Here the troubled peace may find:
Health this fountain will restore;
He that drinks shall thirst no more.

4
He that drinks shall live for ever;
'Tis a soul-renewing flood:
God is faithful; God will never
Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died,
Sealed when He was glorified.

THE CONFESSION

Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord. **Then He forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to You that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Most merciful God, You have given Your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and Your will, and make us obedient to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

THE INTROIT

What shall I repay to the LORD for all the good that He has done to me?
I shall lift up the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the LORD.
I shall fulfil my vows to the LORD, right in the presence of all His people.
The death of His faithful people is precious in the sight of the LORD.
O LORD, I am indeed Your servant. I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant.
You have undone the chains on my feet.

I shall offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to You, and I shall call on the name of the LORD.
I shall fulfil my vows to the LORD, right in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD, in the middle of you, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!

Psalm 116:12-19

THE GLORY TO THE FATHER

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

THE LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

THE GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Glory to God in the highest.

And on earth peace, among men with whom He is pleased. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, You alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

The First Reading for _____ is written in chapter _____ of _____, beginning at verse _____.

After the reading:

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

THE SECOND READING

The Second Reading is written in chapter _____ of _____, beginning at verse _____.

After the reading: This is the Word of the Lord.

Christ humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death; even death on the cross.

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in the _____ chapter of the Gospel according to _____, beginning at verse _____.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

After the Gospel: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN 51 LET THY BLOOD IN MERCY POURED

1
Let Thy blood in mercy poured,
Let Thy gracious body broken,
Be to me, O gracious Lord,
Of Thy boundless love the token:
Thou didst give Thyself for me,
Now I give myself to Thee.

2
Thou didst die that I might live;
Blessed Lord, Thou cam'st to save me;
All that love of God could give
He for Thy sake freely gave me:
Thou didst give Thyself for me,
Now I give myself to Thee.

3

By the thorns that crowned Thy brow,
By the spear-wound and the nailing,
By Thy pain and death, I now -
Claim, O Christ, Thy love unfailing:
Thou didst give Thyself for me,
Now I give myself to Thee.

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4

Wilt Thou own the gift I bring?
All my penitence I give Thee;
Thou art my exalted King,
Of Thy matchless love forgive me:
Thou didst give Thyself for me,
Now I give myself to Thee.

SERMON - The Lord's Supper is a Memorial of the Wonderful Works of God Psalm 111:4-5

HYMN 288 O JESUS, BLESSED LORD, TO THEE

1

O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks for ever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2

Break forth, my soul, for joy, and say:
What wealth is come to me this day.
My Saviour dwells within me now;
How blest am I, how good art Thou.

THE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us peace. **Amen.**

HYMN 330 ROCK OF AGES

1

Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

2

Not the labours of my hands
Can fulfil Thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone.
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

3

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress,
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

4

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let my hide myself in Thee

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter the final stages of our Saviour's life on this earth, let us forever keep in mind that He had us in mind when He allowed Himself to be arrested, beaten, and hung on a cross, where He would die to set us free. Even though Jesus has risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, He is still with us. In fact, He is so close to us that He gives His own body and blood to eat and to drink. We certainly can join in with Simeon who took Jesus in his arms and said, *"Now, Lord, You are letting Your servant depart in peace, as You have promised, because my eyes have seen Your Salvation, which You have prepared in the sight of all the people, a Light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the Glory of Your people Israel"* (Luke 2:30-32). We too, shall one day depart in peace, knowing that Jesus has never left us. We are His children, and before He died, He instituted His Supper in which we receive His own body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. In Holy Communion we see His Salvation with our own eyes. How comforting to know that He is always with us to bless us, and to forgive us – to give Himself for us!

As the days linger on and we are isolated from each other, may we long even more for the time when we shall be able to gather again around His table, to be served by Him!

A Psalm to read for Maundy Thursday

- ¹ In You, O LORD, I have been taking refuge. Let me never be ashamed! Deliver me because of Your righteousness!**
- ² Bend Your ear down towards me! Rescue me quickly! Be a Rock of Refuge for me, a Mountain-Fortress, to save me!**
- ³ For You are my Rock and my Fortress. For the sake of Your name, You lead me and guide me.**
- ⁴ You will take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me. For You are my Refuge.**
- ⁵ I commit my spirit into Your hand. You have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.**
- ⁶ I hate those who keep useless idols. However, I myself trust in the LORD.**
- ⁷ Let me be glad and rejoice in Your mercy! For You have seen my misery. You have known my soul in its troubles, ⁸ and have not surrendered me to the hand of the enemy. You have set my feet in a spacious place.**
- ⁹ Be gracious to me, O LORD! For I am in distress. My eye has become weak from irritation, my soul and my body also.**
- ¹⁰ For sorrow has consumed my life, and groaning has consumed my years. My strength has failed because of my iniquity, and my bones have become weak.**
- ¹¹ Because of all my enemies, I have become a disgrace, especially to my neighbours. I have become an object of dread to my acquaintances. Those who see me on the street have been running away from me.**
- ¹² I have been forgotten in people's minds like one who is dead. I have become like a broken vessel.**
- ¹³ For I have heard the defamation of many people. There is terror on every side while they conspire together against me. They have been plotting to take my life.**
- ¹⁴ Nevertheless, I myself trust in You, O LORD. I have been saying, "You are my God."**
- ¹⁵ My times are in Your hand. Deliver me from the hands of my enemies and from those who persecute me!**
- ¹⁶ Make Your face shine on Your servant! Save me by Your mercy!**
- ¹⁷ O LORD, let me not be put to shame! For I have been calling on You. Let wicked people be put to shame, and let them be silent in Sheol!**
- ¹⁸ Let the lying lips be speechless! They speak insolently against the righteous person, with haughtiness and contempt.**
- ¹⁹ How great is Your kindness, which You have stored up for those who fear You, and which You have performed for those who take refuge in You in the presence of the descendants of Adam!**
- ²⁰ You will hide them in the secret place of Your presence away from the plots of man. You will protect them in a shelter from quarrelsome tongues.**
- ²¹ Blessed be the LORD! For He has wondrously shown His mercy to me in a besieged city.**
- ²² I myself had said, when I was hurrying away in fear, "I have been cut off from Your sight." Nevertheless, You heard the voice of my pleas for favour when I cried out to You for help.**
- ²³ Love the LORD, all you His devout people! The LORD protects faithful people but repays exceedingly the one who acts haughtily.**
- ²⁴ Be strong, and let your hearts be courageous, all you who wait for the LORD!**