



St. George's on-the-Hill Anglican



**MAUNDY**  
*Thursday*

Maundy Thursday at Home

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

*Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before the first Sunday of Easter. "Maundy" means commandment, referencing the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples on this day; for it was on this day that Jesus had his last meal with his disciples. Jesus broke bread, washed the disciples' feet, and hinted at his coming crucifixion and betrayal. At the time, the disciples did not realize the significance of this moment, but now we recognize how powerful and special this last supper was. As a result, it is our Christian tradition to celebrate this evening with the gift of worship and the sacrament of Holy Communion, just as the disciples did on that night.*

*As we are unable to gather together in person this year to share in Holy Communion, this at-home liturgy serves as a reminder that God meets us at every table. Every meal we share is a reminder of the holy meal we share during Communion.*

*The liturgy assumes that 2 or more persons are around the table, but if you are alone simply adapt it to reflect that reality.*

What you will need

Candle(s), matches or a lighter

Bread and wine (wine optional)

A meal

Bowl(s) of water, soap, and towel(s)



*When it is time for the meal, gather around the table.  
While saying, or singing, Christ the Light of the World, light the candle(s).*

***The Lighting of the Evening Light***

*Family Member:* Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Others:* **Thanks be to God.**

***Christ the Light of the World***

Tune: Tallis Canon

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,  
In you the Father's glory shone.  
Immortal, holy, blest is he,  
And blest are you, his holy Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth;  
The lamps are lit to pierce the night.  
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God  
Who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise,  
O Son of God, life-giving Lord;  
Wherefore you are through all the earth  
And in the highest heavens adored.

***Reading: Jesus and the Disciples Prepare the Last Supper*** (Matthew 26:17-25)

*Family Member 1:* Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it."

*Family Member 2:* They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?"

*Family Member 1:* "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."

*Family Member 2:* 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.

*Say or sing your favourite meal blessing.*

*Enjoy your meal together!*

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*During your meal, reflect on the following prompts.*

*You can either jot these down in a journal, mull them over in your mind, or discuss them with family members present.*

- *Reflect back to past meals and moments around a table. What meals have been memorable? What gatherings made you feel welcomed? Have you ever had a memorable Communion experience? What made it memorable?*
- *How does it make you feel to know that Jesus fed and shared a meal with all of his disciples, even Judas who would soon betray him? What does that teach us about God?*
- *Jesus gives thanks for the bread before breaking it. What things do you give thanks for in your life? Make a quick mental list of things you often forget to thank God for. Jot them down or share them with those gathered at the table.*
- *Food is a common love language. Think back to a time when someone offered or prepared food for you as a sign of love. Do you think that Jesus was trying to express his love for his disciples in this last meal? How does that layer add to the story?*

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*When the meal is over, or perhaps between the main course and dessert, Continue with the following readings.*

**Reading: Jesus Blesses the Bread and Wine and Shares it with his Disciples**

*Family Member 1:* Then Jesus took the bread, and when he had given thanks he gave it to his friends and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Whenever you eat it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Eat a piece of bread together.*

*Family Member 2:* After supper Jesus took the wine. And after he had given thanks he gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for all. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Drink the wine (or another beverage) together.*

**Reading: Jesus Washes the Feet of his Disciples (John 13:2-17)**

*Family Member 1:* 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.

*Wash and dry your own or each other's hands.*

*Conclude your meal with the Lord's Prayer.*

***The Lord's Prayer***

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.