

A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another
as I have loved you.

Dearly beloved, on this solemn night we remember our Lord, who, as he approached the terror and shame of betrayal and the cross, revealed himself as a servant to his disciples and instituted the means of grace we continue to celebrate with them. Let us say with Saint Peter, "Lord, not just my feet, but my head and hands!", be washed in our inner being and cleansed by Christ. Then let us watch and pray with him.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Jesus said "If you love me you will keep my commandments: unless I wash you, you have no part of me." Let us confess to Almighty God our sins against his love and ask him to cleanse us.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
Lord have mercy upon us:

Through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault, we have wounded your love, and marred your image in us:

Christ have mercy upon us:

We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, who forgives all that truly repent have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collects

Old Testament Reading. Exodus **12.** 1-4.

Psalm **116.** 11 - end.

**R Take up thy cross the Saviour said,
If thou wouldst my disciple be.**

How shall I repay the Lord :
for all his benefits to me?

I will take up the cup of salvation :
and call upon the name of the Lord.

R

I will pay my vows to the Lord :
in the presence of all his people.

Grievous in the sight of the Lord :
is the death of his faithful ones.

R

O Lord I am your servant; your servant and the son of your handmaid : you have unlocked my bonds.

I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving :
and call upon the name of the Lord.

R

I will pay my vows to the Lord :
in the presence of all his people.

In the courts of the house of the Lord :
even in your midst O Jerusalem: Praise the Lord.

R

**R Take up thy cross the Saviour said,
If thou wouldst my disciple be.
Deny thyself, the world forsake
And humbly follow after me.**

Gospel Reading

followed by Spiritual Exercise

Prayer Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ taught us that what we do for the least of our neighbours we do also for him, give us the will to be the servants of others, as he was servant of all; who gave up his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Intercessions,
concluding with **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive them that 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

Now in union with Christ Jesus, you who were once far off have been brought near, through the shedding of Christ's blood: for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We offer each other a sign of peace.

Blessed are you Lord God, King of the universe;
You bring forth bread from the earth.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you Lord God, King of the universe;
You create the fruit of the vine.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you Lord Jesus, saviour of the universe;
You took the gifts of your own creation
and made of them a feast for our souls:

Blessed be Christ forever.

New Testament Reading 1 Corinthians **11.** 23–26.

We hear the story of the first Holy Communion.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory;

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;

Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Grant us your peace.

And when they came to the Mount of Olives Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away: for it is written 'I will strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not,"

and Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But Peter said vehemently, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you."

And they all said the same.

We hear the story of Jesus' abandonment, his betrayal and arrest.

The service ends with the words "They all abandoned him and fled."