



## **A SERVICE OF FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP**

Maundy Thursday was a day when Jesus shared a meal with his disciples. The meal Jesus shared was to remember the Passover and the story of God's deliverance. We invite you to linger in your meal to get to know each other and to prepare to be in worship.

You might bless your meal first with everyone sharing one thing they are grateful for and then using this simple meal blessing written by Elizabeth Young:

**God, thank you for the meal we are about to eat. Bless all the people who contributed to it, and all who are sharing it at this table. We are grateful for this food which sustains us, and for the spiritual food that saves us, today and always. Amen.**

### **SHARING STORY AND MEAL**

**Reading:** Mark 14:12-16

**Invitation:**

One: He was always the Guest

Two: In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna.

One: He was always the guest.

Two: At the meal tables of the wealthy where he plead the case of the poor.

One: He was always the guest.

Two: Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people,

One: Welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

Two: But here, at this table,

One: He is the host.

Two: Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him,

One: Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him,

Two: Those who would wash his feet must first let him make them clean.

One: For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished

Two: This is the time when Christ can make us new.

One: So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world.

Two: Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

### **Telling, Blessing, and Eating**

**Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving** In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and the Cup of Salvation and cannot remain the same.

## A SERVICE OF LIGHT

During the opening prayer you are invited to light your candle. We light a total of twelve candles and will extinguish one after each reading to symbolize how each disciple fell short and left Jesus on this fateful day.

### OPENING PRAYER/CANDLE LIGHTING

Written by Elizabeth Young

### SHARING THE PEACE

As we hear the rest of the story of Maundy Thursday in Mark's Gospel, we will extinguish a candle after each reading representing one disciple. If possible please turn out the other lights in your room so that you are lit just by candle. We finish the worship in a time of darkness and reflection.

The Betrayal Foretold and Revealed  
A Denial Foretold

Mark 14:17-21  
Mark 14:26-31

#### *Silent Reflection*

"I am deeply grieved..."

Mark 14:32-38

"Their eyes were heavy..."

Mark 14:39-40

"My betrayer is at hand..."

Mark 14:41-42

"The one I will kiss is the man, arrest him."

Mark 14:43-46

"As though I was a bandit..."

Mark 14:47-50

#### *Silent Reflection*

But he was silent

Mark 14:53-61a

"You have heard his blasphemy..."

Mark 14:61b-65

"I do not know or understand what you are talking about..."

Mark 14:66-68

"I do not know the man you are talking about."

Mark 14:69-71

"He broke down and wept."

Mark 14:72

*After a brief period of silence, you will be invited by the Deacon to turn on a light so that we may pray and receive a blessing.*

### THE 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 forever. Amen.**

### SENDING BLESSING

### CLOSE OF WORSHIP

*You may linger as long as you like in the silent company of others. When you are ready to leave you are invited to sign "peace be with you" and depart.*