

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter. It is a day of great significance in the Church year and a day on which a number of important events occurred.

Two days earlier when Jesus was on the Mount of Olives, He had prophesied his betrayal and death, and yet, He went on with his disciples so that they might celebrate the Feast of the Passover together.

On the evening of Passover, after the disciples had, with some care, made preparations for their meal, the disciples were together. In those days it was usual for a servant to wash the guest's feet on arrival. On this occasion, there was no servant present and none of the disciples volunteered to do the menial task. Instead, Jesus got up and washed his disciples feet, giving them a lesson in humility, service, and in loving one another.

During the evening Jesus told those gathered that Judas would betray him, and he told Peter that Peter would deny Jesus that same night. Both men protested. In spite of his knowledge of imminent betrayal, Jesus continued to spend the evening with them.

While they were sharing the Passover meal, Jesus took the bread and broke it saying, "Take and eat, this is my body." Then he took the cup of wine, gave thanks and offered it to them saying, "Drink from it all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until I drink it again with you in my Father's kingdom." Our Holy Eucharist Service is the commemoration of this night, as, with joy, awe and reverence, we bring His act of self-giving into the present, receiving His Body and Blood into ourselves.

After dinner Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane and he told them to wait and watch with him for one hour as he prayed. Three times he asked them, and three times, as he was awaiting his fate, they slept.

Jesus prayed, "My Father if it is possible may this cup be taken from me. Yet, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, Your will be done.

Shortly after this Judas came with soldiers and, kissing Jesus on the cheek, betrayed the Son of God. Jesus was arrested, taken away, and delivered into the hands of Caiaphas, the high priest.

Let us remember and practice the lesson of being a servant, of being tender and loving to even those who might betray us. In the events of Maundy Thursday, Jesus gave us the ultimate example of unconditional love and compassion without reservation. Can we do less?

For more information read Matt. 26:1-28:20; Mark 14:1-20:20 : Luke 22:1-24:17; or John 13:1-20:18

Trinity Episcopal Church Melrose, Florida

Maundy Thursday



The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard, Bishop

The Rev. Tony Powell

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

Opening Hymn	“Come Risen Lord”	Hymnal # 306
Collect for Purity		BCP 355
Kyrie Eleison (Lord Have Mercy) (spoken).		
Collect of the Day		See Insert
THE LESSONS		
First Reading	Exodus 12:1-14	See Insert
Psalm	116:1-2, 12-17	See Insert
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	See Insert
Sequence Hymn	"At Thy First Eucharist"	Hymnal #315
Gospel	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	See Insert
Homily		Father Tony Powell
Prayers of the People Form IV		BCP 388

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucahristic Prayer C	BCP 369
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Communion Hymn	"Go to Dark Gethsemane" Hymnal #171
Post Communion Prayer	

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

BCP 610

Congregation and Clergy exit in silence.



And on this night Jesus was betrayed with a kiss by one of the twelve and he was arrested and delivered into the hands of Caiaphas, the high priest.