



CHRIST CHURCH
Amherst, N.S.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:30 p.m.

March 29th, 2018

We gather in the Hall

Announcements

The Gathering of the Community

This is the day that Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would kill him. This is the day that Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room. This is the day that Christ took a towel and washed the disciple's feet, giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us. This is the day that Christ our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his Holy Sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection and at the last day may reign with him in heaven.

This is a day of anticipation. It is a day of eating together, of sharing important meals with friends. It is a day of journeys. The ancient Hebrew people gathered on this night to eat their last meal as slaves in the land of Egypt. Jesus and his closest friends gathered on this night to eat their last supper together as a community. For both the ancient Hebrew people, and for Jesus and his followers, this night would be the last night of calm before their lives were turned upside down.

And so, we too, gather on this holy night. We gather as a community to eat together, to share the bread and wine of the Eucharist together, and to prepare ourselves for the disruptions of Good Friday. We gather to make our own journey toward Good Friday, from the cheer and fellowship of the hall and narthex to the solemnity of the church, and eventually the starkness of the bare altar.

As we gather tonight we are thankful to God for this good food that we have to share, for this community with whom we can share it, and the freedom to meet publicly as followers of Jesus.

Supper is shared

After supper

Collect for Maundy Thursday

O God, your Son Jesus Christ has left to us this meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and his blood. May we who celebrate this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Exodus. (12: 1 - 14)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We move to the Narthex

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. (11: 23 - 26)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We move to the Church

Gradual Hymn # 485 - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

The Holy Gospel

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (13: 1 - 17, 31b - 35)

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Reading

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Christ Jesus, we glory in your cross, which brings new life to the world. Enable us to stand with those whose lives are marked by heavy crosses. We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Servant of God, we celebrate the life and love you share with us in the Eucharist meal. May we share your generosity with the poor and hungry among us. We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teacher and Saviour, you call your disciples to be servants of your Word. May our fidelity to your gospel of life help cleanse our world of violence. We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

You became the Covenant of Mercy for sinners. May our works of mercy continue to free the world from sin and death.

We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

You are the High Priest of the good things to come. Enrich your priestly people with every spiritual blessing in the heavens. We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

You rose from the table and entered a garden of anguish. May any who have eaten at your table find consolation in time of trial. We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

Eternal God and Abba of Jesus, you filled your chosen servant with your love - a love that was not overcome by personal suffering and death. Hear our prayers that the love of Christ may abound in us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.

Confession & Absolution

p. 191

The Peace

Offertory Hymn # 645 - "Come Down, O Love Divine"

Prayer Over the Gifts.

Father, we spread this table to remember the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ, your Son. Accept all we offer you this day. Bind us together in his love and in the love he has commanded us to bring one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 1 p. 193

Breaking of the Bread # 7 p. 213

The Communion

Holy Eucharist is a joyful celebration of our life together in Jesus Christ. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion here. The response to receiving the bread and wine is 'Amen'. If you would like to come forward and receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, please cross your arms as you come to the rail.

Hymns During Holy Communion:

63 - "Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

59 - "Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him"

Prayer After Communion

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The stripping of Altar

Everyone is welcome to come forward and participate in the stripping of the altar. We line up at the front of the church, and as we are handed furnishings from the altar and chancel, we take them to the sacristy.

HYMN # 649 - "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

DISMISSAL

After the clergy and choir leave in silence, the congregation may say their last prayer and leave in silence as well.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30th - GOOD FRIDAY

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Penitential Office**

The Church Office will be closed.

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31st - EASTER EVE

4:00 p.m. - **The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism**

SUNDAY, APRIL 1st - EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. - Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School, Coffee Hour
(Children's Easter egg hunt)

11:00 a.m. - **Holy Eucharist with Procession**

Monday, April 2nd - EASTER MONDAY

The Church Office will be closed.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8th

8:30 a.m. - Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School, Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. - **Easter Festival of Lessons and Hymns**

