



HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH WILLIAMSTOWN

Maundy Thursday

28 March 2024

7pm Holy Communion & Foot-Washing



On behalf of everyone at Holy Trinity, a warm welcome to this community, a faithful Christian presence in Williamstown since 1854. Holy Trinity welcomes everyone to all services and events, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or background. We are moved by our calling as the Body of Christ to ensure all our spaces are safe places for everyone. Thank you for being part of our worship today. This worship service will also be available on the parish YouTube channel, links are on our website under 'Services'.

www.htw.org.au

ABOUT HOLY WEEK

It is still uncertain when Christians first began to make an annual memorial of the death and resurrection of Christ. This *Pascha* (a word derived indirectly from *pesach*, Hebrew 'Passover') was at first a night-long vigil, followed by the celebration of the Eucharist at cock-crow, and all the great themes of redemption were included within it: incarnation, suffering, death, resurrection, glorification. Over time, the Pascha developed into the articulated structure of Holy Week and Easter with which we are familiar. Through participation in the whole sequence of services, the Christian shares in Christ's own journey, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to the empty tomb on Easter morning. The procession with palms was already observed in Jerusalem in the fourth century. Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, 'commandment', because of the use of John 13:34 in the Antiphon) contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ's washing of his disciples' feet, the institution of the Eucharist (Holy Communion), and the Christ's loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane.

After keeping vigil ('Could you not watch with me one hour?') Thursday passes into Good Friday with its two characteristic episodes. The veneration of the Cross is older; the sequence of meditations and music known as the Three Hours' Devotion was introduced into the Church of England in the nineteenth century. The first is now sometimes incorporated into the structure of the second. It is a widespread custom for there not to be a celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday. The church remains stripped of all decoration. It continues bare and empty through the following day, Holy Saturday, which is a day without a liturgy: there can be no adequate way of recalling the being dead of the Son of God, other than silence and desolation. But within the silence there grows a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as Easter Day draws near.

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Holy Trinity Anglican Church is on Bunurong Country, the sovereign land of the Yalukit Willam people of the Kulin Nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over generations and today, and pay respect to all Elders past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of respect, truth-telling, justice and healing.

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*Please join in the parts of this service in **bold type**. All directions to stand, sit or kneel are invitations. Please always do as you are comfortable and able.*

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Words and music for hymns are in the red hymn books.

Please stand when invited

Opening Hymn: *TIS 350 There is a green hill far away*

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

THE SENTENCE

‘I give you a new commandment,’ says the Lord, ‘that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.’ *John 13.14*

The priest introduces the service

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

CONFESSION

God shows great love for us in that while we were still sinners
Christ died for us.

Silence is kept

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to God in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, your love was embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed the disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal: wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, to whom be glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD *(please sit)*

The First Reading: Exodus 12.1-14. Read by Ingrid Dodd.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two

doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-2, 11-18

¹ I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:
the voice of my supplication;

² **Because he inclined his ear to me:
in the day that I called to him.**

¹¹ How shall I repay the Lord: for all his benefits to me?

¹² **I will take up the cup of salvation:
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹³ I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁴ **Grievous in the sight of the Lord:
is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁵ O Lord, I am your servant,
your servant and the child of your handmaid:
you have unloosed my bonds.

¹⁶ **I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

- ¹⁷ I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all his people,
¹⁸ **In the courts of the house of the Lord:
even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.**

*The Second Reading: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians
11.23-26. Read by Sue Wragg.*

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gradual Hymn: *TIS 699 A new commandment (Repeat)*

The Gospel according to St. John 13.1-17, 31b-35.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I

wash you, you have no share with me.’ Simon Peter said to him, ‘Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!’ Jesus said to him, ‘One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.’ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.’ When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Please sit

THE SERMON

Rev. Elizabeth Murray, vicar

THE CEREMONIAL WASHING OF FEET

Friends in Christ, I invite any of you who wish to come forward, that we may recall whose servants we are and remember Christ’s teaching, that what is done for us is also to be done for others.

Anyone who wishes may come forward to the front pew, sit and remove your shoes and socks and have your feet washed.

THE PRAYERS *Led by Wilma Robarts.*

Merciful God, on this, the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet. As we commit ourselves to following his example of love and service, teach us humility.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one. As we grieve for the divisions in the church, unite us.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this night, Jesus prayed for those who would come to believe through the disciples' message. As we take up the mission of the church, renew our zeal.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this night, Jesus commanded his friends to love, but he suffered rejection himself. As we open our hearts to the rejected and the unloved, fill us with your love.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this night, Jesus reminded his people that, if the world hated them, it had hated him first. As we face our own fears, we pray for those who are persecuted for their faith; give us your peace.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

On this night, Jesus loved his friends to the very end, as we open our hearts to all who face darkness tonight, we pray for the sick, those who mourn, those trapped by violence, addiction, or pain: give healing and hope.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, these are the prayers of your Church.
We offer them trusting and hoping in you. Hear and help us, challenge and change us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offerings – A collection will be taken up at this time

Donations to support the life & work of Holy Trinity are most welcome. We rely on your generosity. Cash donations & cheques can be left in the plate. Cashless giving options: Direct EFT details: BSB: 033100; Account number: 490175; or go to www.htw.org.au and click on 'Donate now'.

Offertory Hymn: TIS 345 *Were you there*

THE OFFERTORY

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues

...forever praising you and saying:

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.

The prayer continues

... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer continues

...in songs of never ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:
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 forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies it bears much fruit.
If we have died with him, we shall live with him.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Come let us take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know. If you do not wish to receive communion and would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and indicate to the priest your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms in front of you. You are also welcome to remain in your seat.

Communion is distributed with these or similar words

The body of Christ the bread of heaven keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The blood of Christ the cup of salvation keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(please stand)*

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them. We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others as Christ was servant of all.
Amen.

Please be seated.

While Psalm 22 is read, the altar and church will be stripped of decoration, in observance of the death of Christ, and remain bare until Easter Day. Most of the lights will also be switched off.

There is no Blessing or Dismissal.

We leave the darkened church in silence.

Remaining Services for Holy Week and Easter 2024

Good Friday

10.00am, 29 March

A time of solemn reflection on the crucifixion of Jesus

Easter Day

6.00am, Sunday 31 March — Easter Dawn Vigil

Welcome the dawning of Easter Day with a New Fire and the
joyous story of The Resurrection.
Includes Holy Communion.

10.00am, Sunday 31 March — Easter Eucharist

Celebrate the glorious Resurrection
with a service of Holy Communion