



**St. Michael and All Angels  
Amersham on the Hill**



**HOLY EUCHARIST  
MAUNDY THURSDAY**

***A warm welcome to this service***

*This booklet is designed to help you follow the service and includes guidance notes. Do please ask a “Welcomer” if you need any further help.*

We gather to celebrate the Eucharist, to remember Jesus, and to wash one another's feet. During the service the altar is stripped, and all decorations are removed or covered. We empty the sanctuary to prepare ourselves for the stark reality of Good Friday. The sacramental bread and wine are reserved in a representation of the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed after the Last Supper. Following this you are welcome to stay for part or for the whole of the silent vigil in prayer. When you leave, please leave **in silence** by the main Narthex doors only.

## The Gathering

### Processional Hymn

*Please stand, if able.*

*All sing*

**An upper room did our Lord prepare  
for those he loved until the end:  
and his disciples still gather there,  
to celebrate their risen friend.**

### The Greeting

*President*

'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'

*A time of silence.*

*Please sit.*

### Introduction

My dear friends, God is love and the source of all love; let us therefore love one another. Everyone who loves is a child of God and knows God, for God is love. This is how he showed his love among us: he sent his Son into the world that we might have life. That is what love really is: not that we loved God, but that he loved us. If God thus loved us we also must love one another. God has never been seen by anyone, but if we love one another, he himself dwells in us and his love is brought to perfection in us. God is love; those who dwell in love dwell in God, and God dwells in them.

### Invitation to Confession

*Deacon*

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
'If you love me, keep my commandments.'  
'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.'

*(John 15:15; 13:8)*

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love,  
and ask him to cleanse us.

*Please remain seated or kneel.*

*We pause for confession.*



*Choir* If I give everything I have to feed the poor,  
and let them take my body to be burned,  
but have not love, I gain nothing at all.

*All* **Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

*Choir* Love is patient, love is not jealous.  
Love does not rejoice in what is wrong, but love rejoices in the truth.  
Love is always ready to excuse, to hope, to trust, and to endure  
whatever comes.

*All* **Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

*Choir* Love never fails.  
Prophecies will cease, and tongues will be silent, knowledge will  
pass away; but there are only three things in the end that last:  
Faith, hope, and love, and the greatest of these is love.

*All* **Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

## **Hymn**

*Please stand, if able.*

## **The Collect**

*Please remain standing, if able.*

*President* God our Father, we are gathered here to celebrate and share the  
supper which your Son left to his church.  
As we keep the feast of your redeeming love, may we feed on you  
by faith, receive your grace and find the fullness of love and life.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

*Please sit*

*(Readings on Notice Sheet)*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*All* For the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 116, selected verses.**

*All* **Response: Gracious is the Lord and righteous.**

*Choir* I love the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my supplication,  
because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him.  
The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pains of hell took hold of me;  
by grief and sorrow was I held.

*All: R:*

*Choir* The Lord watches over the simple;  
I was brought very low and he saved me.  
Turn again to your rest, O my soul,  
for the Lord has been gracious to you.

*All: R:  
Choir* I believed that I should perish  
for I was sorely troubled;  
and I said in my alarm,  
'Everyone is a liar.'

*All: R:  
Choir* How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the benefits he has given to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

*All: R:  
Choir* I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful servants.

*All: R:  
Choir* O Lord, I am your servant,  
your servant, the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.  
I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

*All: R:  
Choir* I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
In the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

*All: R:*

## **New Testament Reading**

*All* For the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn**

*Please stand, if able.*

*All Sing* **A lasting gift Jesus gave his own –  
to share his bread, his loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

## **Gospel Reading**

*Please turn to face the Gospel.*

*Deacon* Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory,  
I give to you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
Love one another as I have loved you.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*All* The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is proclaimed.*

*All* This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit.*

*All sing* **And after supper he washed their feet,  
for service, too, is sacrament.  
In him our joy shall be made complete –  
sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

## **The Washing of Feet**

*Please remain seated.*

*President* In an upstairs room a parable  
is just about to come alive;  
and while they bicker about who's best  
with a painful glance he'll silently rise.  
The Saviour-servant must show them how,  
through the will of the water,  
and the tenderness of the towel.

*Deacon* And the call is to community,  
the impoverished power that sets the soul free  
in humility to take the vow  
that day after day  
we must take up the basin and the towel.

*President* In any ordinary place,  
or on any ordinary day,  
the parable can live again  
when one will kneel and one will yield.

*Deacon* Our Saviour-servant must show us how,  
through the will of the water,  
and the tenderness of the towel.  
And the space between ourselves, sometimes,  
is more than the distance between the stars.  
By the fragile bridge of the servant's bow,  
we take up the basin and the towel.

*President* And the call is to community,  
the impoverished power that sets the soul free  
in humility to take the vow  
that day after day  
we must take up the basin:

*All* **and the call is to community;  
and day after day  
we must take up the basin and the towel.**

*All are welcome for foot washing, Please remove all footwear and then follow the instructions of the sidespeople.*

**Mandatum novum**

*(A new commandment I give you, says the Lord)*

*All* **Mandatum novum do vobis, dicit Dominus, dicit Dominus.**

*Choir* Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his and would show his love for them right to the end.

It was before the feast of the Passover, when they were seated at supper. Jesus rose from the table, and poured water into a basin, and began to wash his disciples' feet.

*All* **Mandatum novum do vobis, dicit Dominus, dicit Dominus.**

*Choir* Then Jesus said: 'Do you understand what I have done to you? What I just did was to give you an example. As I have done, so also you must do. A new commandment I give to you: love one another.'

*All* **Mandatum novum do vobis, dicit Dominus, dicit Dominus.**

*Choir* 'Just as my love has been for you, so must your love be for each other. This is how all will know that you are my disciples: by the love that you have for one another.'

*All* **Mandatum novum do vobis, dicit Dominus, dicit Dominus.**

*President* Blessed is our brother Jesus, who, on this night before Passover, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, took a towel and poured water, and washed his disciples' feet, saying to them:

'If I your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. If I do not wash you, you have no part in me.'

*All* **Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.  
Come now, tender Spirit of our God,  
wash us and make us one body in Christ;  
That, as we are bound together in this gesture of love,  
we may no longer be in bondage to the principalities and  
powers that enslave creation,  
but may know your liberating peace  
such as the world cannot give.  
Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession** *Please sit or kneel to pray.*

Father,  
on this, the night he was betrayed,  
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.  
We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

*All* Lord, hear us  
**and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.

*All* Lord, hear us  
**and unite us.**

On this night, he prayed for those  
who were to believe through his disciples' message.  
We pray for the mission of your Church.

*All* Lord, hear us  
**and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.  
We pray for the rejected and unloved.

*All* Lord, hear us  
**and fill us with your love.**

On this night, he reminded his disciples  
that if the world hated them it hated him first.  
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.  
Lord, hear us

*All* **and give us your peace.**

On this night, he accepted the cup of death  
and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.  
We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.  
Lord, hear us

*All* **and welcome all your children into paradise.**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

*Please stand, if able.*

*For those who would like to, you are welcome to join hands as we sing or say the Peace.*

*President* Jesus says: 'Peace be with you; my peace I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*Deacon* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### **Offertory Hymn**

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.*

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*The President takes the bread and wine.*

### **Preparation of the Table**

*President* At the Eucharist we are with our crucified and risen Lord.  
We know that it was not only our ancestors,  
but we who were redeemed,  
and brought forth from bondage to freedom,  
from mourning to feasting.  
We know that as he was with them in the upper room  
so our Lord is here with us now.

*All* **Until the kingdom of God comes  
let us celebrate the feast.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to  
set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer E**

*Please remain standing, if able.*

The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give you thanks,  
Father most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For on this night he girded himself with a towel  
and, taking the form of a servant,  
washed the feet of his disciples.  
He gave a new commandment  
that we should love one another as he had loved us.  
Knowing that his hour had come,  
in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples  
to be a memorial of his passion,  
that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,  
and feast with him in his kingdom.  
Therefore earth united with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

*All* **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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*Deacon  
All*

Great is the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with St. Michael and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All*

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Please sit or kneel.*

In our own language, rejoicing in God's new creation, as our  
Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All*

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*All*

### **Agnus Dei**

*All*

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

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

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

*or*

*All*      **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

### **Giving of Communion**

Draw near with faith.  
receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.  
After receiving the bread and the wine, please respond "Amen"  
or, if you would like a blessing, please place your hands across  
your chest.*

### **Post Communion Hymn**

*Please remain seated.*

*All sing*      **O most sacred banquet,  
wherein Christ is received,  
the memory of his Passion is renewed,  
the mind with grace is filled  
and a foretaste of future glory is given us.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*All*      **We thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us in Christ  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
prepared for all. Amen.**

## The Stripping of the Altar

*The choir leads the singing of Psalm 88, singing alternate verses from each side of the church. You are welcome to join in. During this the sanctuary is stripped.*

*All*

**O Lord, God of my salvation,  
I have cried day and night before you.  
Let my prayer come into your presence;  
incline your ear to my cry.**

**For my soul is full of troubles;  
my life draws near to the land of death.  
I am counted as one gone down to the Pit;  
I am like one that has no strength,**

**Lost among the dead,  
like the slain who lie in the grave,  
Whom you remember no more,  
for they are cut off from your hand**

**You have laid me in the lowest pit,  
in a place of darkness in the abyss.  
Your anger lies heavy upon me,  
and you have afflicted me with all your waves.**

**You have put my friends far from me  
and made me to be abhorred by them.  
I am so fast in prison that I cannot get free;  
my eyes fail from all my trouble.**

**Lord, I have called daily upon you;  
I have stretched out my hands to you.  
Do you work wonders for the dead?  
Will the shades stand up and praise you?**

**Shall your loving-kindness be declared in the grave,  
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?  
Shall your wonders be known in the dark  
or your righteous deeds in the land where all is  
forgotten?**

**But as for me, O Lord, I will cry to you;  
early in the morning my prayer shall come before you.**

**Lord, why have you rejected my soul?  
Why have you hidden your face from me?**

**I have been wretched and at the point of death from my youth;  
I suffer your terrors and am no more seen.  
Your wrath sweeps over me;  
your horrors are come to destroy me;**

**All day long they come about me like water;  
they close me in on every side.  
Lover and friend have you put far from me  
and hid my companions out of my sight.**

*The cross drape is removed, and the lights are extinguished.*

*All sing*      **No end there is: we depart in peace.  
He loves beyond our uttermost:  
in every room in our Father's house  
he will be there, as Lord and host.**

*Please stand, if able.*

*The servers with the clergy, carrying the veiled sacrament, move to the altar of repose, the candles are placed round the Garden of Gethsemane, and the elements are censed. **Silence is kept.***

*Deacon*      A reading from the Gospel.

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed to the Father, 'If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me.' He said to his disciples, 'How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour? The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners.'

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in his peace.

*All sing*      **Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come.  
Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray.**

*Choir  
(sung  
over the  
refrain)*      My heart is nearly broken with sorrow.  
Remain here, remain here and stay awake with me.

Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by.

Father, if this cannot pass me by without my drinking it,  
then your will be done.

*All sing*

**Stay with me, remain with me,  
watch and pray, watch and pray.**

*Choir  
(sung  
over the  
refrain)*

Stay here and keep watch with me,  
watch and pray, watch and pray.

Watch and pray, not to give way to temptation.

The spirit is eager, but the flesh is weak.

My heart is nearly broken with sorrow.  
Remain here with me, stay awake and pray.

Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by.

Father, if this cannot pass me by without my drinking it,  
your will be done.

*Silence is kept.*

The divine assistance is with us, always;  
and God the Life-giver, Jesus the Pain-bearer  
and the Love-maker Spirit, remain with us.

*All*

**Amen.**

***When you leave, please do so in silence  
by the main Narthex doors.***

*Thank you.*

Material from the following may be included in this service: *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* (2000), *Patterns for Worship* (1995), *New Patterns for Worship* (2002), *Times and Seasons* (2006), *The Promise of His Glory* (1991) all copyright © The Archbishops' Council; *Celtic Daily Prayer Book 1 & 2* (2015) © The Northumbria Community Trust; *Enriching the Christian Year* (SPCK, 1993) compilation © Michael Perham. CCL No 908682.

