



## **Grace Episcopal Church**

Maundy Thursday  
A Service for Home  
April 9, 2020



Adapted from Wendy Claire Barrie at [wendyclairebarrie.com](http://wendyclairebarrie.com)

*On this day, Thursday in Holy Week, we remember the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples, which may or may not have been a Passover meal. John's gospel tells how, after dinner, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, people who wore sandals on unpaved dirt roads all the time, whose feet must have been filthy. This was a servant's work, and Jesus gave his friends a new commandment ("mandatum" in Latin): "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34). For this reason, we gather tonight to grow in love for one another as we wash each other's feet.*

# Breaking Bread Together

We gather at our table for an evening meal, light candles, and offer a prayer or song of thanksgiving.

Sing this song or offer a table grace of your choosing.

## Table Grace | In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Words: Taizé Community | Music: Jacques Berthier

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re - joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near." The third staff includes a triplet of eighth notes.

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord  
I will re - joice! Look to God,  
do not be a - fraid; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is  
near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

## A Reading

If there are enough readers, please divide the parts into three as indicated. Have a basin of warm water and clean towels ready. Keep a candle lit.

- Reader On the first Day of Passover, Jesus's disciples said to him,  
Peter Where do you want us to go and get ready for the Passover meal?  
Reader So, Jesus sent Peter and John off, saying to them,  
Jesus When you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house he enters, and say to the owner of the house, "The teacher asks, "Do you have a guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. It is there you are to prepare.

Reader As it grew dark, Jesus arrived with the twelve. During supper, Jesus 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 Peter, who said to him,

Peter Lord, are you going to wash my feet?

Jesus You don't understand what I am doing now, but you will understand later.

Reader After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and returned to the table, Jesus said to them,

Jesus Do you know what I have done to you? You call me "Teacher" and Lord, and you are right, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you, too, must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: just as I have done, you also must do.

## Our Response

Reader Jesus said "I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

*The washing of feet takes place now. An adult could first wash the feet of a child.*

*If you live alone, you may wish to let water flow over your bare feet, mindful of those who bring clean water to others, and of all who care for the bodies of others.*

You might sing, "I am Walking a Path of Peace," or reflect on the following questions:

What gift of service or friendship have you received recently?

What gift of service or friendship is the Spirit calling forth in you?

# I am Walking a Path of Peace

by Janet Bauman Tissandier

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "I am walk-ing a path of peace\*, I am walk-ing a path of peace\*, I am walk-ing a path of peace\*, lead me home, lead me home. I am home." The asterisk indicates a variation in the lyrics.

\* "... of love", "... of grace"

*Prayers and thanksgivings may be offered now, for ourselves and others.*

*Conclude with the following reading and prayer:*

Reader Jesus said, "Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you."

*We pray together*

**Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and in the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

*Extinguish the candle. End the evening quietly.*