

The graphic features the text 'Maundy Thursday' in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a grey silhouette of a pitcher with three wavy lines representing water. Below the pitcher is a grey silhouette of a bowl. To the right of the text is a grey silhouette of a chalice with three wavy lines representing wine, and below it is a grey silhouette of a loaf of bread.

Maundy Thursday

Brookline Community Church and the Mason Congregational Church Worshiping Apart

Reverend Catherine A. Merrill
Reverend Veronica Walsh-Don

Service of Tenebrae, Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020

Centering Ourselves for Worship:

Lord Jesus Christ,
how well you know our hearts,
and still you love us—
you have loved us to the end.

We have denied you,
and we have denied our calling
to serve one another.

We have betrayed you,
and we have betrayed your commandment
to love one another.

Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us.
Teach us to love and serve you faithfully
and to love and serve one another
by the example you have set for us;
in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: Abide with Me

[Click here](#) for a video that will give you the lyrics and someone to sing with.

Scripture Reading: Shadow of Betrayal, Matthew 26:20-25

[\[Matthew 26:20-25 read for you.\]](#)

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

Scripture Reading: Shadow of Desertion, Matthew 26:31-35

[\[Matthew 26:31-35 read for you.\]](#)

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so said all the disciples.

Scripture Reading: Agony of the Soul, Luke 22:39-44

[\[Luke 22:39-44 read for you.\]](#)

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

Scripture Reading: Unshared Vigil, Mark 14:32-41

[\[Mark 14:32-41 read for you.\]](#)

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus

[Click here](#) for a video that will give you the lyrics and someone to sing with.

Scripture Reading: "Father, the hour is come", John 17:1-6

[\[John 17:1-6 read for you.\]](#)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

Scripture Reading: "That they may all be one", John 17:15-22

[\[John 17:15-22 read for you.\]](#)

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have

sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,

Scripture Reading: Arrest in the Garden, John 18:1-5

[\[John 18:1-5 read for you.\]](#)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' They answered, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus replied, 'I am he.' Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.

Scripture Reading: Shadow of the Cross, Mark 15:16-20

[\[Mark 15:16-20 read for you.\]](#)

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Hymn: Were You There

[Click here](#) for a video that will give you the lyrics and someone to sing with.

Scripture Reading: The Word Was God, Selections John 1 and 3

[\[The selections of John 1 and 3 read for you.\]](#)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

The Lord's Prayer

[\[The Lord's Prayer read for you.\]](#)

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

[There is no Benediction or Postlude because the events of this night do not conclude until the Easter morning celebration of resurrection. Therefore, the service ends in a way that is intentionally unresolved, indicating that there is more to come.]