

**Prayers of Penitence**

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

'If you love me, keep my commandments.'

'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.'

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

*Silence is kept.*

**Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit  
all our days.

**Amen.**

**The Collect**

Let us pray that we may love one another as Christ has loved us

*Silence is kept.*

**God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes:  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father  
through Christ the saviour of the world.

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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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

**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

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

**The Peace**

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'  
The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Gospel Reading**

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

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

**John 13.1 - 17, 31b - 35**

It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end.

Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, the thought of betraying Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?" Jesus answered him, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later." Peter declared, "Never at any time will you wash my feet!" "If I do not wash your feet," Jesus answered, "you will no longer be my disciple." Simon Peter answered, "Lord, do not wash only my feet, then! Wash my hands and head, too!"

Jesus said, "Those who have taken a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves, except for their feet. All of you are clean—all except one." Jesus already knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, "All of you, except one, are clean."

After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I have just done to you?" he asked. "You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. I am telling you the truth: no slaves are greater than their master, and no

messengers are greater than the one who sent them. Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man's glory is revealed; now God's glory is revealed through him. And if God's glory is revealed through him, then God will reveal the glory of the Son of Man in himself, and he will do so at once. My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. You will look for me; but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities, 'You cannot go where I am going.' And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

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

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **Second Reading**

#### **Mark 14.17 - 26**

When it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve disciples. While they were at the table eating, Jesus said, "I tell you that one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

The disciples were upset and began to ask him, one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, do you?" Jesus answered, "It will be one of you twelve, one who dips his bread in the dish with me. The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will; but how terrible for that man who will betray the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born!"

While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. "Take it," he said, "this is my body."

*Bread is broken and shared around the table*

Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and handed it to them; and they all drank from it. Jesus said, "This is my blood which is poured out for many, my blood which seals God's covenant. I tell you, I will never again drink this wine until the day I drink the new wine in the Kingdom of God."

*Wine is shared around the table*

Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

### **Dismissal**

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 leave in silence*