

HOLY THURSDAY HOME LITURGY

Roles: candle lighter, leader, three readers

Needed: bread

Mother/other person lights the candle/s and says:

JESUS CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND OUR SALVATION, NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN.

Opening song: Pan de Vida (link on website)

Ldr:

We pray in the name **†** of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

On this most holy evening

we remember the liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt.

On this most holy evening

we remember how Jesus gathered with his disciples for the Last Supper.

On this most holy evening

we remember how Jesus gave us his Body and Blood in the Eucharist
as an everlasting remembrance of his life and love.

On this most holy evening

we celebrate our call to serve others.

On this most holy evening, O God,

embrace us and all our brothers and sisters in Christ
with your healing love and mercy. **All: Amen.**

First reader:

A reading from the Book of Exodus (the Passover meal)

God said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,

"This month shall stand at the head of your calendar;

you shall reckon it the first month of the year.

Tell the whole community of Israel:

On the tenth of this month every one of your families

must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household.

If a family is too small for a whole lamb,

it shall join the nearest household in procuring one

and shall share in the lamb

in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it.

The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish.

You may take it from either the sheep or the goats.

You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month,
and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present,
it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight.
They shall take some of its blood
and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel
of every house in which they partake of the lamb.
That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh
with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
"This is how you are to eat it:
with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand,
you shall eat like those who are in flight.
It is the Passover of the LORD.
For on this same night I will go through Egypt,
striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast,
and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt—I, the LORD!
But the blood will mark the houses where you are.
Seeing the blood, I will pass over you;
thus, when I strike the land of Egypt,
no destructive blow will come upon you.

"This day shall be a memorial feast for you,
which all your generations shall celebrate
with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution."
The word of the Lord. *All:* Thanks be to God.

Second reader

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians
(*St. Paul writes about the Last Supper*)

Brothers and sisters:
I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,
took bread, and, after he had given thanks,
broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
In the same way also the cup, 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 death of the Lord until he comes.

The word of the Lord. *All:* Thanks be to God.

Third reader:

A reading from the Gospel of John (*Jesus washes the feet of the disciples*)

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father.

He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.

The devil had already induced Judas Iscariot to hand Jesus over.

So, during supper,

fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God,

Jesus rose from supper and took off his outer garments.

He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

Then he poured water into a basin

and began to wash the disciples' feet

and dry them with the towel around his waist.

Jesus came to Simon Peter, who said to him,

"Master, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered and said to him,

"What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him,

"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."

Simon Peter said to him,

"Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus said to him,

"Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over;

so you are clean, but not all."

For he knew who would betray him;

for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet

and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,

he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you?

You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am.

If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.

I have given you a model to follow,
so that as I have done for you, you should also do."
The Gospel of the Lord.

*(Reflection: Jesus nourishes us with his Body and Blood in order for us
to be people of service; how do you serve now? How can you
serve in the future?
Tonight is a night of remembering, try to remember all those who
have made sacrifices that make your life better?
Try to remember all the ways in which God has blessed you.)*

Ldr:

We offer our prayers to our heavenly Father. Our response is "Lord, hear us."

For Christians everywhere;
as we remember the Lord's Last Supper
may we all be strengthened by the love of Christ. We pray:

For those ordained for service in the Church,
for those who made religious vows of love and service
and for all laypeople living dedicated lives of discipleship; strengthen them all as
they bring the message of the Gospel to all the world. We pray:

Bless all those who serve our society as healthcare workers,
first responders, community leaders, store clerks,
and scientists during this time of the corona threat. We pray:

Loving God, comfort the sick and the dying,
and receive all those who have died into your peace. We pray:

(other prayers?)

We bind all our prayers together praying the words Jesus taught us:
OUR FATHER...

Leader takes the bread, breaks it into pieces and says:

As we break and share this bread
let us remember how Jesus loves us and calls us to serve in his name.
We will soon gather again as a community to celebrate the Eucharist
and be nourished by his sacred Body and Blood.

(all receive pieces of broken bread)

song: Ubi Caritas, link on website

† May we one day rejoice in the Eternal Banquet
in the presence God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
and all God's holy ones. Amen.