



Seven Towers Benefice



Maundy Thursday

Celebrating the Last Supper

Before the service thirteen candles are lit, representing Jesus and his disciples.

A hymn or worship song is sung.

Leader: The Lord is here.

All: His spirit is with us.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: He is worthy to be praised.

Leader: Heavenly Father, we thank you because you gave your only Son to die on the cross for our redemption. By his death he has offered the one perfect sacrifice; all that was needed to take away the sins of the world, and to reconcile you, his Father, to us. By his rising to life, he has restored us to life eternal, and has given us your promised Holy Spirit, the guarantee of our inheritance.

Therefore with your whole creation and with
all your people since time began,
we honour and glorify you with our praise,
singing together:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord,
Holy is the Lord God Almighty (repeat)
Who was, and is, and is to come,
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**

All: We dare not come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your grace alone. We are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs under your table.

Gracious Father, grant that we who receive these gifts of bread and wine according to our Saviour's word, may eat his body and drink his blood, and that we may always live in him, and he in us.

Amen.

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given it to his disciples, he broke it, and gave it to them saying

“This is my body which is broken for you. Do this to remember me.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Do this to remember me.”

Leader: This bread, for which we give thanks, and which we break together, is a participation in the body of Christ.

All: Thank you Father for making us one with Christ.

Leader: This cup for which we give thanks and which we drink together, is a participation in the blood of Christ.

All: Thank you Father for making us yours forever.

Leader: At this table
all are welcome.
In eating we share our humanity,
we confess our commonality,
and take comfort in companionship.
May those who come as strangers leave as friends.

**All: This is your table, God.
As we break bread, be present with us.**

Leader: At this table
we make space for grace.
We give no place to condemnation.
setting others before ourselves,
we abandon unkind conversation.
May every word we speak, speak life.

**All: This is your table, God.
As we break bread, be present with us.**

Leader: At this table
We celebrate God's goodness.
In poverty or plenty, we choose thankfulness.
We take time for slow food.
We dine and digest;
We take delight in life well-lived.
May all we receive here make us
generous in giving.

**All: This is your table, God.
As we break bread, be present with us.**

Leader: At this table ...

We learn to listen, and listen to learn.

We linger until the last word is spoken.

We savour the flavour of each other's stories.

We stay until the hunger of the human heart is fed.

May all who eat the bread and wine here be fuelled

For every new adventure they face.

All: This is your table, God.

As we break bread, be present with us.

Amen.

We share communion together, giving each other the bread and the wine, with the words "The body of Christ" and "The blood of Christ."

Leader: We have shared at the table of the Lord.

**All: God truth, we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life.**

You have led us to the living water.

Refresh and sustain us

as we go forward on our journey.

**Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love
for you and for one another.**

Amen.

A hymn or worship song is sung.

Reading: John 13 v 1 – 15

During this reading Rev Suzanne and Rev Philippa will wash the feet of anyone who wishes, or their hands if they so wish. As they move around the circle of people, please indicate if you would like your foot washed by removing your shoes and socks, or hold your hands out in front of you if you would like your hands washed.

If you would prefer to sit in silence, with your own thoughts and prayers while this happens please keep your head bowed as they come to you, and they will pass to the next person.

In silence one candle is blown out, representing Judas Iscariot, as he moved away from the light of Christ.

Those gathered leave in silence.

