

## The Camel-Allen Benefice

### Worship At Home

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021



#### Introduction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

There are a number of acts of remembrance which are often done on Maundy Thursday: the most important is the taking of communion in remembrance of the Last Supper, when the words of institution of this fundamental sacrament were first uttered by Jesus to his disciples.

In some churches Jesus's washing of his disciples' feet is re-enacted, with the presiding minister washing the feet of the congregation, just as the Bishop, in imitation of Christ, does to ordinands when deacons are first ordained as clergy.

In other churches a watch or vigil is kept after the service in remembrance of the time Jesus spent in Gethsemane on that fateful Thursday night and his disciples were asked to stay awake and pray with him.

With our churches still necessarily closed for public worship due to the continuing pandemic, until their glorious re-opening on Easter Day, we can, sadly, do none of these things together this year. But we can worship, as one, at home and, if we wish and feel so moved, continue our own silent vigil for a time in prayer when the service ends, staying awake with Jesus, as his disciples, so tragically, failed to do, as we reflect again on the story of this most solemn, and world transforming, of nights.

This is a quiet and solemn service, fitting to the occasion, when we remember Jesus's last night in human form on earth, before the dreadful crucifixion on Good Friday; the night, terrible beyond all words, when the Son of God, the cosmic Christ who existed before all creation and who was God's very instrument of creation, was betrayed by humanity, arrested, tried by men who were blind to the truth, and condemned by them to death, even death on a cross, the most degrading and agonizing death which the Roman rulers of this known world at the time could devise.

There will be no sermon or reflection in this service, other than these introductory comments, for no preacher's words, certainly not mine, could ever capture the mystery, awe, magnificence and world changing events of that first Maundy Thursday. Instead, the service will conclude with a longer than usual Gospel reading: Matthew's account of the night when the future of the cosmos hung in the balance. Please read this carefully, even though you may well have read it many times before. If you are watching our recorded service on our YouTube channel (Camel-Allen Churches) it will be followed by a beautiful piece of music played by Gareth. At home you might like to play a favourite piece of music as we take time to reflect again on that wonderful, but excruciatingly painful, story.

After, then, a very brief conclusion, we will end in silence and, if any of us wish, enter into a period of silent, prayerful vigil in our own homes, perhaps by candlelight, as we reflect on the hour that Jesus, so gently and humbly, asked his disciples to stay awake and pray with him. Can we, perhaps, do a little better than they?

## Hymn

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come.  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home

The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
a life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
the sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who called me here below,  
will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousands years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

## 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.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,**



**we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

### **The Collect**

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

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end  
and drank the cup prepared for him:  
may we who will again soon share his table  
watch with him through the night of suffering  
and be faithful.  
*All* Amen.

## Psalm 116: 8 - 18

For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the Lord  
in the land of the living.

I kept my faith, even when I said,  
“I am greatly afflicted”;

I said in my consternation,  
“Everyone is a liar.”

What shall I return to the Lord  
for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord,

I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant;  
the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.

## John 13: 3-9 & 14-15

<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” <sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”

Jesus said to him, “<sup>14</sup> So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.



### The Spiritual Washing of Feet

We cannot wash each others' feet physically this year, but doing so is a symbolic act of loving and serving one another. not only a remembrance of what John tells us Christ did in the upper roomn at the Last Supper.

The anthem *Ubi Caritas et Amor* (Where there is charity and love) is often played while the foot washing ritual is enacted. Let us reflect on that passage from John's Gospel as we listen to that

anthem to a tune chosen by Gareth or to your choice of music at home:

*God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.*

Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling;  
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting;  
let us all revere and love him, God eternal.  
Loving him, let each love Christ in all his brothers.  
*God is love,...*

When we Christians gather, members of one Body,  
let there be in us no discord, but one spirit;  
banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.  
Christ our God be present always here among us.  
*God is love,...*

Grant us love's fulfilment, joy with all the blessed  
when we see your face, O Saviour, in its glory;  
shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,  
be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.  
*God is love,...*

## **Our Prayers**

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



Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.  
**All Amen.**

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

**Our Father.....**

### **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.'



### **Hymn [Repeat twice]**

A new commandment I give unto you,  
That you love one another as I have loved you,  
That you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know that you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.  
By this shall all men know that you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.

### **Hear now Matthew's account of the events of Maundy Thursday**

<sup>17</sup> On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>18</sup> He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" <sup>19</sup> So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>20</sup> When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; <sup>21</sup> and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." <sup>22</sup> And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" <sup>23</sup> He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me." <sup>24</sup> 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." <sup>25</sup> Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

<sup>26</sup> While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup> I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

<sup>30</sup> When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup> 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.'

<sup>32</sup> But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

<sup>33</sup> Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." <sup>35</sup> Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

<sup>37</sup> He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." <sup>39</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." <sup>40</sup> Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup> Again he went away for the

second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." <sup>43</sup> Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup> Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." <sup>49</sup> At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. <sup>51</sup> Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" <sup>55</sup> At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. <sup>56</sup> But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

<sup>57</sup> Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. <sup>58</sup> But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the

guards in order to see how this would end. <sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, <sup>60</sup> but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward <sup>61</sup> and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" <sup>62</sup> The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" <sup>63</sup> But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." <sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

<sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. <sup>66</sup> What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." <sup>67</sup> Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." <sup>71</sup> When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>72</sup> Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." <sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." <sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. <sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock

crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.



### The Dismissal

Jesus 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; and may the Lord be with you, this day, this night of all nights, and for evermore. **Amen.**

*Compiled and created by The Revd Jeffrey Terry partly from materials in Times and Seasons © 2006 The Archbishop's Council; CCLI Licence 999402*