**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

O Lord, let my soul rise up to meet you

**as the day rises to meet the sun.**

**Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee

**let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you?**

**Psalm 78: 14-17**

He led them with a cloud by day\*

**and all night through with a glow of fire.**

He split the hard rocks in the wilderness\*

**and gave them drink as from the great deep.**

He brought streams out of the cliff\*

**and the waters gushed out like rivers.**

But they went on sinning against him\*

**rebelling in the desert against the Most High.**

**Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you?**

**A reading from the Gospel of John 13:1-15**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

**Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you?**

**Meditation**

Jean Vanier, the late founder of L’Arche communities has written “To wash the feet of a brother or sister in Christ, to allow someone to wash our feet, is a sign that together we want to follow Jesus, to take the downward path, to find Jesus’s presence in the poor and the weak. Is it not a sign that we too want to live a heart-to-heart relationship with others, to meet them as a person and a friend, and to live in communion with them? Is it not a sign that we yearn to be men and women of forgiveness, to be healed and cleansed and to heal and cleanse others and thus to live more fully in communion with Jesus?”

**Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you?**

**Prayers**

Lord, you are always breaking apart our communities, our identities, our images of you: open hand and heart to receive this uncalled for gift, this fractured food, this feast where untouchables meet, human and divine, through Jesus Christ, the passion of God. **Amen.**

*At this time please add your petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings.*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Going Out**

Lord Jesus Christ, you knelt to wash from our feet the dirt out of which you made us. Teach us to humbly serve one another so that the world may know we are your disciples. **Amen.**