

Dear Beloved,

For the Service tonight:

Thank you to the six or so people who offered to do reading tonight; Marc is doing them.

Thank you to all those who offered to help with the stripping of the altar, I think Karen and Gayle will be enough but if some of you gentlemen could clear out the foot washing stuff while the music is still going (just to the vestry) then totally after the service I would be very grateful.

Leanne it would be lovely if you would lead and I'm sure Steve will do Data.

I think we are organised for the other services.(except data on Friday)

Attached are paper versions of all three services, if you need to see what the readings are or want to do some meditation at home.

and most of all may you have a blessed Easter as we celebrate our wonderful Lord and his love for us



Blessings
Wendy

Morning Tea after the Service in Cooma On 2nd and 4th Sundays
please volunteer for the roster.

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Autumn Open Garden Day 16th April Please pot plants up now and
give Nella any donations towards cost of the raffle prize and other expenses
Tickets are on sale at the Fabric Salon

--

Nella also needs volunteers to help with tickets and raffle on the day

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Cakes, slices or sandwiches are needed for the Garden day
Please speak to Sarah Wall at church or ring 6452 1618 and leave a message if you
can provide a plate of food.

Food can be delivered to the church hall on the morning of the 16th April.

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Next Ladies Fellowship Lunch coming up
Talk to Jan.

--

Midweek Services every Wednesday at 9/30 all Welcome

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Please volunteer for the roster, well in advance.

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Concert on 11 June Details TBA

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Prayer and Praise

Wendy

Edith and Colin Mayhew

--

Glenn Fletcher .. for his recovery

our wardens and Parish Councillors

--

Bernie and Gayle as they grieve for Bernie's Mum

--

Scott's wife Jennie.

Beattie Russell and Jenni Roberts in Yallambie.

--

Liz Pirie

Leanne Lowery

Mary Mitchell

--

Peter & Julie Harris from Bredbo

all congregations in Nimmitabel

--

The New Catholic priest Father Mark Croker as he ministers from Bombala
through to the mountains

--

for each other that we may be salt and light in this community

--

People everywhere who are living through war or disasters of every kind.



May you have

The gladness of Easter,
which is Hope

The promise of Easter,
which is Peace

The spirit of Easter,
which is Love

MAUNDY THURSDAYSERVICE

THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2023

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Tonight, we begin the Great Three Days of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection, the journey from the supper table to the cross, from the cross to Easter dawn.

We are followers in his way, exploring his truth, encountering his life.

This is the night when Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would betray him.

This is the night when Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

This is the night when Christ our Lord gave us this holy feast, that as we break the bread and drink the cup we may here proclaim his holy sacrifice, and come at the last to his table in heaven.

This is the night when Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, showing us how to honour and serve one another in love.

This is the night for watching and prayer. We give ourselves freely to the demands of these great days, confident that those who die in Christ will surely live with him.

HYMN: TIS 536 An upper room

SENTENCE

Jesus said, 'If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.'

John 13.14

PRAYER OF INVITATION

Holy One, in the stillness of this hour, be with us. As we walk with Jesus in the garden, let us feel his anguish. Hold us close even as you held close your beloved son, that we, too, may feel your presence, calming and comforting in the midst of distress. **Amen.**

PRAYER of THE DAY

O God, your love was embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed the disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal: wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, to whom be glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE CONFESSION

On this night of all nights as we remember Jesus' love and the betrayal of his friends

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken: we confess that we have failed to fulfil your will for us. We betray our neighbours, desert our friends, and run-in fear when we should be loyal.

Though you have bound yourself to us, we have not bound ourselves to you.

God, have mercy on us weak and wilful people. Lead us once again to your table, and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. To Christ be praise forever. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who loved us to the end and died to set us free: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exodus 12.1-4; 12.11-14

¹ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² 'This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbour, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat.

¹¹ This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.

¹² 'On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. ¹⁴ 'This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord – a lasting ordinance.

Psalm 116.1-2; 116.11-18

¹ I love the Lord, because he heard my voice: the voice of my supplication;

² Because he inclined his ear to me in the day that I called to him.

¹¹ How shall I repay the Lord: for all his benefits to me?

¹² I will take up the cup of salvation: and call upon the name of the Lord.

¹³ I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people.

¹⁴ Grievous in the sight of the Lord: is the death of his faithful ones.

¹⁵ O Lord, I am your servant, your servant and the child of your handmaid: you have unloosed my bonds.

¹⁶ I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving: and call upon the name of the Lord.

¹⁷ I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people,

¹⁸ In the courts of the house of the Lord: even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

John 13.1-17; 13.31b-35

¹ It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him.

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' ⁷ Jesus replied, 'You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' ⁸ 'No,' said Peter, 'you shall never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.' ⁹ 'Then, Lord,' Simon Peter replied, 'not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!'

¹⁰ Jesus answered, 'Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.' ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean.

¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them. ¹³ 'You call me "Teacher" and "Lord", and rightly so, for that is what I am.

¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

³¹ When [Judas] was gone, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. ³³ 'My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: where I am going, you cannot come. ³⁴ 'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.'

Hymn 640 Kneels at the feet of his friends.

THE WASHING OF FEET

Beloved in Christ, we have heard that, on the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. I therefore invite you, who share in the royal priesthood of Christ, to come forward, that we may recall whose servants we are, remembering his teaching that what will be done for us is also to be done for others.

I invite you to go to one of the places set around you.

Those who wish to participate may have either a foot or a hand washed. by moving to one of the stations at either the front or rear of the church. Please take the time to be meditative while others are having their feet washed.

Reflective music will be played during the foot washing.

THE INTERCESSIONS

Merciful God, 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 teach us humility.**

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 their message. We pray for the mission of your Church...Lord, hear us **and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded them 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, Jesus loved his friends to the very end.

As we open our hearts to all who face darkness tonight, we pray for the sick, those who mourn, those trapped by violence, addiction or pain; give healing and hope.

Lord, hear us **and fill us with your hope.**

On this night, he reminded them 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.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A MEDITATION

THE PEACE

Reconciled by his love, let us offer one another signs of peace and reconciliation.

"Love one another as I have loved you." The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn 538 Feed us now, Bread of life

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

He offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

When his hour had come, in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples,

that we might proclaim his death, and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

He offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

When his hour had come, in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples,

that we might proclaim his death, and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

We remember his death on the cross. We proclaim the resurrection to new life.

We await Christ's coming in glory.

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine; may we who receive them, as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread and gave thanks.

He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said, 'Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup and gave you thanks. He shared the cup with them and said, 'This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.

You have gathered us together to feed on Christ and to remember all he has done for us:

Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace to this world that you have made.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies,
it remains just a single grain; but if it dies it bears much fruit.

If we have died with him, we shall live with him.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

This is God's table. All are welcome here.

Body of Christ keep you in eternal life. Blood of Christ keep you in eternal life

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, source of all love, on this night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them.

We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all.

Father, **we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Time of silence

BLESSING

Almighty God, who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ, and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom, give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

We silently remove banners, linen, decorations, all but one candle and lights are dimmed, while Psalm 22 is read.

You may sit or kneel to pray and reflect.

You may be given something to take into the vestry.

You may then either return to your seat or depart, when you wish, in reverent silence.

Psalm 22

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

² My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.

³ Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.

⁴ In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.

⁸ 'He trusts in the LORD,' they say, 'let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.'

⁹ Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.

¹⁰ From birth I was cast on you; from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹ Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹² Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.

¹³ Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.

My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me.

¹⁵ My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.

¹⁷ All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me.

¹⁸ They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

¹⁹ But you, LORD, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.

²⁰ Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.

²¹ Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

²² I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honour him!

Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one;

he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;

before those who fear you, I will fulfil my vows.

²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the LORD will praise him – may your hearts live for ever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD,

and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,

²⁸ for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him – those who cannot keep themselves alive.

³⁰ Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

³¹ They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn:

He has done it!



This is a night on which we remember.

We remember something that happened so long ago, none of us can trace our family trees back that far.

Nevertheless, we remember.

We remember that on this night, Jesus and his friends were also gathered to remember. They gathered for a Passover meal, which is, exactly, a feast of remembering.

Like us, they were gathered together.

Like us, they were telling the story of their faith.

Like us they were calling to mind the saving acts of God...

They remembered God being with them, in steadfast love, even as they were treated harshly and enslaved.

They remembered God leading their ancestors in faith out of slavery, and turning their bitter burden into sweet freedom.



And as they dipped the herbs in salt water, to remind them of their tears, and as they ate the sweet fruit, to remind them of their joys, they were putting it all together.

That's what "remember" means... to put something back together.

We "re-member" something, and what was scattered becomes whole. What was many becomes one.

And so, they remembered together, Jesus and his friends, their identity as God's covenant people.

They were all there, to remember God's great and saving acts. They were there, in a sense, to remember who they were.

And then Jesus did something... inexplicable.

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."

He did it with confidence that this was, in fact, the last supper he would share with them.



On this night, at this meal, the meaning of the bread was understood: Matzoh, the bread eaten at the Passover Seder, is called the "bread of affliction" or adversity.

The matzoh reminds of the suffering of the slaves in Egypt. But on that night, Jesus tells his friends, he is the bread. He will suffer. He will be broken.

Then, Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.

He said to them, "This is my blood of the [new] covenant..."

Jesus has taken this night of remembering and done something new: moving, Enigmatic and Mystifying.



The meaning of the wine at the Passover meal is consistent. The wine is shared as part of a blessing.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine, and who gave us, Lord our God, with love, festivals for happiness, holidays and times for joy, this day of Passover, the time of our freedom.

At the Seder, wine is drunk in blessing and celebration and abundance, and the sharing of it is meant to "show freedom and majesty."



And then Jesus, after passing around the wine, says, "This is my blood."

Jesus tells his friends, his life will be poured out, in much the same way as the life of the Passover lamb.

Jesus joins with his friends to remember, to celebrate the Passover... a meal that resonates at the heart of their identity as Jews. At the same time, Jesus interprets the bread and wine of that meal in a way that forms the heart of our identity.

That is what we are here to remember, to re-member. We are putting it back together. In re-remembering, what was scattered becomes whole. What was many becomes one.



At this table, we remember that Jesus spoke of his body being broken, like a piece of bread; and he spoke of his life being poured out, like a cup of wine.

We are Jesus body on earth we come together. We re - member.

We see: in Jesus, God's love is poured out, like a never-ending cup of wine.

We see: in Jesus, God's presence comes to us, our daily bread, bread for the journey.

We see: in Jesus, God acts with love and power, and the goal, again, is joy and freedom.



All these things we see, when we re-member. When what was scattered in our history becomes whole. When what was many—that would be us—becomes one.

Like Jesus and his friends, we gather together, and we tell the story of our faith. and we call to mind the saving acts of God.