

# CHURCH OF TE HEPARA PAI

Thursday 02 April 2015

Te Taite Mone / Maundy Thursday  
**THE LAST SUPPER**



## MAUNDY THURSDAY



### *SENTENCE OF THE DAY:*

'I give you a new commandment,' says the Lord, 'that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'

(John 13:34)

### *COLLECT OF THE DAY – Let us pray.*

Everlasting God, your Son Jesus Christ girded himself with a towel and washed his disciples' feet; grant us the will to be the servant of others as he was servant of all; who gave up his life and died for us, yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**





## *The Last Supper*

Across the country this evening Anglican churches are celebrating **Maundy Thursday** as a festival in the Church calendar. Christians celebrate Maundy Thursday to remember the **Last Supper**, when Jesus shared the Passover meal with

his disciples on the night before he was crucified. The Passover meal (Ex. 12:11) is an annual meal which reminds the Israelites about how God rescued them from Egypt (Ex. 12:14). On the occasion of the Last Supper, Jesus started the Lord's Supper, which we now call Holy Communion or Hakari Tapu. He passed round bread and wine. He said the bread was his body broken for them and the wine was his blood shed for them. The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act that calls to mind the death, rising again from the dead and promised return of the Lord Jesus Christ. When we take the bread and the cup in Holy Communion, we are remembering the day when Jesus Christ died for our sins on the cross, was buried, and rose again from the dead (1 Cor. 11:24-25); we are telling everyone about the Lord's death until he comes again (1 Cor. 11:26). So he gave new meaning to the Passover meal by linking his own life with it at the Last Supper when he turned it into the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion. For this reason, our hāhi observes a special Lord's Supper or Hakari Tapu service on Maundy Thursday in remembrance of the Last Supper. The new meaning of the Passover meal, which is now the Lord's Supper or Hakari Tapu, is that in the giving of his life in death, Jesus causes God to '*pass over*' as it were from granting sinners eternal death and grant them eternal life instead when they put trust in him (in Jesus). This is the ... "*new covenant in his blood*" (1 Cor. 11:25) which would mean that God would forgive our sins; when we put trust in Jesus.

As Jesus and the disciples ate their Last Supper together before Jesus' arrest and crucifixion, he washed the disciples' feet (Jn. 13:5) as an act of humility and service, thereby setting an example that we should love and serve one another in humility (Jn. 13:12-15). We observe a foot-washing ceremony on Maundy Thursday to remember Jesus' washing the feet of the disciples.

At the Last Supper Jesus gave an important command to his disciples and to all Christians. The word *maundy* in Maundy Thursday means command and refers to this command. He told them to "... *love one another*" (Jn. 13:34). '*To love other people*' was not a new command as it was a command in the Old Testament. But Jesus added something new. To love people as much as Jesus loved people was very different! Jesus showed how much he loved us by means of his death. He gave his life as a sacrifice on our behalf. He suffered the punishment that we all deserve for our sin against God. He loved us when we were sinners. He continues to love us, even when we do bad things. He even loves people who reject him. Jesus loves people in a way that is completely unselfish. That is the way that Christians should love each other. This kind of love is more than just a feeling. We show it by means of what we do on behalf of other people. We should help people and we should not expect a reward.

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - amen.

## The Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

*A reading from Exodus chapter 12 beginning at verse 1.*

### The First Passover Sacrifice

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Egypt. <sup>2</sup>He said, "From now on, this month will be your first month. Each of your years will begin with it.

<sup>3</sup>"Speak to the whole community of Israel. Tell them that on the tenth day of this month each man must get a lamb from his flock. A lamb should be chosen for each family and home.

<sup>4</sup>"Suppose there are not enough people in your family to eat a whole lamb. Then you must share some of it with your nearest neighbour. You must add up the total number of people there are. You must decide how much lamb is needed for each person.

<sup>5</sup>"The animals you choose must be males that are a year old. They must not have any flaws. You may choose either sheep or goats. <sup>6</sup>Take care of them until the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Then the whole community of Israel must kill them when the sun goes down. <sup>7</sup>Take some of the blood. Put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where you eat the lambs.

<sup>8</sup>"That same night eat the meat cooked over the fire. Also eat bitter plants. And eat bread that is made without yeast. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water. Instead, cook it over the fire. Cook the head, legs and inside parts. <sup>10</sup>Do not leave any of it until morning. If some is left over until morning, burn it.

<sup>11</sup>***"Eat the meat while your coat is tucked into your belt. Put your sandals on your feet. Take your walking stick in your hand. Eat the food quickly. It is the LORD's Passover."***

<sup>12</sup>"That same night I will pass through Egypt. I will strike down every oldest son. I will also kill all of the male animals that were born first to their mothers. And I will judge all of the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.

<sup>13</sup>"The blood on your houses will be a sign for you. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. No deadly plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>"Always remember this day. For all time to come, you and your children after you must celebrate this day as a feast in honour of the LORD. It is a law that will last forever.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.*

## The Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*A reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 11 beginning at verse 23.*

<sup>23</sup> I passed on to you what I received from the Lord. On the night the Lord Jesus was handed over to his enemies, he took bread. <sup>24</sup>***"When he had given thanks, he broke it. He said, "This is my body. It is given for you. Every time you eat it, do it in memory of me."*** <sup>25</sup>***"In the same way, after supper he took the cup. He said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Every time you drink it, do it in memory of me."***

<sup>26</sup> When you eat the bread and drink the cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.*

## The Gospel Reading: John 13:1-17, (31b-35)

*The Holy Gospel according to John chapter 13 beginning at verse 1.  
Praise and Glory to God.*

### **Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet**

<sup>1</sup> It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world. It was time for him to go to the Father. Jesus loved his disciples who were in the world. So he now showed them how much he really loved them.

<sup>2</sup> The evening meal was being served. The devil had already tempted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. He had told Judas to hand Jesus over to his enemies. <sup>3</sup> Jesus knew that the Father had put everything under his power. He also knew he had come from God and was returning to God.

<sup>4</sup> So he got up from the meal and took off his outer clothes. He wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup> After that, he poured water into a large bowl. Then he began to wash his disciples' feet. He dried them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

<sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter.

"Lord," Peter said to him, "are you going to wash my feet?"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus replied, "You don't realize now what I am doing. But later you will understand."

<sup>8</sup> "No," said Peter. "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you can't share life with me."

<sup>9</sup> "Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet! Wash my hands and my head too!"

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs to wash only his feet. The rest of his body is clean. And you are clean. But not all of you are."

<sup>11</sup> Jesus knew who was going to hand him over to his enemies. That was why he said not every one was clean.

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes. Then he returned to his place.

"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. <sup>13</sup> "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' You are right. That is what I am. <sup>14</sup> I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. So you also should wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> I have given you an example. You should do as I have done for you.

<sup>16</sup> "What I'm about to tell you is true. A servant is not more important than his master. And a messenger is not more important than the one who sends him. <sup>17</sup> Now you know these things. So you will be blessed if you do them.

<sup>31</sup> He said, "Now the Son of Man receives glory. And he brings glory to God. <sup>32</sup> If the Son brings glory to God, God himself will bring glory to the Son. God will do it at once.

<sup>33</sup> "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me. Just as I told the Jews, so I am telling you now. You can't come where I am going.

<sup>34</sup> ***"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.*** <sup>35</sup> If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples."

*This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to Christ, the Word.*

# *Scripture Readings for Tenebrae Service*

**First Reading:** Shadow of Betrayal      Matthew 26:20-25

<sup>20</sup> When evening came, Jesus was at the table with his 12 disciples. <sup>21</sup> While they were eating, he said, "What I'm about to tell you is true. One of you will hand me over to my enemies."

<sup>22</sup> The disciples became very sad. One after the other, they began to say to him, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord, do you?"

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will hand me over. <sup>24</sup> The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But how terrible it will be for the one who hands over the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

<sup>25</sup> Judas was the one who was going to hand him over. He said, "Surely you don't mean me, Teacher, do you?"  
Jesus answered, "You have said so."

**Second Reading:** Shadow of Desertion      Matthew 26:31-35

## **Jesus Says That the Disciples Will Turn Away**

<sup>31</sup> Jesus told them, "This very night you will all turn away because of me. It is written that the Lord said, "'I will strike the shepherd down. Then the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'" (Zechariah 13:7)

<sup>32</sup> But after I rise from the dead, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>33</sup> Peter replied, "All the others may turn away because of you. But I never will."

<sup>34</sup> "What I'm about to tell you is true," Jesus answered. "It will happen tonight. Before the rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't know me."

<sup>35</sup> But Peter said, "I may have to die with you. But I will never say I don't know you." And all the other disciples said the same thing.

**Third Reading: Agony of the Soul      Luke 22:38-44**

<sup>38</sup> The disciples said, "See, Lord, here are two swords."  
"Two swords are enough!" he replied.

**Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives**

<sup>39</sup> Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives. His disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When they reached the place, Jesus spoke. "Pray that you won't fall into sin when you are tempted," he said to them. <sup>41</sup> Then he went a short distance away from them. There he got down on his knees and prayed. <sup>42</sup> He said, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup of suffering away from me. But do what you want, not what I want." <sup>43</sup> An angel from heaven appeared to Jesus and gave him strength. <sup>44</sup> Because he was very sad and troubled, he prayed even harder. His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

**Fourth Reading: Unshared Vigil      Mark 14:32-41**

**Jesus Prays in Gethsemane**

<sup>32</sup> Jesus and his disciples went to a place called Gethsemane. Jesus said to them, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup> He took Peter, James and John along with him. He began to be very upset and troubled. <sup>34</sup> "My soul is very sad. I feel close to death," he said to them. "Stay here. Keep watch."

<sup>35</sup> He went a little farther. Then he fell to the ground. He prayed that, if possible, the hour might pass by him. <sup>36</sup> "*Abba*, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup of suffering away from me. But let what you want be done, not what I want."

<sup>37</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour?"

<sup>38</sup> Watch and pray. Then you won't fall into sin when you are tempted. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

<sup>39</sup> Once more Jesus went away and prayed the same thing. <sup>40</sup> Then he came back. Again he found them sleeping. They couldn't keep their eyes open. They did not know what to say to him.

<sup>41</sup> Jesus returned the third time. He said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look! The Son of Man is about to be handed over to sinners.

**Fifth Reading:** Father, the hour has come ...! John 17:1-6

**Jesus Prays for Himself**

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed. He said, "Father, the time has come. Bring glory to your Son. Then your Son will bring glory to you. <sup>2</sup> You gave him authority over all people. He gives eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And what is eternal life? It is knowing you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I have brought you glory on earth. I have finished the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, give glory to me in heaven where your throne is. Give me the glory I had with you before the world began.

**Jesus Prays for His Disciples**

<sup>6</sup> "I have shown you to the disciples you gave me out of the world. They were yours. You gave them to me. And they have obeyed your word.

**Sixth Reading:** That they may all be one John 17:15-22

<sup>15</sup> I do not pray that you will take them out of the world. I pray that you will keep them safe from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to it. <sup>17</sup> Use the truth to make them holy. Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> You sent me into the world. In the same way, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> I make myself holy for them so that they too can be made holy by the truth.

**Jesus Prays for All Believers**

<sup>20</sup> "I do not pray only for them. I pray also for everyone who will believe in me because of their message. <sup>21</sup> Father, I pray they will be one, just as you are in me and I am in you. I want them also to be in us. Then the world will believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory you gave me. I did this so they would be one, just as we are one.

**Seventh Reading: Arrest in the Garden**

John 18:1-5

**Jesus Is Arrested**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had finished praying, he left with his disciples. They crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was a garden. Jesus and his disciples went into it.

<sup>2</sup>Judas knew the place. He was going to hand Jesus over to his enemies. Jesus had often met in that place with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas came to the garden. He was guiding a group of soldiers and some officials. The chief priests and the Pharisees had sent them. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.

<sup>4</sup>Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to him. So he went out and asked them, "Who do you want?"

<sup>5</sup>"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus said. Judas, who was going to hand Jesus over, was standing there with them.

**Eighth Reading: Shadow of the Cross**

Mark 15:16-20

**The Soldiers Make Fun of Jesus**

<sup>16</sup>The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace. It was called the Praetorium. They called together the whole company of soldiers. <sup>17</sup>The soldiers put a purple robe on Jesus. Then they twisted thorns together to make a crown. They placed it on his head. <sup>18</sup>They began to call out to him, "We honour you, king of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>Again and again they hit him on the head with a stick. They spit on him. They fell on their knees and pretended to honour him. <sup>20</sup>After they had made fun of him, they took off the purple robe. They put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to nail him to a cross.

