

# Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine

a simple service with a  
simple meal



Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter. "Maundy" means commandment, referencing the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples on this day; for it was on this day that Jesus had his last meal with his disciples. Jesus broke bread, washed the disciples' feet, and hinted at his coming crucifixion and betrayal. At the time, the disciples did not realise the significance of this moment, but now we recognise how powerful and special this last supper was.

As a result, it is our Christian tradition to celebrate this evening with the gift of worship and the sacrament of Communion, just as the disciples did on that night.

This year, we are unable to gather together in person to share in Communion, so this at-home service is here to serve as a reminder that God meets us at every table. Every meal we share is a reminder of the holy meal we share during Communion.

This service is based upon: Liturgy by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

You will need:

A meal, perhaps shared with your household or enjoyed on your own

Bread

Wine

A Candle

A Bible

Prepare

Prepare your meal, it might be that if you have more than one in your household others can join in the preparation.

Set the scene, where are you going to eat? Do you have something special you use for special meals at other times in the year? A special cloth, a decoration, special plates?

Wash your hands

Washing hands has become a significant factor to our time. In Jesus time, the servants would wash guests feet when they came to a s home for a meal. In the meal we are remembering today Jesus took on the place of a servant and washed his friends feet. As you wash your hands, think how this might have felt for Jesus friends and wonder what you might want Jesus to wash away from your life.

There are a number of places for something to be said in this service. If there are others with you, you might want to take it in turns, you might want to start with the youngest, or the oldest. You might want to read the words quietly into yourself.

When you are all sat down (perhaps around a table) with the food ready to eat, someone says:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us

**Respond: and also with you.**

Light a Candle in the middle of your space

As the candle is lit someone says:

We usually go to church to worship God with God's people, but today we are being church here in this place.

**Respond: God is with us.**

Thinking back to washing our hands and reflecting on Jesus we pray

We have not always worshipped God,  
our creator.

**Respond: Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ,  
our Saviour.

**Respond: Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit,  
our guide.

**Respond: Lord, have mercy.**

**Respond:**

**May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## **Eat**

Someone could serve the food for anyone else who might be there. Can this be someone different to normal?

## **Read**

Someone read Luke 22:7-23 from the Bible.

## **Bread**

As you eat read again the words Jesus said:  
And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Someone breaks the bread you have and each one helps themselves to the bread. Enjoy as part of your meal and give thanks for the love of Jesus

## **Reflect**

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus fed and shared a meal with all of his disciples, even Judas who would soon betray him? What does that teach us about God?

Jesus gives thanks for the bread before breaking it. What things do you give thanks for in your life? Make a quick mental list of 5-10 things you often forget to thank God for.

For young families: Invite each child at the table to reflect on their favourite dinner blessing and sing/say it together. Point out that Jesus also offers a blessing to God for the bread before he and his disciples eat, so when we say grace, we are being like Jesus.

## **Wine**

After you have eaten read again the words Jesus said:  
In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Someone pours the wine you have and share this as appropriate. Enjoy and give thanks for Jesus love poured out to overflowing.

## **Peace**

Once you have finished eating and reflecting, offer peace to one another by saying, "The peace of God be with you."  
If you are worshiping alone, offer a prayer of peace for someone you love.