

## Maundy Thursday Family Agape Supper

*In remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples before his death, you are invited to share an agape meal with your family. Choose a simple meal your family would enjoy (eg. soup, cheese or macaroni cheese, fruit, bread and wine or grape juice) and serve it family style. When you sit down at the table choose someone to read the lesson.*

### **John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

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.

*Jesus knew that he was soon going to die and that one of his disciples would betray him to those who would kill him.*

- *I wonder if you have ever felt betrayed by one of your friends?*
- *I wonder what Jesus might have felt knowing that one of his friends at the table were planning to turn him over to those who would arrest 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."

*Have bowls of water and soap at the table, and a paper towel for each person. Before continuing as each person at the table to wash their hands thoroughly. As you wash your hands you might like to listen to a recording of ["Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love."](#)*

- *I wonder why Jesus washed his disciple's feet?*
- *I wonder why we are being so careful to wash our hands a lot nowadays, especially before we eat?*

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. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

- *What can you do to help with dinner this evening? Can you help serve? Can you see when someone at the table needs water, or more food? Can you tell the people at the table which part of the food is especially delicious tonight?*
- *Can you practice being a servant like Jesus by offering to clear the plates from the table and wash them up?*

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*Now enjoy your meal!*

*At each table have a wine glass (or pottery wine goblet)*

*After the meal an adult takes the goblet and fills it with wine or grape juice. The adult takes a pita bread or other bread and puts it on a special plate.*

*He/she then reads the passage below from 1 Corinthians. At the appropriate time takes the bread, breaks a piece off and passes the plate to the next person to break a piece of bread for themselves before passing it on to the next.*

*This is repeated with the goblet which is passed among family members.*

### **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

*If you look carefully at the scripture we just read you will find the answer to these questions.*

- *What did Jesus do on the night he was betrayed, right before he broke the bread and shared it?*
- *Why did Jesus say that the bread was, or was a symbol of, his body?*
- *What is a covenant between two people or groups of people?*
- *I wonder how you feel when you share bread and wine at the altar with others from your St. Peter's community? (Do you miss your friends there?)*

*Now let us say together the prayer our Lord taught us to pray.*

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.

When dinner is done, enjoy this [video animation of the Last Supper](#).

