

In the name of the Father

And of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



I would like to talk for a little bit about Maundy Thursday

The beginning of the Tridium,

Three days of services commemorating

The establishment of the New Covenant

His suffering under Pontius Pilate

And under those who could not

Recognize His dominion – AND –

His descent into hell, to free the captives there



Jesus cannot rise from the dead

Unless he first dies.

Our service tomorrow will remember

The brutality of his death



**Our service today illuminates what Christ's death**

And His rising again from the grave

Meant to Him and therefore means to us.



**On the night before he was to be handed over**

To suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ

Took bread, and when he had given thanks,

He gave it to them, saying

“Take eat: This is my body

“Which is given for you.

“Do this in remembrance of me.”



**After supper he took the cup of wine;**

And when he had given thanks,

He gave it to them and said,

“Drink this all of you:

“This is the blood of the New Covenant

“Which is shed for you, whenever you drink it,

“Do this for the remembrance of me.”

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On the night before of Christ Jesus' suffering and death

He also made it quite clear that His new covenant,  
Was not merely a liturgical  
Or ceremonial covenant.

The new covenant fully inaugurates the law of love,

Established by Him from the beginning  
And emphasized by the washing of the feet.

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We cannot live in one of these covenants,

A mere liturgical, or the 'sinner's prayer' covenant,  
Which merely asserts that if we simply believe  
That Jesus is the Son of God,  
That we will be saved.

That, as we know from the Gospel record,

Is exactly what the demon host, understood,  
Even while God's chosen race—Israel—  
Was clueless!

Wherever Jesus went,

The demons proclaimed Him as the Son of God

So, believing he is the Son of God, is not enough,

There is more!



Relying too much on the 'law of love'

Is not enough either!

Washing someone's feet,

Feeling that by accumulating enough

Good deeds to counterbalance

The bad things we have done

Will never work either.

Our disobedience, moves us far away from God

And from His desires for us.

In our disobedient state,

We cannot be in communion with God



There must be a balance between God's love

And God's desire that we perform His will  
Out of love for us.

When a father sees his children jumping on a bed

He tells his children, 'stop jumping'  
Out of concern for them.

To let them continue to jump on the bed  
Even though they might fall  
And bump their heads and get a concussion,  
Is not love, it is indulgence.



God loves us far too much to indulge us, with things that

Are actually harmful for us,  
God will reprove those that he loves,  
But will also stand in for them  
To take the punishment that we deserve  
Frankly, you can't have one without the other.



So, there are three things that we will be doing today

As we start the Holy Tridium

On this Maundy Thursday.



**One: We will remember the Institution**

The sacrifice of our Savior Jesus Christ,

Symbolized in the Holy Eucharist,

Which reconciles us to God.

(You shall love the Lord your God, ...)

**Two: We will remember the institution**

Of the law of love,

Symbolized in the Washing of the Feet,

Which reconciles us to one another.

(You shall love your neighbor as self, ...)

**Three: We will remember**

The passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Since we can't do one and two on our own,

(Jesus came to save us!)





In the name of the Father

And the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.