

Maundy Thursday

Today is Maundy Thursday, a day we spend remembering Jesus' last night with his disciples. Jesus knows his time on earth is coming to an end, that he will soon complete what he came here to do. At this point, Judas has already betrayed him; Peter will deny him, and yet he chooses to spend this time with his closest friends and share one last meal together. In the garden, we see the burden of the task at hand on Jesus, a dark moment for him and for us as we journey together to the cross.

READ: Matthew 26: 20-75

REFLECT: Jesus knew this day would come. He had been preparing for it his entire life. On this Maundy Thursday when we experience Jesus' unconditional love through his table fellowship, there is hope in this moment that the kingdom of God is forever. And yet, the story of Maundy Thursday is both light and dark. Human failings become clear as we see betrayal and denial, anguish and abandonment. Jesus grieves what he knows he has to do, an especially raw and human moment for him. When in your life have you abandoned Jesus? Betrayed him? Denied him? How can you seek God's forgiveness as you join Jesus at the table?

PRAY: God, we come along as Jesus is on his way toward the cross. His disciples have fled, and he is alone... alone with our suffering and our pain... alone and feeling abandoned. Yet he is not alone, for all of humanity walks with him. We stumble and fall as he did. God have mercy. Free us from our prisons and bring us new life. Amen.