



MAUNDY
Thursday

April 1, 2021

Order of Service for Maundy Thursday
Emmanuel United and Rideau Park United Churches
Live streamed from Emmanuel United Church
With Rev. Brian Copeland and Rev Steve Clifton
(a Service in Two Voices by Douglas Varey)

Gathering

- Rev. Brian Copeland

Tonight we gather together-remembering Jesus' last hours. We remember those friends betraying, denying, abandoning. We remember Jesus' enemies plotting against him. We remember how they gained the upper hand. We remember the love Jesus had for all. We remember the sacrifice of that love. Tonight we gather-let us remember.

Hymn: *Shadows Gather, Deep and Cold*

VU 134

Hymn Leader: Phillip Burness, Pianist: Theresa Clarke

**Shadows gather, deep and cold;
lamplight flickers, fades and fails.
Lord, you know what daybreak holds:
thorns and beatings, cross and nails.
You will be denied, betrayed
when the rooster wakes the sun.
Yet you kneel alone and pray,
'Not my will, but thine be done.'**

**In the watches of the night,
in the hour when darkness reigns,
in the grief that has no light,
in the time of fear and pain,
then we hold fast to your way,
to the victory you have won.
Jesus, teach us how to pray,
'Not my will, but thine be done.'**

Setting the Scene for Betrayal and Arrest

Prayer

- Rev. Steve Clifton

Holy God, we come to worship in the gathering shadows of Jesus' suffering and death. We come with his friends, the men and women who have followed him in every time and place, to live once again this story of service and betrayal, of weakness and courage. We come to witness your painful love in action. Be with us, we pray, in the name of the One who is betrayed. Amen.

Water of Forgiveness, Water of Baptism, Water for Washing Disciples' Feet

Prayer

Brian: Servant God, kneeling, bending, serving us, take our
 dusty journeys

Steve: and wrap your hands around them:

Brian: every path we have trodden in life,

Steve: every word that has taken us to hurtful scenes,

Brian: every thought that has moved us toward the shadows,

Steve: every act that has led us into harmful places.

Brian: Wash away the pain as we confess and you forgive.

(During a moment of silence, water is poured into the foot washing bowl and the baptismal font)

Steve: Take the wounds of our travelling

Brian: and hold them in your healing hands.

Steve: Every journey of remembrance that holds too many
 memories,

Brian: every memory that weights us down with anger we cannot surrender.

Steve: every place we have visited that holds too much pain.

Brian: Wash away the lingering memories as we let go and you heal.

(During a moment of silence, water is poured)

Steve: Take away the discomfort we feel because of our failure to honour our own values

Brian: and cleanse us as you kneel at our feet.

Steve: Every lesson about love we have not learned,

Brian: every heavenly value we have not grasped,

Steve: every truth of your realm we have ignored.

Brian: Wash away hesitation as we accept your love. Amen.

(During silence, water is again poured, and we reflect on our sins and shortcomings)

Steve: Jesus says, “Come to me, all you that are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Brian: Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;

Steve: for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls.

Sharing the Word

Gospel: John 13: 1 – 17, 34 – 35

- Rev. Steve Clifton

Meditation: ‘For I have set you an example...’ - **Rev. Brian Copeland**

Remembering That Final Evening Together

Living in the Shadows

(seven lit candles are on the Table)

Brian: God, in anguish we behold you and walk with you, through, on, into the shadows.

(a candle is extinguished)

Steve: God, hold us as we, too, walk through, on, into the worlds' shadows.

(a candle is extinguished)

Brian: God of passion, may we have the courage to stay awake, as you pray all alone into the night.

(a candle is extinguished)

Steve: God of compassionate love, the world conspires against you and turns its back on your gift of redemption.

(a candle is extinguished)

Brian: God, kneel with us as we, too, pray into our nights, as forces gather and betray love's future.

(a candle is extinguished)

Steve: God of our day and night, be with us as we share your cup of pain and loss, trusting you when shadows seem so deep.

(a candle is extinguished)

Brian: God, you live in us. Help us to hold your cup and to walk in Jesus' footsteps, through death to life.

(a candle is extinguished)

Steve: Amen and Amen.

From the Upper Room into the World

(The Table is cleared bare and then is covered with a black cloth)

(The Christ Candle is extinguished)

Hymn: *Lead, Kindly Light*

VU 640

Hymn Leader: Phillip Burness, Pianist: Theresa Clarke

**Lead, kindly light, amid the encircling gloom;
lead thou me on.**

**The night is dark, and I am far from home;
lead thou me on.**

**Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
the distant scene, one step enough for me.**

**I was not ever thus, nor prayed that thou
shouldst lead me on.**

**I loved to choose and see my path, but now
lead thou me on.**

**I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,
pride ruled my will: remember not past years.**

**So long thy power hath blest me, sure it still
will lead me on,
o'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
the night is gone;
and with the morn those angel faces smile,
which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.**

(The service ends in Silence)

Thank you to Rev. Steve Clifton, Rev. Brian Copeland, Phillip Burness and Theresa Clarke for leading tonight's service.