

Maundy Thursday - set up from 5.30pm, open doors 6.15pm, runs for about an hour starting 6.30pm

What	Who	Comment
Long table, cloth, 13 chalices, 13 plates, small jug		juice poured into the 12 chalices ahead of time. Table is already 'set'. Some juice in jug for the 'Jesus' chalice poured during the service
Bread/flatbread		in basket on table
Plinths		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plinth - eastern end of long table where metal bowl with coins will be placed 2. Plinth x 4 – 2 each near eastern and western transepts; 2 with large glass bowls, 2 with jugs of water and hand towels. 3. Plinth where bowl with salted water will be placed - at western end of long table 4. Plinth for Christ candle 5. 2 plinths on the stage 6. Plinth in eastern foyer
Candles 'snuffer'		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 candles at each end of the long table 2. 1 small candle in glass holder, on plinth where bowl (with silver coins) will be placed, and taper 3. candle - central on table 4. 2 lit candles on 2 plinths on podium 5. Other....
2 large bowls, 2 glass jugs of water, 4 towels		
lantern (for 'Jesus' candle)		
black cloth		
small desk lamp on floor		small desk lamp under the table next to 'Jesus' chair, shining up
small glass bowl, small glass jug, salt		
small desk lamps around church		to give ambient light around the church, with strategically placed small lamps around the church
silver coins metal bowl		
taper for lighting candles		A lit candle, from which the taper is lit to light the other candles as set out in the running sheet
Sound system		2 head mics (narrator/s), 1 hand mic (Ministers)
other....		

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What	Text/action	Who	Comment
Spoken introduction	<p>The Easter story has already begun and tonight we gather, remembering and experiencing the events of the night before Jesus was crucified.</p> <p>At that 1st Easter, the time was set at the celebration of the Jewish feast called Passover, where Jews recalled the events that lead the Nation of Israel from slavery in Egypt, into the wilderness and eventually to the Promised Land. Passover was a time of celebration, a remembrance, a party, to recall the acts of God. There was eating, drinking, prayer and storytelling.</p> <p>There was tension in the air, this night, as Jesus and the disciples gathered, something bigger was going on. There was an awkward shift in emotions; eyes were working the room, somewhat suspicious, somewhat confused, and somewhat naive to the events that would unfold. We are revisiting “that night”, for its not the first time. We’ve been here before, we know what to expect, we know the story, but tonight we gather as if it were the first time. We are going back to that very room, that very night.</p> <p>The disciples are with us and they will share their stories with us. We are there, they are there, Jesus is there.</p>		<p>The setting is lit with some candles already, with some ambient light. Ministers. two narrators and musician/s sit to one one side (this service is not ‘led’ from the front - it is a reflective service with spoken words, & symbolic actions). There are a number of people who quietly do the actions of lighting the candles, pouring coins, pouring water etc. The ‘who’ column is left blank so these roles can be allocated.</p>
Reading	<p>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.” “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked.</p> <p>He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there.”</p>		
Music Interlude	<p>2 candles are lit at either end of the long table followed by short reflective music. Music choice is at the discretion of musician/s.</p>		

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Reading	The Passover meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Judas thought he knew what he needed to achieve success and went to the chief priests and officers of the Temple police to discuss ways and means of putting Jesus into their power. They were greatly pleased and undertook to pay a sum of money, 30 pieces of silver. He agreed and began to look out for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them.		
Action	Coins are poured into metal bowl on plinth A tea-light candle (in glass holder) is lit on the plinth.		Metal bowl, coins dropped in slowly Light candle
Music Interlude	(music choice is at the discretion of musician/s)		~1 minute
Reading	Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.		
Action	Two people to pour water into bowls on plinths (east and west), with adjacent plinth with two towels for each bowl.		Water in jugs, adjacent to the plinth 2 large glass bowls Towels
Reading	After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"		
Invitation	Minister washes and dries own hands, then invites everyone to do so - unspoken gesture	Minister	
Music Interlude	(music choice is at the discretion of musician/s)		~1 minute

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Reading	<p>After washing their feet and taking his garments again, Jesus sat down and said “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The one who loves their life will lose it, while the one who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.</p> <p>Jesus offered the disciples a new covenant. He blessed the bread and the cup, beginning the journey that would lead to the cross.</p>		
Action	Central candle on the table is lit		
Music Interlude	(music choice is at the discretion of musician/s)		~1 minute
Reading	Then during supper Jesus took bread, and having said the blessing he broke it and gave it to his disciples.		
Action	<p><i>(Ministers move to the table)</i> <i>(Minister breaks bread; distributes on plates)</i></p>		
Reading	Take this and eat: this is my body.		
Action	<i>(Minister extends arms out)</i>		
Reading	Then he took the cup and having offered thanks to God, he gave it to them.		
Minister/s	<i>(Minister pours juice into the chalice in the ‘Jesus’ place)</i>		
Reading	Jesus said drink from it all of you. Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you – the beginning of a new relationship with God		
Action	Ministers are seated at the table in silence	Ministers	Allow silence for about 30 seconds
Reflection	<p>Lord, as you sat at that last supper, you knew that amongst your close friends there were those who would share your table and yet, betray you, deny you, doubt you.</p> <p>Through the years we have sat at your table and yet we know the ways we have denied you in the things we have done and said, in the life we have lived. Yet even when we deny you, still you forgive and ask, "Do you love me?"</p> <p>You invite us to this table, like honoured guests. May we discern your presence as we eat and drink of things divine, lest, victim of familiarity, we miss the Host, though touching the gift.</p>		Ministers sit in silent contemplation. A pause at the end of the narration

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Reflection	On this Maundy Thursday, may we know forgiveness for our doubts, our denials, our betrayals, our failures, and live a life that is worthy of those who break bread together. Amen.		
Minister	All is ready. Come and share in this, our remembrance of the Last Supper.		spoken
Minister	Minister invites people to come to the table come to the table and joins others in eating bread and drinking juice.		gesture not words
Action	People come to the table and break the bread, dip it into the chalice and eat. After a short time of reflection, the people arise from the table and return to their seats, and another group of people take a place at the table.		This is done in silence. The Minister/s will model by their actions what people do.
Music Interlude	After activity has ceased, quiet music played. Music choice is at the discretion of musician/s.		~1-2 minutes
Reading	after the meal, Jesus was deeply troubled in spirit declaring, "tonight you will all fall from your faith on my account"		
Action	Extinguish candles on plinth with metal basin Extinguish candles on the table Lift Christ candle and place into lantern and place on the plinth - western end of long table		
Action	Lift black cloth and stretch it ceremoniously over the table and lay it down		
Reading	Mark 14:26-31: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives (to the Garden of Gethsemane). And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' 28 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." 29 Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." 30 Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." 31 But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.		
Music Interlude	(music at discretion of musician/s)		~1 minute

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Reading	The shadow of Betrayal Mark 14:32; 41-44 Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray... and keep awake." (Twice he returned to them and found them asleep) He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand." Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."		
Candles	Extinguish one candle on the plinth on podium		
Music Interlude	(music choice at discretion of musician/s)		~1 minute
Reading	Luke 22:54-62 The shadow of denial Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.		
Action	Second candle on plinth on podium is extinguished		
Action	A bowl with water is placed on a plinth, and a person dips their fingers in and traces tears down their cheeks.		
Action	Silence		~1 minute

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Reading	<p>Darkness The darkness asks us questions. We are invited into the night. The stillness. The loneliness We cannot see our shadows We step tentatively. We are afraid. We are filled with ghosts of guilt and shame. The darkness sighs around us, dense with unseen presence As close as our breathing.</p>		
Singing (solo)	<p>Jesus, your light is shining within us, Let not my doubts and darkness speak to me. Jesus, your light is shining within in us. Let my heart always welcome your love. (Taize)</p>		<p>Repeat 3x (could begin or finish with music only). No printed order of service but people may join in if they wish)</p>
Reading	<p>I do not know what these shadows ask of you, what they might hold that means you good or ill. It is not for me to reckon whether you should linger or you should leave. But this is what I can ask for you: That in the darkness there be a blessing. That in the shadows there be a welcome. That in the night you be encompassed by the Love that knows your name. <i>(Jan Richardson)</i></p>		
Action	<p>The bowl is carried out via the central aisle and placed on a plinth in the eastern entrance.</p> <p>The Christ candle in the lantern is taken to the east porch via the central aisle.</p>		
Action	<p>Minister extends arms and gestures to the people to invite them to move to the east porch. Person 1 indicates to the people to dip their fingers in the water and trace the tears down their cheeks. People then move outside and gather around the eastern entrance.</p>		
Reading	<p>John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.</p>		

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Conclusion	<p>We have entered into the drama of this night. We are observers of what the twelve disciples may have experienced on that night when Jesus was taken and they would be alone for the first time in years. This is the night of darkness before the world changed. Not only for the disciples, but also for all of us.</p> <p>Step quietly into this night, for it is indeed a night of deep sorrow. Shadows loom and will grow tall as the dawn of a new day reveals its true nature. Promises are broken. Fear - a prelude to death - grows strong. We leave this place to seek rest, full knowing what lies ahead. We have celebrated and broken bread, we have watched and we've been fed. But now it is time to leave, for here tonight, there is nothing more to be done, except to pray.</p>		
Action	The person holding the lantern then walks into the darkness, and extinguishes the candle. People disperse, no further announcement		