

# Maundy Thursday Vespers 8 pm

## Preparation:

Jesus Christ is the light of the world  
**A light no darkness can extinguish.**

*You are invited to light a candle.*

## Taize Chant

Within our darkest night,  
You kindle the fire that never dies away,  
never dies away.  
Within our darkest night  
You kindle the fire that never dies away,  
never dies away.

## Readings

A reading from the Gospel of **John 17: 1 to 11**  
**(or 12 to 26 if 1 to 11 read earlier in evening)**

**Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

*Silent reflection*

Reading of Reflection from *Bread and Wine*.

*Silent reflection*

## Examen

We invite God to be present with each of us now.

*Silence*

I invite you to review your day and think of what has given you consolation or comfort.

*Silence*

I invite you to give thanks for God's presence with you today.

*Silence*

I invite you now to think of what has brought you desolation or distance from God today.

*Silence*

Ask for forgiveness.

*Silence*

Receive the assurance that God hears you and frees you with His love and grace.

*Silence*

Lastly, think of what you can look forward to with hope.

*Silence*

## Prayers

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye.

**Hide us under the shadow of your wings.**

For the peace of the whole world, we pray to you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are weary, sleepless, and depressed, we pray to you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are hungry, sick, and frightened, we pray to you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

For rest and refreshment, we pray to you,

**Lord, have mercy.**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

**Amen**

*The Lord's Prayer:*

L: With joy and hope, we pray together,

**P: Our Mother and 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.**

**Forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from the evil one.**

**For thine is the kingdom**

**and the power and the glory forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## The Conclusion:

Now you can dismiss your servant in peace.

Your work has become flesh in my sight.

My eyes have beheld the one I kept vigil for all my life.

Here is your saving grace raised high for all to see.

Here is the wonder of your revelation, the glory of your people. (paraphrase of Luke 2:29-32)

We now enter the Great Silence and remember those keeping watch this night.

**We invite God's protective angels to dwell with us this night in our homes and our hearts.**

**Amen**