

## Maundy Thursday

9 April

From around your home, gather

- a light - either a candle or a torch
- coins
- a towel
- a plate, and a cup

In this time and space we shall spend time with each item.



Read through the story:

John 13:1 - 17, 31b - 35

A Song for hearts:

Were You There is a hymn that takes us through the story and asks us if we were there. I wonder, what verses you could add to the song from this story. If you are familiar with the song, you might like to sing your new verses.

Time with each item - hold each item as you go through

*a plate and cup* - Jesus had shared an important meal with his disciples. Give thanks to God for the times you have shared important meals with others.

*a towel* - Jesus washed the feet of each of his disciples. When have you shown service to others? Ask God to be with those you know are in need of care today. You might like to wash the hands or feet of those in your house. Pray for each other. Or if by yourself, as you feel the water or the towel, be assured of God's presence with you in this time.

*coins* - hold the coins and recall the part of the story where Judas betrays Jesus. You might like to bang the coins around in your hand. Imagine what it might have been like for both Jesus and Judas in that moment of betrayal. Pray, that God will forgive us for times when we hurt others.

*a light* - turn all the lights off in the room. Imagine the night in the upper room, with low lights burning. Imagine the garden where a light burns before chaos erupts and Jesus is arrested.

Ask God to hold the pain of the world in this moment. Turn off the light.

# Good Friday

10 April



## *The Garden*

What do you think about when you think of a garden?

Read John 18:1 - 12

Whom are you looking for? I am he . . . .

What comes to mind as you hear these words. Does this experience of being in a garden match what you thought about before?

## *The Questions*

There are times we have many questions in life. Sometimes there are answers, sometimes not. Sometimes we have an answer, but we'd rather not say. . . .

Read John 18:13 - 27

Pray: For times when you have found it hard to hold to honesty. Ask that you might know the path of forgiveness for your own actions, and to hold out forgiveness towards others too.

Draw in your hand a sign of the cross. Say to each other, today we know forgiveness.

## *The Shouting, the Flogging, the Crowning*

Read John 18:28 - 19:15

There is much that happens in this part of the story. What do you find challenging? You might like to just sit with the words from the last verse.

## *The Crucifixion*

Death is a difficult moment to face. This part of the story is very difficult. It holds much that is hard, unpleasant and for some gruesome images are not hard to imagine. Jesus tried to warn his disciples that this was coming. To prepare them for what they are now about to live through. Is there anything you need to do to prepare? Take a moment to do that before you read the story if needed.

Read John 19:16 - 42

Sit quietly for a few minutes. Death deserves silence. It is a sacred moment in life.

## *A Song for our hearts.*

If you know the song, Were you there when they crucified my Lord, then sing the verses you know.

God send us into this day, with the weight of death, but holding hope, the story is still to be finished.

# Easter Sunday

12 April

HE IS RISEN!!!!!!

In the space below write some of the words that help you celebrate that Christ is risen!



## *A song for our hearts*

Share with others a song you like to sing on Easter Day. (You might need to ring someone). What is it about this song that means it is your favourite.

*Pray* - Give thanks to God for the day we have. Look around, what do you see? Give thanks to God for what you see, as you see it.

## Read Psalm 118:1 - 2, 14 - 24

Now read through again, this time, pay attention to any words and phrases that stick out for you. Share with another what they are, and wonder together about they have mattered.

## Read John 20:1 - 18

There is so many emotions that are in this story. Have a look through and talk with each other about the different emotions that are there. What might it have been like for you, if you had been there . . . . Wonder with another.

## *Pray*

For those who are close to you whom you treasure.

For those in your community who may be struggling.

For those who do not yet know of God's deep love.

For your part in sharing God's love and hope in the world because of the Easter story.

## *A Blessing*

As Christ has risen from the place of death, rise from this time with grace in your hearts. Carry into today the love of God in all that you do and say. May God shine out through all of creation, be light carriers, hope builders, and love givers. Amen.