

Today is Maundy Thursday

The special name for this day comes from the Latin, 'mandatum' meaning 'command' and reflects the words of Jesus; 'a new commandment I give to you, to love one another as I have loved you.'

To show that sense of love and of service to others Jesus wrapped a towel around his waist and washed the disciples' feet, sore and dusty from the day spent walking on unmade roads. This was the job of the lowest servant or slave in a household. Jesus told his disciples to do as he did -- to care for one another, not one's status.

After washing their feet Jesus shared supper with them, asking for God's blessing on the bread and gave it to them, saying 'this is my body, given for you'. Likewise, he took a cup of wine and after blessing it gave it to them, saying 'this is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins'. Sunday by Sunday we remember this act in our service of Holy Communion. Unable to gather together at present we cannot share the bread and wine in our usual way but we can remember what he said and did, and we can still hold fast to his commandment, to love one another as he loves us.

<https://youtu.be/i0UFCECriLo>