

Holy Wednesday 'at home' Meditation Year A, April 8th, 2020

Prayer

In light and love and laughter
God is with us.
In darkness and pain and betrayal
God is with us.
God knows through experience
what human life is like.

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Scripture John 13:21-32 The Message

²¹After he said these things, Jesus became visibly upset, and then he told them why. *"One of you is going to betray me."* ²²⁻²⁵The disciples looked around at one another,



wondering who on earth he was talking about. One of the disciples, the one Jesus loved dearly, was reclining against him, his head on his shoulder. Peter motioned to him to ask who Jesus might be talking about. So, being the closest, he said, *"Master, who?"* ²⁶⁻²⁷Jesus said, *"The one to whom I give this crust of bread after I've dipped it."* Then he dipped the crust and gave it to Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot. As soon as the

bread was in his hand, Satan entered him. *"What you must do,"* said Jesus, *"do. Do it and get it over with."* ²⁸⁻²⁹No one around the supper table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that since Judas was their treasurer, Jesus was telling him to buy what they needed for the Feast, or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰Judas, with the piece of bread, left. It was night. ^{31 32}When he had left, Jesus said, *"Now the Son of Man is seen for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him. The moment God is seen in him, God's glory will be on display. In glorifying him, he himself is glorified—glory all around!"*

Reflection

He came right out and said it:
"One of you is going to betray me."
We looked at each other.
Who did he mean?
Did we dare ask him?
Could we bear to know the answer?
John was sitting next to Jesus
and Peter mouthed to him:
"Ask him who he means?"
John nodded
and edged nearer to Jesus

and whispered to him:

"Who is it master?"

And Jesus answered him:

"I'll dip some bread in the sauce and give it to him. He's the man."

We didn't hear what Jesus had said to John,
but we watched Jesus dip some bread into the sauce
and give it to Judas Iscariot.

Judas took the bread

and we all heard Jesus say to him:

"Go and do quickly what you're going to do."

Bartholomew wondered if Jesus was telling Judas,

who kept our common purse,

to go and give some money to the poor.

Philip remembered that in Bethany Jesus had told Judas
that poor people would always need help.

James thought that Jesus had asked Judas to go and buy
the things that we would need for the festival.

And while we sat and wondered

Judas went out into the darkness. It was night.

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Action

- Have some dips and bread.
- In silence, reflect on your reactions to the different characters in today's story.
- Write, draw or use symbols to convey your reactions.
- Share your reflection with someone else.
- Use the phone or email if you need to.
- Tell God what your reactions were.
- Ask God for help and/or give God thanks.



Blessing

Go now and walk with Jesus into Jerusalem. Listen to his words, be with him on his journey.

Let his words question you and give you courage. Let him change you. And may God bless you,
the Maker, the Son and the Holy Spirit this night and all your nights and days. Amen.

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