March 9, 2016

Dear friends in Christ,
On Tuesday night, your vestry met for a "spiritual" meeting. That means we don't have any business to conduct. We instead do something that invites us to grow spiritually, both individually and as a group. Last night, we explored Maundy Thursday.

There are two major themes to Maundy Thursday: the Last Supper, and Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. They seem distinct, but are they? In one, Jesus identifies himself as the true sacrifice, replacing the sacrifices you could purchase in the Temple. In the other, he submits himself to washing the feet of his friends, becoming a servant. In both, Jesus is living into the relationship he has with his friends, and all people. He is being faithful to them, and to us. In one, he promises to feed us so that we might continue on a journey that leads to life with Him, and in the other he prepares us for that journey, washing our feet. If he had not done these things, he would have betrayed our relationship, and betrayed himself.

Maundy Thursday begins a journey that leads to the Cross. Good Friday without Maundy Thursday loses much of its meaning. To understand Good Friday, we need to understand the faithfulness of Him who identified with the Bread and Wine, and washed the feet of his friends.

On Maundy Thursday, we will have a liturgy and meal beginning at 6 pm. Your vestry, our vestry, is helping with the liturgy, recognizing that their ministry as vestry members begins in being servants, just as mine as your pastor is. Please plan to be there on March 24th, Maundy Thursday. Plan to be part of the story that begins in humbly serving another and concluding with the proclamation that we should seek the one who rose from the dead.

I do not shrink from saying that all of us seek meaning in life and what we do, what we remember, what we observe from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday is life giving, and offers us meaning. Who we are, what we are about, and how we are to get there. It is that important!

Yours in Christ,
Fr David