

**Lenten Devotional Reflection**  
**9 April 2020 (Maundy Thursday)**

**Scripture: John 13: 1-7, 31b-35 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

<sup>31b</sup> Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'<sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

**Message**

When reading today's scripture, I wonder how Jesus felt in facing the betrayal of Judas and believe simple words are not enough to describe Jesus' agony and distress. God so loved the world. Jesus is going to face his death but the Lord will overcome evil by His love. Jesus taught His disciples to love and serve one another. He washed the disciples' feet, taking the form of a slave. When Simon Peter said "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?", he knew he was not worthy. Jesus, however, showed his love to the disciples by such humble action. Jesus' example reminds us today to live out our Christian faith apart from spreading the Gospel. Amid such difficult and unsettling time brought by the outbreak of novel coronavirus, Jesus' teaching encourages us to trust in Him and receive God's love. We should complain less, show more care for others and say words of encouragement. Jesus' new commandment of "love one another" is a mission for us to share His love to all people in the world. God's love can dissolve hate and anger. God's unconditional love is shown through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Let us turn away from sin and follow God to receive the greatest grace and blessing.

**Reflection**

1. How do you describe Jesus' feeling on Judas' betrayal?
2. What are the reminder and meaning of Jesus washing the feet of His disciples on your faith?
3. How can you live out Jesus' teaching to let others know the importance of following Jesus?

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