



RITE TO REPLACE THE RITUAL OF THE WASHING OF FEET

At this point in the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we normally follow the words of Jesus in the Gospel, and wash the feet of a number of people to reflect his call for us to be a people of service.

But this evening we follow that command in a different way.

We are not able to follow that ritual this year. In its place, we think of all those in our hospitals and care centres and people the whole world over who are pouring out their time, energy, skill, tears and compassion, over all who are sick and in their care.

(Water is poured into a bowl and a towel is unfolded)

As we pour this water and enfold this towel, let us remember and pray for all medical staff throughout the world; nurses and doctors, care attendants and ambulance staff, support teams and emergency personnel, all who through their care and compassion follow the example of Christ as they support all who are ill with the Coronavirus.

For when we ask 'Where is God?' tonight the words of scripture remind us:

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

1 John 4:16 ^{NRSV}

We light this candle of hope, as all those involved in the fight against Covid 19. Renew our lives and our world in hope.

(A candle is lit beside the bowl)

Servant Song

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.