

2026-04-02 Meditation for Maundy Thursday is now available
at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

[The opening theme song with a poetic paraphrase begins:]

Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe,
O Pow'r of love, all else transcending,
Die sich in Jesu offenbart;
In Jesus present evermore,
Ich geb' mich hin dem freien Triebe,
I worship thee, in homage bending,

Maundy Thursday, All the World is Still (April 10, 2020 Covid shutdown)

Poet: Malcolm Guite (b. 1957)

Artists: Malcolm Guite

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2020/04/10/a-new-maundy-thursday-poem/>

Maundy Thursday, all the world is still
The planes wait, grounded by departure gates
The street is empty and the shopping mall
Deserted. Padlocked, the playground waits
Against the day that children play again
Till then our sad refrain is just refrain

Maundy Thursday, all the world is still
And Jesus is at supper with his friends
No longer in the upper room, that hall
In Zion where the story starts and ends,
For he descended from it long ago
To find his new friends in the here and now

Maundy Thursday, all the world is still
And Jesus is at supper with his friends
Our doors are locked for fear, but he has skill
In breaking barriers. With ease he bends
Our prison bars, slips past the sentry post
And joins us as the guest who is our host.

Maundy Thursday All the world is still
But in cramped quarters on the fifteenth floor,
In lonely towers made of glass and steel,

And in the fierce favelas of the poor,
Touching with wounded hands the wounds he tends
Christ Jesus is at supper with his friends.

Tristis est anima mea (1938-1939)

Lyrics: Matthew 26:38 and anonymous; Second Responory for Maundy Thursday
Music: Francis Poulenc (1899-1963); *Quatre motets pour en temps de pénitence*, No. 4
Artists: Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, Stephen Layton (Dir.)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0UUGGeP9DU>

[Responsorium]

[Soloist]

Tristis est anima mea usque ad mortem:

My soul is sorrowful even unto death;

[Chorus]

sustinete hic, et vigilate mecum:

Stay here, and watch with me.

Nunc videbitis turbam,

Now you shall see a multitude,

[Soloist and choir]

quæ circumdabit me.

That will surround me.

[Choir, animated]

Vos fugam capietis, et ego vadam immolari pro vobis.

You will run away, and I will go to be sacrificed for you.

[Verse]

[Soloist and upper voices]

Ecce appropinquat hora,

See, the hour is at hand,

[Choir]

et Filius hominis tradetur in manus peccatorum.

And the Son of Man shall be betrayed into the hands of sinners.

[Choir—suddenly quits = they ran away]

Vos fugam capietis,

You will run away,

[Soloist and choir]

et ego vadam immolari pro vobis.
And I will go to be sacrificed for you.

[Closing words to our theme song:]

O! dass diess jeder Sünder wüsste,

O! that every sinner would know this,

Sein Herz wohl bald dich lieben müsste.

His heart must soon surely love You.

Evan

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