



# Maundy Thursday Experience

Welcome to our 'Maundy Thursday Experience.' The evening will run unprompted so do please read these instructions carefully when you arrive.

## 7pm The Journey to the Upper Room.

We begin at the church gate and walk up the drive reflecting on the disciple's feelings as they travelled to the 'upper room' that night, aware that something significant was about to happen.

## 7:10pm-8pm 'Sharing in the upper room.'

This will be an interactive and dramatic reflection in church, on the events that took place in the upper room. There will be an opportunity to wash each other's feet if you wish, and then we will share in communion together around the Last Supper table. With reflections, music and times of silence to allow God to speak to us.

## 8-8:25pm 'Praying in the garden'

We then head off to the church garden where we will hear a short portrayal of the events in the Garden of Gethsemane. Do pick up a lantern or candle as you go to light the way.

After the reflection and the music, feel free to stay in the garden to pray and reflect or return to church.

You might find it helpful to use the following prompts:

### ***Praying in the Garden: Reflection***

#### ***'Yet not my will but yours'***

*Where are you struggling to be obedient to God's call at the moment?  
Pray that God would strengthen you to make His choices.*

#### ***'Stay here and keep watch with me'***

*Who do you know who is suffering and in the midst of a difficult time? Who might God be calling you to 'stay awake and pray' for? Pray for them now.*

*You might like to light a candle or tie a ribbon on a branch as you pray for that person.*

## **8:25pm – 8:45pm ‘The Arrest’**

We will then return to another part of the garden where we will hear another short portrayal of Jesus’ arrest. After the reflection, feel free to stay in the garden to pray and reflect or return into church to do so.

You might find it helpful to use the following prompts:

### ***The Arrest: Reflection***

***‘Peter drew his sword... Jesus commanded “Put your sword away”’***

- *Are you prepared to stand up for Jesus?*
- *How do you react when trouble and opposition comes – do you run away? Try and attack? Or do you seek God’s way forward?*

*Pray that God would show you how to react to difficult situations you are facing.*

## **8:45pm – 9:05pm ‘The Denials’**

We will then head out to car park where, standing around the fire, we will hear Peter’s reflections on his denials of Christ. After the reflection, feel free to stay in the courtyard to pray and reflect or return into church to do so.

You might find it helpful to use the following prompts:

### ***The Denials: Reflection***

***‘You are one of his disciples too aren’t you?’***

*Where are you afraid of admitting your allegiance to Jesus?*

*Say sorry to Him for the times you have denied him or not spoken up for him and pray he will give you strength and boldness to speak up for him in those places in the future.*

*You might like to write down your confession on a piece of paper and throw it in the fire to be burnt as a sign of your repentance and desire to change and have a fresh start.*

## **9:05-9:15pm ‘Conclusion around the fire’**

We conclude the evening back around fire, hinting at the hope that was ahead.

***We look forward to continuing the story on Good Friday:  
9:30am at All Saints – Family Good Friday Service  
2pm at St Andrew’s – Last Hour at the Cross Service***