

## Scripture Readings & Reflections Maundy Thursday 2016

### **Tim**

#### **Luke 22:7-13**

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.”<sup>9</sup> They asked him, “Where do you want us to make preparations for it?” <sup>10</sup> “Listen,” he said to them, “when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters <sup>11</sup> and say to the owner of the house, ‘The teacher asks you, “Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’” <sup>12</sup> He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.” <sup>13</sup> So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

#### **Reflection 1**

We remember a man who had dreams of what might be: that people would be set free from ideas and images about God that enslaved them, that people would believe that through their everyday acts of human kindness they are intimately connected with the sacred, that people would live 'in peace, in God's presence all the days of their lives.

We remember a man driven by his dreams.

### **Veda**

#### **Luke 22:24-27**

<sup>24</sup> A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. <sup>25</sup> But he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. <sup>27</sup> For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

#### **Reflection 2**

We remember a man who had his moments of breakthrough, when it must have seemed his dream was being realized: the times people really listened and responded, the men and women who were prepared to walk with him and support him, times when he spoke better and more convincingly than other times.

We remember a man enthused by his successes.

## **Tim**

### **Luke 22:31-34**

<sup>31</sup> “Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded<sup>[e]</sup> to sift all of you like wheat, <sup>32</sup> but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” <sup>33</sup> And he said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!” <sup>34</sup> Jesus<sup>[f]</sup> said, “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

### **Reflection 3**

We remember a man who learned of the cruel death of his cousin. He got into a boat, seeking a lonely place, where he could be with his friends to absorb the shock, to grieve quietly, and to calm the feelings of powerlessness and frustration and fear for his own future.

We wonder what he prayed about that night? I wonder what helped him leave that lonely place and go forward to choose life, rather than retreat into isolation and safety?

We remember a man driven by his convictions.

## **Veda**

### **Luke 22:39-46**

<sup>39</sup> He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When he reached the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” <sup>41</sup> Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, <sup>42</sup> “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.” <sup>43</sup> Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. <sup>44</sup> In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. <sup>45</sup> When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

### **Reflection 4**

We remember a man whose dream was shattered: who broke down and cried over what could have been, who knew the pain of failure and powerlessness, who knew what it was like to feel broken and terribly alone.

We remember someone human like all of us.

## **Tim**

### **Luke 22:47-53**

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; <sup>48</sup> but Jesus said to him, “Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?” <sup>49</sup> When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, “Lord, should we strike with the sword?” <sup>50</sup> Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup> But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, “Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? <sup>53</sup> When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!”

### **Reflection 5**

We remember a man who knew he was going to die: who gathered with his friends knowing it was for the last time, who spoke to them about what he really believed, who wanted them to remember him and to keep his dream alive. We remember a testament to love.

## **Veda**

### **Luke 22:14-23**

<sup>14</sup> When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; <sup>16</sup> for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” <sup>17</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; <sup>18</sup> for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” <sup>19</sup> Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>20</sup> And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. <sup>21</sup> But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. <sup>22</sup> For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!” <sup>23</sup> Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.