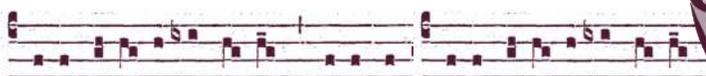
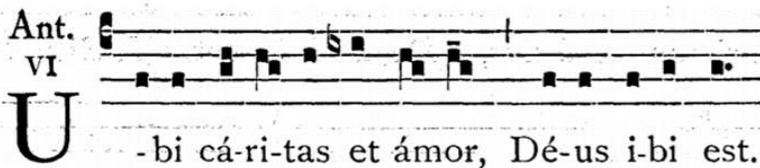


# Christ's Love Has Gathered Us Into One

## *Worshiping Together, Apart on Maundy Thursday*

Although we are separated from each other this Holy Week, Christ's love continues to knit us together and gather us into one. The centuries-old antiphon *Ubi caritas* – traditionally sung during the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday – reminds us that the love of God is here with us when we pause for personal devotions, when we call a friend to share the joys and concerns of our hearts, when we find fellowship within an online community. Use the prompts below to frame your worship time this Maundy Thursday (April 9), assured that the love of Christ knits us together across time and space.



### Reflect on the *Ubi caritas* text

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Christ's love has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.  
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
As we are gathered into one body,  
Beware, lest we be divided in mind.  
Let evil impulses stop, let controversy cease,  
And may Christ our God be in our midst.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
And may we, with the saints also,  
See Thy face in glory, O Christ our God:  
The joy that is immense and good,  
Unto the ages through infinite ages. Amen.



### Pray before your evening meal

O Lord our God, on this night we remember when you gathered your disciples, gave thanks, broke the bread and shared the cup. When we gather around our dinner table, you are there. When we reach out to a neighbor, you are there. Whether we are joyful or sad or healthy or ill, you are there with us. Gather us into one in you. Love us through our triumphs and our trials. Be with us, Lord, forgive us, and show us how to love one another. Amen.

### Listen to musical settings of *Ubi caritas*

[Ubi caritas \[Chant\]](#)

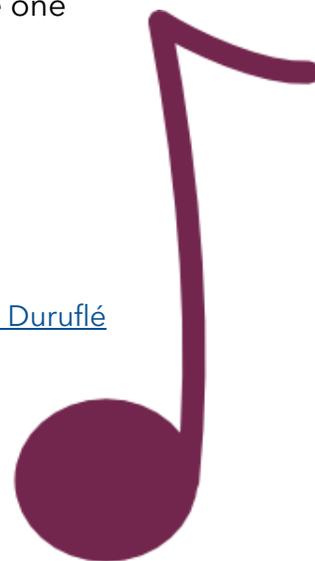
[Quatre Motets sur des thèmes grégoriens, Op. 10: I. Ubi caritas by Maurice Duruflé](#)

[Ubi caritas est amor by David Briggs](#)

[Ubi caritas by Paul Mealor](#)

[\[Taizé\] Ubi caritas by Jacques Berthier](#)

[Ubi caritas by Audry Assad](#)





Although we may not be washing each other's feet this year, spend some time pampering your own!

As you do, remember the servant heart of Jesus as he washed the disciples' feet.

Pray for the doctors and nurses who are serving long hours on their feet to care for the sick.

## Read aloud the psalm for Maundy Thursday

(Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19)

I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.  
Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.  
What shall I return to the Lord  
For all his bounty to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord,  
I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful ones.  
O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosed my bonds.  
I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!



## Read the short story by Leo Tolstoy, *Where Love is, There God is Also*

It tells the story of Martuin, a shoemaker who loved God by showing love to his neighbors.

Available at [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Where Love is, There God is Also](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Where_Love_is,_There_God_is_Also)



## Love through Prayer during the Three Days

(Maundy Thursday,  
Good Friday, and Holy Saturday)

"Maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, or commandment, recalling Jesus' words to his disciples at the last supper:

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.*

*Just as I have loved you, you should love one another.*

*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one another. (John 13:34-35)*

As we worship together, apart during the Three Days, compile a prayer list and set aside time each day to pray that God's love surrounds all those in need.

Written by  
Melissa Moll,  
March 2020.

[CC BY-NC-SA](#)  
4.0