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*After Saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared. “Very Truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.”* John 13:21

*Opening Prayer: God, We give thanks for this Holy Week Bible Study. Amen.*

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**Reading for Holy Wednesday-** **John 13:21-30 THEME: Betrayal**

***Jesus Foretells His Betrayal:* 21*After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, “Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me***.” **22**The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. **23**One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; **24**Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. **25**So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?” **26**Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.”So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. **27**After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “Do quickly what you are going to do.” **28**Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. **29**Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the festival”; or, that he should give something to the poor. **30**So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.(NRSV).

**Reflection**

The disciples had spent three years, day and night, with Judas but couldn't recognize him as the betrayer even after Jesus said, **"One of you will betray me."** Judas had been good enough to fool everyone except Jesus. Jesus knows betrayal is coming, but he loves his disciples anyway. He knows that Judas will betray him, and he knows that Peter will deny him and he knows that they will lack courage and run away during his crucifixion but he loves them anyway. Earlier in this chapter, Jesus washes their feet. He shares a meal with them. Later in this chapter He tells them to love one another.

**Sharing/Discuss**

Where do you see Christ's calling and comfort in today's reading?

Are there times in your own life when you know someone will fail you, hurt you or make you angry? How did you show them love anyway?

How will /are you reflecting the love of God through Christ after studying this text?

What does it mean to you that God brings glory out of a perceived shameful event: God’s son dying on the cross?

**What Inspires you these days?**

What's giving you inspiration and hope these days? A song, hymn, scripture, special reading? How has it helped inspire you? Share with study group.

﻿**Faith in Action:**

Think of someone outside your household, call, text, email them or mail (write card or letter). We are still the church. We can reach out. That is what being the church is all about!

**Scriptures for Holy Week:**

**Holy Monday-John 12:1-11 Holy Tuesday-John 12:20-36**

**Holy Wednesday- John 12:21-30- Betrayal**

**Maundy Thursday-John 13:1-17,31-35 Good Friday-John 18:1-19:42**

**Holy Saturday-John 19:38-42 Silence**

**Singing: *At the Cross….***

*Alas and did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die? Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I? At the cross at the Cross where I first say the light and the burden of my heart rolled away, it was there by faith I received my sight and now I am happy all the day!*

**Closing Prayer- Let us lift up people/situations for prayer:**

*Write your prayer requests on slip of paper place in a place you can find it in your prayer time (bible, prayer journal, magnet on your refrigerator)*

***God of grace and mercy, in the midst of uncertainty, pain and loss we look to you for our help and our strength. We feel both hopeful and helpless, faithful and fearful, trusting and terrified. Lord, hold each of your beloved close today. Help us love you and our neighbors. Help us look to the cross this Holy week and remember all that you did in your great sacrifice. Still Lord, help us to move to the empty tomb as we rejoice on Resurrection Sunday!! It is because you live Jesus that we live move and have our being. And we pray as you taught disciples to pray saying: Our Father who art in Heaven… AMEN.***