

## Thought for the Day

*Thought for the day is based on one of the day's lectionary readings.*

*For the Bible online, go to: <http://bible.oremus.org/>*

*Choose your version (we use NRSV in church)*

*Copy and paste the reference into the search box and the passage will be displayed.*

### Monday 6 April

Luke 22.1-23

Holy Week has now begun and we are very close to the climax of Jesus' life and ministry. Although we cannot meet this week to follow his path step by step through the days, we can read the gospel accounts and reflect and pray through the week.

Today we have Luke's account of the Last Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. It was a Passover meal, celebrating freedom from slavery, God's salvation and rescuing of his people from oppression; which Jesus gave a new meaning for the new people of God under the New Covenant. *'This bread is my body...this cup is the covenant in my blood.'* And as the disciples passed round the bread and wine, feeling no doubt rather bewildered, Jesus concluded, *'Do this in remembrance of me'*. And so we do, we have ever since, celebrated this sacrament when we meet, giving thanks for his life, death and resurrection, and for our freedom. Just now we cannot celebrate it together; we can watch online recordings or live streamed services, but we can't meet around the table and share the meal of the kingdom together. This is unprecedented and we pray that it will not go on too long. Meanwhile you might find this prayer about 'spiritual communion' helpful. If you like it, remember that the text of each thought for the day is on the website so you can read it there and print it if you want to.

### A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,  
where the Holy Eucharist is being celebrated,  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.  
I present to you my soul and body  
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.  
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I unite myself to you,  
and embrace you with heart and mind and soul.  
Let nothing ever separate you from me.  
May I live and die in your love. Amen.