

I AM SURE THAT WE ARE ALL VERY CAREFUL WHEN WE ARE PREPARING OUR LAST WILL.

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR WISHES ARE CARRIED OUT IN WHO IS TO GET WHAT WE WANT THEM TO HAVE IN OUR MEMORY.

AND WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE GRATEFUL.

OUR GOSPEL TONIGHT IS A READING FROM THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JESUS.

IT IS QUITE A LONG WILL...IT TAKES UP FIVE CHAPTERS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL. JESUS IS VERY CLEAR ABOUT WHAT HE IS LEAVING TO US.

HIS TESTAMENT TELLS US THAT HE HAS PREPARED A PLACE FOR US, SO THAT WE MIGHT BE WHERE HE IS. HE OFFERS US THE GIFT OF HIS

PEACE, A PEACE THAT THE WORLD CANNOT GIVE.

HE PROMISES US THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

HE GIVES US THE TWO GREAT SACRAMENTS OF

HIS LIVING PRESENCE WITH US IN THE

EUCCHARIST, AND HE GIVES US THE MEANS

WHEREBY THAT HAPPENS IN THE GIFT TO HIS

CHURCH OF THE PRIESTHOOD.

HE ALSO HAS A REQUEST: THAT WHEN WE

CELEBRATE EUCCHARIST, WE DO IT IN MEMORY OF

HIM. IN MEMORY OF HIS LIFE, HIS DEATH AND HIS

RESURRECTION.

IN HIS WILL, JESUS REMINDS US THAT HE IS LORD

AND MASTER, NOT IN ABUSIVE POWER BUT IN

HUMBLE SERVICE. AND HE ASKS THAT WE

IMITATE HIM IN HIS HUMBLE SERVICE BY DOING

WHAT HE DID DURING THIS LAST MEAL WITH HIS DISCIPLES: WASH EACH OTHERS' FEET.

THESE ARE THE BASIC THINGS THAT MAKE US HIS DISCIPLES TODAY. TO CELEBRATE HIS MEMORY AND MAKE HIM PRESENT WITH US IN EUCHARIST.

TO RECEIVE HIM, THE BREAD OF LIFE, WITH THE EXPECTANT HOPE THAT HE IS TRULY THE LIVING BREAD COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE....TO GO TO THAT PLACE HE HAS PREPARED FOR US. AND IN RECEIVING HIM TO BECOME IMBUED WITH HUMBLE SERVICE

FOR HIS PEOPLE, OUR COMMUNITY.

WE LIVE AND ACT IN MEMORY OF HIM.