



# REFLECTIONS

April 1, 2021

**It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.**

*John 13:1*

## Passover Feast—Epilogue

*On the other side of Kidron Valley, there is an olive grove [called Gethsemane.] (John 18:1) On the way up the Mt. of Olives, Jesus led his disciples there. He said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." (Matthew 26: 36-38)*

*He said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed,<sup>1</sup> "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.*

*When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."*

*While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him:*

*"Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:40-48)*

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*When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.*

*But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.*

*Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour — when darkness reigns."*

*Then seizing him, they led him away... (Luke 22:49-54)*

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard +*

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<sup>1</sup> Today, on the traditional site of the Garden of Gethsemane, the Basilica of the Agony enshrines a portion of bedrock believed to be the place where Jesus prayed that night alone in the garden.

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Your comments are welcomed and encouraged. Richard may be reached at [richard@reflectingthesavior.org](mailto:richard@reflectingthesavior.org).