



Highcliffe and Bransgore Methodist Churches

Friday 10th April Good Friday 10.30am

Prepared by Rev'd Phillip Dixon.

This written worship has been prepared for you to use as we gather in separate places but united in love for our Lord Jesus Christ. The cross that has seen the adding of elements during Lent is now stripped and bare for this most desolate of days. Knowing that others are sharing in this experience with you is an encouragement to each of us. Let us together this morning, inhabit the sacrifice Jesus made for each one of us.

Opening Prayer:

Gracious and eternal Father, look with tender mercy on this your family, the Church, gathered individually but united in our love of Your Son Jesus Christ who was willing to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross. He is alive and glorified with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. One God, Father, Son and Spirit, indivisible; perfect in harmony, blessed Trinity.

Hymn: StF 286 What kind of love is this?

Sing/read /pray.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1c66WHd4Vc8> for an excellent version.

What kind of love is this
that gave itself for me?

I am the guilty one
yet I go free.

What kind of love is this
a love I never know I didn't even know His
name

What kind of love is this?



What kind of Man is this
that died in agony?
He who had done no wrong
was crucified for me.
What kind of Man is this
He laid aside His throne
That I may know the love of God
What kind of Man is this?

By grace I have been saved
It is the gift of God
He destined me to be His own
such is His love
No eye has ever seen
no ear has ever heard
nor has the heart of man conceived
What kind of love is this? Bryn Haworth and Sally
Haworth.

**Read: if there are two of you, perhaps
alternately, with silence between each
reading:** Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12, Psalm 22:
14-21, Hebrews 10:16-25.

Hymn: StF 280 O sacred head -

Traditional words. Sing/read /pray.

O sacred head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory!
What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered,
Was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression,
But Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Saviour!
'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favour,
Vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

Receive me, my Redeemer,
My Shepherd, make me Thine;
Of every good the fountain,
Thou art the spring of mine.
Thy lips with love distilling,
And milk of truth sincere,
With Heaven's bliss are filling
The soul that trembles here.

What language shall I borrow,
To thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
Oh! make me Thine forever,
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never

Outlive my love to Thee. Translated by Paul Gerhardt from Bernard of Clairvaux.

Reading: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

18:1 – 19:42.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

Reflection:

This is what Jesus came to do, to willingly lay down His life and restore us to a new life. I remember someone once saying, "if only I could go back and save Jesus from that terrible pain", it reminds me of Peter saying "this (death) shall never happen to you" (Matt. 16:22). Jesus severely rebukes him and says they are the words of Satan. Jesus never loses sight of what must be done to achieve the Salvation of those who accept Him. It has been the message that we consistently hear throughout the gospels. Jesus tells us to keep in mind the things of God and not man. Without Good Friday there is no resurrection on Sunday, without sacrifice where is the victory? Brothers and sisters in Christ, let not the sacrifice be in vain, Jesus invites us to follow Him -how do we answer?

Prayers of intercession for His world:

Lord, You sent Your Son into this world, not to condemn but to save. We pray for the persecuted Church of Christ throughout the world, those who suffer for Your sake, that You will strengthen them to endure their trials. Lord have Mercy.

For all who are putting their lives at risk for the care and treatment of others, for those in the NHS, scientists and all who are fighting the Covid-19 virus, protect them and give wisdom for everything they do. Lord have Mercy

(Personal prayers to conclude with The Lord's Prayer).

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, grant that by faith in Him who suffered on the cross we will triumph in the power of His victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. Silence and reverence.