Highcliffe and Bransgore Methodist Churches

Thursday 1st April 2021, Maundy Thursday 7pm. 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 word "Maundy" is derived from the Latin "Mandatum novum do vobis" (a new commandment I give to you – John 13:34). Knowing that others are sharing in this worship with you in their own homes is an encouragement to us and brings us closer together. During this time together Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Opening words: On this very night, our Lord Jesus Christ said, "a new commandment I give to you, that you love each other, as I have loved you". John 13:34.

Hymn: Take my life and let it be StF566

Sing/read /pray /proclaim the words https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gf11rReeWI s

Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee Take my moments and my days Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing Always, only, for my King Take my lips, and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold Not a mite would I withhold Take my intellect, and use Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine It shall be no longer mine. Take my heart; it is Thine own It shall be Thy royal throne.



Take my love; my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure-store Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Opening Prayer: God our Father, you invite us to share in this evening of celebration and sorrow. Nourish and strengthen us by your presence and unite us in your love. Jesus Christ, our Saviour is alive and reigns with You, interceding for us, the Perfecter of our faith. May this very night, the night on which he was betrayed and handed over to death, unite us with you, our One True and Faithful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Luke 22:7-20

Reflection: To fully understand the significance of what is occurring here we absolutely must know our Old Testament scriptures. When it is spoken of Jesus "opening the scriptures" (Luke 24:32) and the many references to Jesus being the fulfilment of scriptural prophesy it is of course the Old Testament to which we turn. At the Exodus from Egypt -which Passover celebrates/remembers- the people of Israel who were in bondage to the Egyptians were set free, released from slavery. The suffering and crucifixion of Jesus at this precise moment, at the time of the Passover Festival in Jerusalem is deeply significant and speaks into the reason why John the Baptist refers to Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:36). Verse 7 of our reading "the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed" emphasises what must be done to achieve the fulfillment of God's purpose to reconcile us to him. Think back to the Transfiguration and the fact that it was Moses who was there in discussion with Jesus about "his departure." Moses, who on God's instruction, led the people out of Egypt, to free them from bondage. This event of Exodus is a mere foreshadow of the greater work of Jesus. A work of reconciliation and redemption -us being bought back by the sacrifice of Jesus. Being released from the bondage of sin. Jesus says, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I must suffer." Then follows our beautiful words of institution that we repeat each time we remember his sacrifice and celebrate Holy Communion together. On this very night we reflect quietly on what is fulfilled and offered to us by the sacrifice of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer: Father, on this night, the night on which he was betrayed, your Son, our Lord Jesus, washed his disciples' feet and instructed that they ought to wash one another's feet. We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service. Lord hear us, **Lord humble us.**

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one. We pray for the unity of your Church. Lord hear us, **Lord unite us.**

On this night. Jesus prayed for those who were to believe in him. We pray for the mission of your Church. Lord hear us, **Lord renew our zeal.**

On this night, Jesus commanded his disciples to love, but suffered rejection himself. We pray for those who are rejected and unloved. Lord hear us, **Lord fill us with your love.**

On this night, Jesus reminded his disciples that if the world hated them, it first hated him. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. Lord hear us, **Lord increase our faith.**

On this night, Jesus told his disciples that he was going to prepare a place for them. We remember in your presence all who have died and those who have been bereaved. Lord hear us, Lord renew our hope and trust in you. Amen. Methodist Worship Book pages 244/4.

Holy Communion: A time to remember the Lord's impending suffering and using the words from verses 19 and 20 from Luke 22 share in the Lord's Supper. Following which we give thanks for the fruits of his redemption revealed through the gifts of his grace.

Hymn: What kind of love is this? StF286 Sing/read /pray /proclaim the words <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTsfZnOIReo&ab</u> channel=lotsopictures

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've never known 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 Who 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 child 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 and Sally Haworth.

Closing Prayer: Loving Father we thank You for feeding us with Word and sacrament, sustain us with Your Spirit, that we may serve You here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven and we will share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. We conclude by slowly reading Matthew 26:36-46. YouTube links are external resources and are provided to help you engage with the songs. Singing the Faith resources are provided under license: CCLI 178182.