

What I have received, so also I hand on to you

Tenebrae 2018

Knox Church Durham Street Methodist Church St Mark's Methodist Church Beloved in Christ:

The Tenebrae service (service of the shadows) has been observed by the Christian Church from early times. The service commemorates Christ's institution of the Lord's Supper, his betrayal, trial and death. During the service the Church is gradually darkened, symbolising the extinguishing of the Light of the world, Jesus Christ.

The latter part of the service features the reading of the Shadow Passages. After each of the first six passages, a candle is extinguished. There is a pause and the Kyrie is said.

The Kyrie is:

Minister: Congregation: Minister: Lord have mercy CHRIST HAVE MERCY Lord have mercy

After the "Shadow of Death" reading, and the extinguishing of the last candle, the Kyrie is not said. Since there is no benediction, the extinguishing of the final candle marks the close of the service. Feel no pressure to leave the Church immediately after the service; the ministers will not be waiting at the door. Please respect the quietness at the end of the service, and leave in silence.

This service is shared by the people of Knox Church, the people of Durham Street Methodist Church, and the people of St Mark's Methodist Church. Each church has an open table policy. You are welcome to receive communion here. It is good that you are here tonight. May God bless you as you worship.

The Service

Silence: We keep a silence in the church

Call to Prayer

We are called to remember the Lord Jesus, how he moved among us with kindness and dignifying grace. We are called to remember how he invited his people to a table, where he shared with them from the bounty of God's goodness. What he had received, so to them he gave. Having loved them, he loved them to the end.

We offer our silent prayer.

Silence

Prayer

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of His betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: to love one another as He had loved them.

We give thanks that the love of Christ has gathered us into one.

Together, we recall the life and death of Christ: He was born through love, He lived for love, He suffered for love, He died for love, but love never dies. Wherever there is love, there is God.

Through Christ we have been granted mercy and pardon, we have been set free to worship without fear.

In Christ there is no discrimination of gender, class or race; the poor are blessed, the humble receive truth hidden from the hard-hearted.

From Christ comes the power to give to others the care we have ourselves received.

And so in a few moments of silence let us still ourselves as we prepare to enter the story that reaches back cross time trusting in the Spirit of God to be our guide.

Silence

God is here. LORD GOD OF OUR SALVATION HELP US TO CONTEMPLATE THOSE MIGHTY ACTS BY WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN US LIFE AND IMMORTALITY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD AMEN. Without announcement, we sing:

Hymn:



- An upper room did our Lord prepare for those he loved until the end: and his disciples still gather there to celebrate their risen friend.
- A lasting gift Jesus gave his own: to share his bread, his loving cup. Whatever burdens may bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.
- And after supper he washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament.
 In him our joy shall be made complete sent out to serve, as he was sent.
- No end there is! We depart in peace, He loves beyond our uttermost: in every room in our Father's house he will be there, as Lord and host.

Frederick Pratt Green (1903-2000)

The Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Reflection: I also hand on to you . . .

Without announcement, we sing

Hymn:



- Among us and before us, Lord, you stand with arms outstretched and bread and wine at hand. Confronting those unworthy of a crumb, you ask that to your table we should come.
- 2. Who dare say No, when such is your resolve our worst to witness, suffer and absolve, our best to raise in lives by God forgiven, our souls to fill on earth with food from heaven?
- 3. Who dare say No, when such is your intent to love the selves we famish and resent, to cradle our uncertainties and fear, to kindle hope as you in faith draw near?
- 4. Who dare say No, when such is your request that each around your table should be guest, that here the ancient word should live as new, 'Take, eat and drink - all this is meant for you.'?
- No more we hesitate and wonder why; no more we stand indifferent, sacred or shy. Your invitation leads us to say Yes, to meet you where you nourish, heal and bless.

John Bell (b. 1949)

Intercessory Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

To the minister's words "From what I have received from God" you are invited to respond "**SO ALSO I WOULD HAND ON TO YOU**".

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME, YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD. FORGIVE US OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US. SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Prayer:

Holy God, this meal that we share today is the celebration of love – love that becomes visible through the life of Jesus who graced lives with healing and hope, compassion and power and whose love, life, healing and hope, compassion and power continue to permeate even now.

The Institution

On the night of his betrayal, as he sat at the dinner table with his friends, Jesus broke bread and said:

"Take and eat; this is my body which is given for you. Remember me each time you do this."

After they had eaten, he took the cup, gave it to them and said: "Drink this, it is my life poured out for you and for all. It is the beginning of a new relationship with God."

GOD CAME TO US IN JESUS.

THIS SAME GOD IS PRESENT WITH US NOW. AND GOD WILL ALWAYS BE FOR US THE GOD OF JESUS. Now that the hour is come, we pray God, that you will send your Spirit upon these gifts: this bread and this cup. By the mystery of this bread and drink may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

The Invitation

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may, not because you are strong, but because you are weak. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love Him more. Come, because He loved you and gave Himself for you. Come and receive the gifts of God.

The Distribution

Please come forward to the table, receive some bread, dip it in the grape juice, and, once you have finished, return to your seat.

A Time of Silence

And when they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. [Matt 26:30, Mark 14:26]



 Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (1624-1684), alt.

Into the Shadows

The Shadow of Betrayal - read by Digby Prosser

In the evening he sat down with the twelve disciples; and during supper he said, "I tell you this: one of you will betray me!" In great distress they exclaimed one after the other, "Can you mean me Lord?" He answered, "One who has dipped his hand into this bowl with me will betray me!" Then Judas spoke, the one who was to betray him: "Rabbi, can you mean me?" Jesus replied, "The words are yours."

(The first candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Inner Agony - read by Jean Brouwer

Then he went out and made this way as usual to the Mount of Olives, accompanied by his disciples. When he reached the place he said to them, "Pray that you may be spared the hour of testing." He himself withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down and began to pray: "Father, if it be thy will, take this cup away from me. Yet not my will, but thine be done." In anguish of spirit he prayed the more urgently; and his sweat was like clots of blood falling to the ground.

(The second candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Loneliness - read by Kath Wright

He came to the disciples and found them asleep; and he said to Peter "So could none of you stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak." He went away a second time and prayed" "Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." He came again and found them asleep, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, using the same words as before.

(The third candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Desertion - read by Stephen Best

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, appeared; with him was a great crowd armed with swords and cudgels, sent by the chief priests and elders of the nation. The traitor gave them this sign. "The one I kiss is your man; seize him." And stepping forward at once he said "Hail Rabbi," and kissed him. Jesus replied "Friend do what you are here to do." They came forward, seized Jesus, and held him fast.

(The fourth candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Accusation - read by Andrew Donaldson

The chief priests and the whole council tried to find some allegation against Jesus on which a death sentence could be based; but they failed to find one, though many came forward with false evidence. Finally, two men alleged that he had said "I can pull down the temple of God, and rebuild it in three days." At this the High Priest rose and said to him, "Have you no answer to the charge that these witnesses bring against you?" But Jesus kept silence.

(The fifth candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Mockery - read by Graeme Downie

Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what shall I do with the man you call King of the Jews?" For he knew it was out of malice that they had brought Jesus before him. But the chief priests incited the crowd to ask him to release Barabbus rather than Jesus. Pilate spoke to them again: "Then what shall I do with the man you call King of the Jews?" They shouted back "Crucify him." "Why, what harm has he done?" Pilate asked; but they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, in his desire to satisfy the mob, released Barabbas to them; and then he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers took him inside the courtyard and dressed him in purple, and plaiting a crown of thorns, placed it on his head. Then they began to salute him with "Hail, King of the Jews!"

(The sixth candle is blown out)Minister:Lord have mercyCongregation:CHRIST HAVE MERCYMinister:Lord have mercy

The Shadow of Death - read by Jill van de Geer

When they reached the place of the Skull, they crucified him there, and the criminals with him, one on his right and the other on the left. Jesus said "Father forgive them; they know not what they do."

They divided his clothes among them by casting lots. The people stood looking on, and their rulers jeered at him: "He saved others; now let him save himself, if this is God's Messiah, his chosen." The soldiers joined in the mockery and came forward offering him their sour wine. "If you are the King of the Jews," they said, "save yourself." There was an inscription above his head which ran "This is the king of the Jews."

By now it was about noon, and a darkness fell over the whole land, which lasted until three o'clock: the sun's light had failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus gave a loud cry and said "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit"; and with these words he died. The centurion saw it all, and gave praise to God. "Beyond all doubt," he said, "this man was innocent."

(The last candle is blown out)

No Benediction