

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thursday, March 29, 2018 – 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service

“Table Talk”

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

* Clergy and Choir Enter

* Call to Worship:

One: This shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival of God.

All: We will pay our vows to God before all the people. We will offer our sacrifices of thanksgiving.

One: This is a time for remembering the Last Supper. You are called to the table to celebrate with Jesus.

All: We have gathered to break bread together. We will lift up the cup of salvation.

One: This is the hour when we are recalled to the command: “You shall love one another as I have loved you.”

All: We remember that Jesus washed the disciples’ feet. In covenant with Christ, we seek to serve.

Prayer of Invocation:

Holy God, we come to worship in the gathering shadows of Jesus’ suffering and death. We come with his friends, men and women of every place and generation, to live once again this story of service and betrayal, of weakness and courage. We come to witness your love in action. Be with us, we pray, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Hymn: “As We Gather at Your Table” VU #457

Litany of Confession and Examination:

All: We are now in the Upper Room where Jesus ate a special supper with the twelve, and we have heard the story so often that we know it by heart. In fact, we know it so well that we are apt to become calloused to its depth of meaning. We may forget that it applies to us, even as it applied to the disciples so long ago. Tonight, we are remembering the Upper Room experience and we are included in the circle. We will answer with the disciples, “Lord, is it I?” as He speaks to us.

One: One of you is going to betray me, and with a kiss give me to those who crucify me.

All: Lord, is it I? Lord, is it I?

One: Another of you will deny that you ever knew me, and curse when you shall be called my disciple.

All: Lord, is it I? Lord, is it I?

One: And three of you will fall asleep when I ask you to pray with me in the Garden of Gethsemane.

All: Lord, is it I? Lord, is it I?

One: And some of you, for your own safety, will follow afar off as I am led to the cross.

All: Lord, is it I? Lord, is it I?

One: And there are those seated here before me who will remain steadfast to the end – preaching these words of mine wherever they go.

All: Lord, is it I? Lord, is it I?

One: And I tell you, little flock, that you will be persecuted and reviled, and misunderstood – and called upon to die a martyr’s death for my sake.

All: Lord – though it means death, we can do nothing else than follow you.

One: Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

Hymn: “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” VU #142

Responsive Psalm: Psalm #116 VU p. 836

Scripture: Matthew 26:14 -30

Narr.: Then one of the twelve...

Reader: “What will you give me if I deliver him to you?”

Narr.: And they paid him... the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

All: "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?"

Narr.: He said,

Jesus: "Go into the city ...

Narr.: The disciples did as Jesus.

Jesus: "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me."

Narr.: And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to him one after another,

All: "Is it I, Lord? Is it I?"

Narr.: He answered,

Jesus: "He who has dipped his hand... to the Mount of Olives.

Meditation: **Table Talk** (John Bell)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: ... and joining your unending hymn:

Sanctus: (All)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Consecration

Invitation

Fraction and Distribution

Hymn: "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. **R**

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. **R**

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share. **R**

Offertory

Stripping of the Church

Hymn: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" VU #133

*** Dismissal with Blessing:**

One: Go forth in peace to walk the way of his cross and resurrection.

All: We are sent in the name of God.

One: May Jesus Christ, who was put to death for our sins, bless you and keep you.

All: Amen.

One: May Jesus Christ, who was raised to life for our salvation, let light shine upon you.

All: Amen.

One: May Jesus Christ be your life and peace, now and for ever.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.