

Brookline Community Church

2 Main Street, PO Box 507 Brookline, NH 03033

Participants

Reverend Catherine Merrill	Minister
Reverend Robert Vodra	Minister
Deborah Prince Smith	Accompanist

Notes on This Evening's Worship Service

The night of Jesus' betrayal and arrest began at a common table. Tonight we will participate in the Last Supper by taking communion by intinction. Rather than passing the bread and juice through the congregation, we ask all those who wish to partake to walk up the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, eat it and return to your seats via the side aisles. If it is easier for you to remain seated, we will bring the elements to you.

The sanctuary hosts many items that reflect the Christian faith. In silence and shadows, symbols of the church are removed, dramatizing the abandonment and darkness of the passion of Jesus. The sanctuary remains bare. Symbolically, Christ is stripped of his power and glory and is in the hands of his captors. The elements will be restored before worship begins on Easter morning.

There is no Benediction or Postlude because the events of this night do not conclude until the Easter morning celebration of resurrection. Therefore, tonight ends in a way that is intentionally unresolved, indicating that there is more to come.

Tonight's service continues with the Vigil on Good Friday in the sanctuary from noon to 9 pm. Easter Sunrise Services are at 6:00am on Musket Mountain at the Andres Institute of Art in Brookline or at 6:15am at Wally & Gretchen Brown's house on corner of Meeting House Hill Rd and Wilton Rd in Mason. Then both Brookline and Mason will celebrate Easter Morning Worship in their own churches at 10:00 am.

April 2, 2015 Tenebrae Service 7:00 pm

OPENING MUSIC AND WORDS

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts

All: and still you love us — you have loved us to the end.

Leader: We have denied you,

All: and we have denied our calling to serve one another.

Leader: We have betrayed you,

All: and we have betrayed your commandment to love one another.

Leader: Pour out you Spirit of grace upon us,

All: Teach us to love and serve you faithfully and to love and serve one another by the example you have set for us.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, as you wash the feet of your disciples make us ready to follow you, loving and serving one another in your name.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God most high.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

THE JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Shadow of Betrayal

Matthew 26: 20-25

Silence

Shadow of Desertion

Matthew 26: 31-35

Silence

***HYMN #212 “What Wondrous Love is This”**

Silence

Agony of the Soul

Luke 22: 39-44

Silence

Unshared Vigil

Mark 14: 32-41

Silence

Father, the Hour Has Come

John 17: 1-6

Silence

That They May Be All One

John 17: 15-22

Silence

***HYMN #221 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”**

Silence

Arrest in the Garden

John 18: 1-5

Silence

Shadow of the Cross

Mark 15: 16-20

THE PROMISE OF THE CROSS

The Word Was God Selections from John 1 and 3

Reading from Psalm 22:18

THE STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

*** HYMN: #218 “Were You There?” vv. 1-3**

*** THE LORD’S PRAYER: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Following the Lord’s Prayer, you are invited to leave the sanctuary quietly.

*** Please stand if you are able**