

***Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014***

***7.30pm***

***A SERVICE TO MARK  
THE SIGNING OF THE  
GREETLAND CHURCHES COVENANT***

## **Welcome**

### **THE GREETING [Rev Terry Swinhoe]**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

#### **And also with you.**

See, how good and joyful it is:

**To live together in unity.**

**A candle is lit during the singing of the hymn:  
[Candle lighter from Cross Hills??]**

What shall our greeting be:

Sign of our unity?

JESUS IS LORD!

May we no more defend

Barriers he died to end:

Give me your hand, my friend:

One Church, one Lord!

What is our mission here?

He makes his purpose clear:

One world, one Lord!

Spirit of truth descend,

All our confusions end:

Give me your hand, my friend:

JESUS IS LORD!

He comes to save us now:

To serve him is to know

Life's true reward.

May he our lives amend,

All our betrayals end:

Give me your hand, my friend:

JESUS IS LORD!

*Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000*

### **PRAYERS [Francis]**

Let us pray.

**Come, Holy Spirit,**

**fill the hearts of your faithful people,**

**and kindle in us the fire of your love;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **ACT OF PENITENCE**

When we have brought discredit on the gospel

Lord, forgive.

**Christ, have mercy.**

When we have broken the unity of the Church

Lord, forgive.

**Christ, have mercy.**

When we have failed in our love for others

Lord, forgive.

**Christ, have mercy.**

May God who is both power and love,

forgive us and free us from our sins,

heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,

and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen

### **A COLLECT**

Gracious God,  
send your Holy Spirit  
upon your church and people,  
that they may build each other up in holiness and peace;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen

*[From John Wesley's A Collection of Forms of Prayer, 1733]*

### **We remain seated to sing**

As we are gathered, Jesus is here,  
one with each other, Jesus is here;  
joined by the Spirit, washed in his Blood,  
part of the Body, the Church of God.  
As we are gathered, Jesus is here,  
one with each other, Jesus is here.

*John Daniels*

### **THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Rev Dr. Clive Barrett, County Ecumenical Development  
Officer and Executive Secretary, West Yorkshire Ecumenical  
Council

Let us pray:

Ever-living God,  
you are the hope of the world  
and the joy of the nations.

In wisdom and love  
you have brought forth the wonders of creation  
and fashioned us in your own image.

**Blessèd be God for ever.**

Ever-living God,  
you have caused the light of your glory  
to shine forth in the face of Jesus Christ  
and through the preaching of the gospel  
you have called into being  
one holy, catholic and apostolic Church  
throughout the world.

**Blessèd be God for ever.**

Ever-living God,  
you have blessed our nation  
through the ministry and witness of the Church of England,  
and by its saints, its divines and its parish life.  
You have renewed the life of the nation  
by raising up your servants John and Charles Wesley  
and through the ministry and witness  
of the people called Methodist.

**Blessèd be God for ever.**

Therefore with the Church of all the ages,  
with apostles, evangelists and martyrs  
and with all the angels in heaven  
we give you thanks and praise.

**Blessèd be God for ever.**

**Amen**

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

**[Marilyn]**

Jesus said: Father, the glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. **John 17:22 – 24**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ADDRESS**

The Rev Dr Roger Walton,  
Chair, West Yorkshire Methodist District

***The signing of the first copy of the Covenant takes place as we sing:***

Your hand, O God, has guided  
your flock, from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written,  
full clear, on every page;  
our forebears owned your goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:

one church, one faith, one Lord.

Your heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they summoned all to hasten  
and share the great King's feast;  
their gospel of redemption,  
sin pardoned, right restored,  
was all in this enfolded:  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?  
shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
shall we evade the conflict,  
and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
some better thing is stored;  
we will maintain, unflinching,  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Your mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave your work undone;  
with your right hand to help us,  
the victory shall be won;  
and then, by all creation,  
your name shall be adored,  
and this shall be our anthem:  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

*E. H. Plumptre (1821-1891)*

***A member of St Thomas' says: [Paul B]***

All who belong to the Church of England, I invite you to say with me:

**Our brothers and sisters  
of the Methodist Church  
we thank God for you.  
In the name of Christ,  
we the members of the Church of England  
dedicate ourselves  
to share our life with you.**

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace  
to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

*Richard Gillard (born 1953)*

***Following the Cross, we process from St Thomas'  
down to Cross Hills [Jan and Paul to lead]***



***As we arrive at Cross Hills we sing the last three  
verses of 'Brother, sister ...'***

***A candle is lit during the singing of the hymn:***

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace  
to let you be my servant, too.

*Richard Gillard (born 1953)*

***A member of Cross Hills says: [Jan]***

All who belong to the Methodist Church, I invite you to say with me:

**Our brothers and sisters  
of the Church of England  
we thank God for you.  
In the name of Christ,  
we the members of the Methodist Church  
dedicate ourselves  
to share our life with you.**

***The signing of the second copy of the Covenant takes  
place as we sing:***

All praise to our redeeming Lord,  
who joins us by his grace,  
and bids us, each to each restored,  
together seek his face.

He bids us build each other up;  
and, gathered into one,  
to our high calling's glorious hope  
we hand in hand go on.

The gift which he on one bestows,  
we all delight to prove,  
the grace through every vessel flows  
in purest streams of love.

E'en now we think and speak the same,  
and cordially agree,  
concentered all, through Jesus' name,  
in perfect harmony.

We all partake the joy of one;  
the common peace we feel,  
a peace to sensual minds unknown,  
a joy unspeakable.

And if our fellowship below  
in Jesus be so sweet,  
what height of rapture shall we know  
when round his throne we meet!

*Charles Wesley 1707 – 1788*

***A READING FROM EPHESIANS [St Thomas' reader]***

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

***Ephesians 4:1 – 6***

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **ADDRESS**

The Ven Dr Anne Dawtry,  
Archdeacon of Halifax

O thou who camest from above  
The pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love  
On the mean altar of my heart!

There let it for thy glory burn  
With inextinguishable blaze,  
And trembling to its source return,  
In humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
To work, and speak, and think for thee;  
Still let me guard the holy fire,  
And still stir up thy gift in me-

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
My acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death thy endless mercies seal,  
And make the sacrifice complete.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## **AN ACT OF INTERCESSION**

Led by members of St Thomas' and Cross Hills, concluding  
with The Lord's Prayer. **[Jan and Paul]**

Looking for the coming of the kingdom, we say together:

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **WORDS OF DEDICATION [Rev Terry]**

We all stand and say together:

**Guided by the Holy Spirit,  
we look forward to the years ahead  
sharing in worship and mission,  
and of ministry and service.  
We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were  
all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that  
makes for peace and builds up our common life.**

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE [Rev Terry]***

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

***A sign of peace is exchanged***

The Church of Christ in every age  
Beset by change but Spirit led,  
Must claim and test its heritage  
And keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street,  
The victims of injustice cry  
For shelter and for bread to eat,  
And never live until they die.

Then let the servant Church arise,  
A caring Church that longs to be  
A partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
And clothed in Christ's humanity.

For he alone, whose blood was shed,  
Can cure the fever in our blood,  
And teach us how to share our bread  
And feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve  
In full obedience to our Lord:  
To care for all, without reserve,  
And spread his liberating Word.

*Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000*

***THE BLESSING [Francis]***

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,  
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
and to proclaim the word and works of God;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always.

**Amen**