

# Guided by a cloud 17 (Exodus 13:21-22)

As we come 'together apart' this morning we may be looking forward to a time when we can see one another face to face. However, it is great to know that even though we are still apart we have Jesus in common and the work of his Holy Spirit can bring us together at this moment. One of the things I like to do during our service times is to imagine each member of our community sitting in their own homes or I picture them sat 'in their seat' at church. I find it helps to bring each person closer to me and I can feel the bond of the community. So as we 'come together' this morning to take communion I encourage you to remember that a number of people will be doing this at a similar time. We are joined, and joined by God's spirit!!



## Worship time

[The splendour of the King](#)

[My hope is built on nothing less](#)

[I cast my mind to Calvary](#)

## Deuteronomy 7:6-9

*<sup>6</sup> "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to*

*be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. <sup>7</sup> It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8</sup> but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."*

God spoke to the Israelites about the reality that they belonged to Him (v.6) because of His grace (v.7-8). And because of the grace of God, they were to "love Him and keep His commands" (v.9).

Communion reminds us of God's grace in Christ and because of His grace we belong to God.

We have been chosen. He personally says, "I choose you" His love wasn't given because we are so numerous and great but because we were in desperate need of it. Whatever happens God is faithful to those who put their trust in him, he keeps his promises and through Jesus we have an amazing expression of the love that God has for us and as we love him back in our human and flawed way he loves us more and more.

So as we come to share communion we do so in the knowledge that wherever we feel we might be spiritually, whatever we're going through, we are loved by God, we are special, we are set apart, we are his treasured possessions.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 and take your communion 'together apart'

Pray – Thank you Father for loving me with all your heart, soul and mind. Inspire me this week to love you more with all of mine. Thank you Jesus for your faithful friendship and help me to be a faithful friend like you. Thank you Holy Spirit for listening to my thoughts and words. Still my soul this week so I can listen to yours.

"Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you" 1Peter 5:7