

## **The CHANGE CHURCH**

### **A Gallery...**

Lyon's banking market required a place for negotiations. Impelled by Italian merchants, the Change Gallery, first Stock Exchange of Lyon was constructed in two stages:

- 1631, for the foundation,
- 1750, addition of a floor and modification of the building by Soufflot (architect of the Pantheon in Paris).

The style of the façade mixes Neoclassic and Baroque styles in an original manner. Situated in Old Lyon, it is now classed in the UNESCO World Heritage district.

### **A Church...**

The Gallery was used until the French Revolution of 1789. Since the end of the religious wars, the Protestants at last enjoyed a new liberty of worship. It was in 1803 that a first Protestant church service was officially held in this old Gallery, which became by order of the prefect, **The Change Church !**

### **A place of worship...**

This church of the United Protestant Church of France was the only place of Protestant worship in Lyon until the construction of other churches:

Rue Lanterne (1857); Quai Augagneur (1884); Rue Fénelon (1892). The sober interior brings out symbols characteristic of Protestantism.

- An open Bible and Bible verses,
- A preaching pulpit,
- A communion table,
- A cross,
- A small baptismal font,
- An organ to accompany psalms and hymns (1858-Beaucourt & Voegli).
- Pews in a semicircle...

The Change is today a dynamic place where Protestants of West Lyon gather:

**Every Sunday the worship service at 10:30 a.m. is open to all !**

Contact Tel: +33(0)4 78 34 16 85

## **Protestant faith can be explained in 3 points**

### **God's love**

God is a God of freedom and love. His love is free. It is offered unconditionally to all men and women.

### **The Bible**

The Bible is the Christian's reference book. Through its human stories, the Bible allows us to hear the Word of God.

For Protestants, it is by regularly reading the Bible that one can know God and that its words give meaning to our daily life.

### **Faith**

Faith is a confident relationship with God. It is given by God who himself comes to meet men and women. Only faith is necessary to remain united with God.

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