### Introduction and lighting of the candles

### Hymn

An upper room did our Lord prepare For those he loved until the end; And his disciples still gather there To celebrate their Risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own – to share his bread, his loving cup; whatever burden may bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.

And after supper he washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament; in him our joy shall be made complete – sent out to serve as he was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace; he loves beyond the uttermost; in every room in our Father's house he will be there, as Lord and Host

### **Invitation to Communion**

Reading: Matthew 26: 17 - 29

## Communion

Hymn

I cannot tell why He, whom angels worship, should set His love upon the human race, or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers, to bring them back, they know not how or when. But this I know, that He was born of Mary, when Bethlehem's manger was His only home, and that He lived at Nazareth and laboured, and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered, as with His peace He graced this place of tears, or how His heart upon the cross was broken, the crown of pain to three and thirty years. But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted, and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear, and lifts the burden from the heavy laden, for yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here. I cannot tell how He will win the nations, how He will claim His earthly heritage, how satisfy the needs and aspirations of east and west, of sinner and of sage. But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory, and He shall reap the harvest He has sown, and some glad day His sun shall shine in splendour when He the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship, when, at His bidding, every storm is stilled, or who can say how great the jubilation when all the hearts of men with love are filled. But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture, and myriad, myriad human voices sing, and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer: At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!

Reading Matthew 26: 36 - 56

**Reponsory:** On the Mount of Olives Jesus prayed to the Fatheer: Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me.

*(All)* The spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak. Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.

Taize Chant (repeated three times)

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray.

Prayer

Reading Mark 15: 1-5

Prayer

Choir "When I survey the wondrous cross"

Hymn

My song is love unknown; my Saviour's love to me; love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be. O who am I, that for my sake, my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

He came from His blest throne, salvation to bestow; but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But O my friend, my friend indeed who at my need His life did spend. Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries! yet they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away: a murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheerful He to suffering goes, that He His foes from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have; in death, no friendly tomb, but what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heaven was His home; but mine the tomb wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

Reading Mark 15: 16 – 32

Hymn

O sacred head, once wounded, with grief and pain weighed down, how scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown! How pale art Thou with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn! How does that visage languish, which once was bright as morn!

O Lord of life and glory, what bliss till now was Thine! I read the wondrous story, I joy to call Thee mine. Thy grief and Thy compassion were all for sinners' gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain. What language shall I borrow to praise Thee, heavenly friend, for this, Thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? Lord, make me Thine for ever, nor let me faithless prove; O let me never, never abuse such dying love!

Be near me, Lord, when dying; O show Thyself to me; and, for my succour flying, come, Lord, to set me free: these eyes, new faith receiving, from Jesus shall not move; for he who dies believing, dies safely through Thy love.

### Prayer

### Reading Matthew 27: 45 - 54

**Responsory:** We adore you O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world. God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong. We adore you O Christ, and we bless you. We preach Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God. By your Holy cross, you have redeemed the world God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# (All) We adore you O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

### Hymn

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there when God raised Him from the dead? Were you there when God raised Him from the dead? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; Were you there when God raised Him from the dead?

### Prayer

Reading: Isaiah 52: 13 to 53: 5

Musical Meditation: A piece by David Blackwell based on Orlando Gibbons' song 46

# Hymn

My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly, that I, the guilty one, may go free! (Chorus) Amazing love, O what sacrifice, the Son of God given for me. My debt He pays, and my death He dies, that I might live, that I might live.

And so, they watched Him die despised, rejected: but oh, the blood He shed flowed for me! (Chorus)

And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers; come wash your guilt away, live again! (Chorus)

Prayer

Reading Matthew 27: 62 - 66

## The Lord's Prayer

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross.

The remaining candle is brought from its hiding place and then extinguished.

## THE MINISTER AND CONGREGATION DEPART IN SILENCE