Welcome

Opening Prayer (adapted from the website, Godspace)

It is finished.
The procession begun in triumph
with shouts of acclamation.
Hosanna, Hosanna!
has ended
with cries of condemnation.
Crucify, crucify!
It is finished.
The king has become a slave,
power and wealth conquered
by the One who washes feet in love,
and dies the death of outcasts.
It is finished.
The transformation is complete,
and in this story lies my hope.
From death springs forth new life.
The seeds of Christ
buried in my heart
will see resurrection light.
It is finished.
Make of us your new creation Lord.
Nourish the soil, raise us up transformed.
May we remember the ways you loved.
From death of self
Let us live to love and serve and share.
Let your life be multiplied in us
to become fruit for our hurting world.
First Reading  Isaiah 50:4-10

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to answer the weary
a word that will waken them. Morning after morning he wakens my ear to hear as disciples do;
The Lord God opened my ear; I did not refuse, did not turn away.
I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who tore out my beard;
My face I did not hide from insults and spitting
The Lord God is my help therefore I am not disgraced;
Therefore, I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.
He who declares my innocence is near.
Who will oppose me?
Let us appear together.
Who will dispute my right?
Let them confront me.
See, the Lord God is my help;
who will declare me guilty?
Trust in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Response: *Day by Day* by Stephen Schwartz (from the musical *Godspell*)

Day by day, oh, dear Lord, three things I pray
To see thee more clearly
Love thee more dearly
Follow thee more nearly, day by day

Reflection

Second Reading: *The King* by Anthony de Mello

Response: *How Beautiful* by Twila Paris

How beautiful the hands that served
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth
How beautiful the feet that walked
The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful
Is the body of Christ

How beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead
How beautiful the tender eyes
That choose to forgive and never despise
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful
Is the body of Christ

And as he lay down his life
We offer this sacrifice
That we will live just as he died

Willing to pay the price
Willing to pay the price
How beautiful the radiant bride
Who waits for her groom with his light in her eyes
How beautiful when humble hearts give
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful
Is the body of Christ

How beautiful the feet that bring
The sound of good news and the love of the King
How beautiful the hands that serve
The wine and the bread and the sons of the Earth
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful
Is the body of Christ
**Reflection**

**Gospel Reading  John 19:38-42**

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jewish authorities, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried. So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Reflection**

**Closing Song: Were You There**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (2x)

Oh! Sometimes, it cause 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 pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*End in Silence*