



Preparation: Gather symbols (a glass goblet with red wine, a bowl of water, a towel, a candle)

Opening Song: Choose from this list or select another familiar to the group.

“We Remember” by Marty Haugan, album With Open Hands
 “Blood of Christ, We Sing your Praises” Community Hymnal

Theme: “The Love of Jesus Calls Us to Service”

Leader: (Read this slowly and meditatively.)

Let us reflect on the gift of Jesus to us in the shedding of His blood for our salvation. The mystery of love and the gift of Jesus’ suffering and death surround us with a power and energy that calls for a life-giving response.

Spend these next moments aware of Jesus in his sufferings, his willingly saying “yes” to God in all he did: being with the crowds day by day, teaching disciples who were not always receptive, confronting injustice in the Scribes and Pharisees, instituting the Eucharist without even His loved ones understanding what He was doing, shedding His blood in the passion and death, feeling abandoned by His Father. Each of these were ways in which Jesus “shed His blood for us.”

(Silent Reflection: 5-10 minutes)

Response:

Read Ephesians 1:3-11

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ/who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,

as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world/to be holy and without blemish before Him./In love He destined us for adoption to Himself through Jesus Christ,

in accord with the favor of His will,/for the praise of the glory of His grace that He granted us in the beloved.

In Him we have redemption by His blood,/the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of His grace/that He lavished upon us.

In all wisdom and insight, He has made known to us the mystery of His will/in accord with His favor that He set forth in him

as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ,/in heaven and on earth.

Leader: Jesus sacrificed himself first in service to those around Him. In preparation for His passion and death, He taught His disciples to “Do as I have done.”

Let us meditate on these words and the ways in which we have been called to “wash one another’s feet.”

Read: John 13: 1-17 (the washing of feet).

Silent reflection: 5 minutes

Hymn: Jesus, Jesus (Tom Colvin) 505

Response: Spontaneous Prayers
(Example: ... for the ability to give service ... we thank you, Jesus

... for the strength to continue serving the poor
... we thank you, Jesus, etc.)

Leader: The sufferings of Jesus give us courage. The Precious Blood, shed for us gives us strength. The life of Jesus becomes our model. Each day we seek to be renewed again to live as Jesus lived, empowered by the shedding of his Precious Blood.

Read John 6:53-54 (Silent reflection: 2-3 minutes)

Response Activity:

Pass the cup. Reflect on a grace you have received, or pray for a grace desired.
Drink and pass the cup to the next person.

Closing Song:

“Blood of Jesus Strength of Martyrs”