

# We Prepare

## Gathering Rite

### Opening Song

“We Praise You,” *Songs of Celebration* CD, track 11.

### Procession

**Leader:** *Let us pray.  
Make the Sign of the Cross together.*

### Opening Prayer

**Leader:** *Gracious God, open our hearts to hear your Word. Send us the Holy Spirit to help us do what you want. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**All:** *Amen.*

## Celebration of the Word

**Reader:** *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.*

**All:** *Glory to you, O Lord.  
Read John 13:1–16.*

**Leader:** *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**All:** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.  
Sit silently.*

### Reflection

- If you could only use one word to title this Gospel, what would it be?

## Honoring the Cross

**Leader:** *God gives us many gifts. He gives us sun and rain. He gives us family and friends. He gives us our life. The most important gift God gives us is his Son, Jesus. Jesus shows us how to live. When Jesus died on the Cross, he gave his life for all people. Let us think about what a wonderful gift Jesus gave us.*

*Sit silently.*

**Leader:** *Lord God, send us the Holy Spirit to show us how to live our lives for others. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son.*

**All:** *Amen.*

**Leader:** *At the Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:*

*Pray the Lord’s Prayer together.*

**Leader:** *Let us offer each other the Sign of Peace.*

## Closing Prayer

**Leader:** *Loving God, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us. Send us out to share our lives with others. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**All:** *Amen.*

