Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, For all the benefits which thou hast won for me, For all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me:

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, May I see thee more clearly, Love thee more dearly, And follow thee more nearly Day by day. Amen.

- To God the Father, who loved us, and made us accepted in the Beloved:
- To God the Son, who loved us, and loosed us from our sins by his own blood:
- To God the Holy Ghost, who sheddeth the love of God abroad in our hearts:
- To the one true God be all love and all glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

Hymn 127 When I survey the wondrous Cross

All kneel

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

All keep silence for a space

All stand, while the choir and clergy go out in silence



"God so loved the world"

A Meditation for Palm Sunday

The clergy and choir enter in silence

Minister God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

We are come together that we may ponder the mystery of God's love for us in the Cross of his Son, our Saviour, and that, in love and obedience, we may offer ourselves, our souls and bodies, in his service.

All kneel

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done; In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the Cross, who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of the living God, who to illumine the darkness of the world didst deign to be lifted up on the holy Cross: we pray thee so to enlighten our hearts and minds that we may follow on to learn the mystery of thy redeeming love, and be counted worthy to shire in thine eternal triumph; through thy merits, who liveth and reignest, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Hymn 125 We sing the praise of him who died

St Paul declares that the cross is God's way of saving mankind

1 Corinthians 1 vv 18-25

Motet Crucifixus Lotti

St John tells us that we must give ourselves for others as Christ gave Himself for us

1 John 3 vv 13-18

Hymn 259 Morning glory, starlit sky

St Peter declares that Christians must share the sufferings of Christ

1 Peter 2, vv 19-25

Psalm Miserere Allegri

St Paul summons us to die with Christ to the old life and to rise with him to the new

Romans 6 vv 3-11

Hymn 120 O sacred head

St Paul declares that in Christ God was reconciling us to Himself

2 Corinthians 5 vv 17-20

Motet Christus factus est Bruckner

St Paul adores the love of Christ from which nothing can separate us

Romans 8, vv 31-39

Hymn 557 Praise to the Holiest in the height

All kneel

O loving wisdom of the living God. O living word and power of the Father everlasting: grant what thou hast promised, and give us, unworthy though we are, what we most earnestly desire; that thy Cross may be our redemption, thy death our life; and that, being crucified with thee, we may be raised with thee to the Father, with whom thou livest and reignest, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**