Monday of Holy Week

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.
Jesus says, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.” (Matt. 16.24 & 25)

We pray :
Almighty and everlasting God,
Who, in your tender love towards the human race, sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow his example of patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever, Amen.

Silence

Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.

Reading : Isaiah 42. 1-7

A Bruised Reed.
When we bruise like a reed in the wind
Jesus, tend us.
When we wane like a flickering lamp
Jesus, shield us.
When we lose courage and walk without hope
Jesus, cheer us.

Psalm 36: 5-9 God's Constant Love
God, your constant love reaches the heavens
Your faithfulness extends the skies.
Your righteousness is towering like the mountains
Your justice is like the depths of the sea.
How precious is your constant love
We find protection under the shadow of your wings.
You are the source of life
And because of your light, we see the light.

Silence

The Gospel : John 12. 1-11

Prayers
Christ Jesus, we give thanks that, in the midst of much ill feeling and misunderstanding, there were people at Bethany who welcomed you.

We give thanks that, down through the ages, there have been those who, in their homes, have offered havens of welcome and understanding in the midst of strife.

We give thanks for those who have opened their homes to us when we needed somewhere to find refuge.

As we cannot share our homes at this time, make our hearts like that home in Bethany: places of understanding, of peace and of healing.
Christ Jesus, make yourself at home in us. We know that you will take us as you find us, so just come in. Amen

Collect
Lord, you bring us into being and let our lives touch your heart: may the fragrance of our worship draw us closer to your open heart; and free us from our clinging to the things we can control; through Jesus Christ, the passion of God. Amen.