### Focus on God

### Candle Lighting

# **Evening Prayer**

The numerous stars shine the wonder of God whose grace is beyond measure; whisper to me your abundant grace, which sustains me. As I lay down my head, I recall Jesus saying that the Son of Man has no place to lay his head. I imagine Jesus being with those who look for a place to lay their heads. O God, I ask for your mercy and pray for the day when we all can sleep in shalom, trusting in your mysterious work through Jesus Christ, the Savior for all. Amen.

### Romans 12

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of God **The Word of Life** 

# Communion

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are holy, O God of power and might, and blessed is Jesus Christ, the one who comes in your name. In his life, he called unlikely people to follow him fisherfolk, tax collectors, children, sinners, deniers, betrayers. On the cross he gave himself up to the powers of this world, showing in his body your great foolishness, O God, for loving such a wayward world. Yet by this very cross, O Wisdom from on high, you have undone and remade the wisdom of this world, drawing light from darkness, power from humiliation, life from death itself.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Closing Song

Blessing