Jesus had been working hard, telling everyone about God.
‘I must go away soon,’ he told his friends. ‘But let’s have one last supper together.’
That evening, they all met in a special room. Jesus poured some water into a bowl. He began to wash his friends’ dusty feet.
‘What are you doing, Lord Jesus?’ they cried. ‘Are you a servant?’
‘I am doing this because I love you,’ said Jesus. ‘And I want you to love one another too!’
**Jesus said, ‘Love one another!’**
They ate bread… *(mime eating)*
…and they drank red wine… *(mime drinking)*.
But Judas—who was meant to be a friend—went to fetch some Roman soldiers.

After supper, Jesus and his friends went outside.
They crossed a river into a garden called the Garden of Gethsemane.
The water sparkled in the moonlight and the blossom on the trees made the air smell sweet. It was very late.
Next morning, the soldiers took Jesus to the palace.

The Roman ruler, called Pilate, said, ‘Jesus hasn’t done anything wrong!’

‘Yes he has!’ cried all the people. ‘He says he is the Son of God.’

The soldiers put a crown of sharp thorns on Jesus' head. They gave him a heavy wooden cross to carry up the hill… (place your cross on the hill in the Easter garden).

They nailed Jesus to the cross and left him there to die.

‘Forgive them, Father!’ said Jesus. ‘They don’t know what they are doing.’

The sky went black. The earth shook.

‘Now everything is finished!’ gasped Jesus, just before he died.

That evening, a kind man called Joseph wrapped Jesus’ body in a white sheet. Gently, he laid Jesus in a cave that stood in a beautiful garden. A friend of Jesus, called Mary Magdalene, watched Joseph roll a great big stone in front of the cave to close it… (close the cave in your garden with the stone).

Mary went home, feeling sad and lonely.

It is very early on Sunday morning. Mary walks back to the cave. She carries a jar of perfume to pour on the body of Jesus.

‘Who will move that big, heavy stone for me?’ Mary wonders.

But the cave is already open! The stone is rolled away… (roll stone).

Mary hurries to fetch Peter and John. They come running to look in the cave. They see the white sheet lying on the ground.

‘The cave is empty!’ they cry, full of surprise.

Mary peeps inside the cave. She sees two angels, as white as blossom.

‘Don’t cry, Mary!’ they say, kindly.

Mary turns round and sees a man standing there. She thinks he is the gardener.

‘Oh, please, where have you put Jesus?’ she asks.

But the man just smiles and says, ‘Mary!’

Birds begin to sing. The sun rises and the spring flowers open their petals.

The man isn’t the gardener. He is Jesus!

Mary claps her hands… (clap hands).

She waves them in the air… (wave hands).

‘Don’t be sad! Be glad!’ she tells everybody. ‘Jesus is alive!’

Jesus is alive!
Surprise, surprise!

Happy Easter

Fold to centre

With love from

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