

St. Luke Cedar Hill Wednesday in Holy Week



The Stations of the Cross

*Meditation and Prayer on the
Traditional Fourteen Stations of the Cross*

*Music selections not in public domain are covered by
ONE LICENSE #A-710868.
All rights reserved.*

Opening Hymn: CP 431 Take Up Your Cross

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Confessional Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ,
We confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.
We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease
rather than watch with you:
Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we bestow a kiss of peace
yet nurse enmity in our hearts:
Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we strike at those who hurt us
rather than stretch out our hands to bless:
Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we deny that we know you
for fear of the world and its scorn:
Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,
Amen.

Priest: We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All: In whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Priest: Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts,
whereby you have given us life and immortality;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

We move to the first station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The First Station: Jesus is Condemned to Death

The Reading:

Now at the festival Pilate used to release a prisoner for them,
anyone for whom they asked.
Now a man called Barabbas was in prison
with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection.
So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate
to do for them according to his custom.

Then he answered them,
'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?'
For he realized that it was out of jealousy
that the chief priests had handed him over.
But the chief priests
stirred up the crowd to have him
release Barabbas for them instead.
Pilate spoke to them again,
'Then what do you wish me to do
with the man you call the King of the Jews?'
They shouted back, 'Crucify him!'
Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?'
But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!'
So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd,
released Barabbas for them;
and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. (Mark 15: 6-16)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. God did not spare his own Son:
R. **But delivered him up for us all.**

All: Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

All sing:



We move to the next station.

All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

The Second Station: Jesus Takes Up his Cross

The Reading:

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!'

Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?'
The chief priests answered,
'We have no king but the emperor.'
Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.
So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself,
he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull,
which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. (John 19: 13-17)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
R. **For the transgression of my people was he stricken.**

**All: Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured
the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption:
Give us courage to take up our cross
and follow him; who lives and reigns
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**All sing: Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Third Station: Jesus Falls the First Time

The Reading

Though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself and became obedient
to the point of death—even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name. (Philippians 2: 5b-9)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. Surely he has borne our griefs:

R. **And carried our sorrows.**

**All: O God, you know us to be set in the midst
of so many and great dangers,
that by reason of the frailty of our nature
we cannot always stand upright:
Grant us such strength and protection
as may support us in all dangers,
and carry us through all temptations;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**All sing: Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Fourth Station: Jesus Meets his Mother

The Reading:

And the child's father and mother were amazed
at what was being said about him.
Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary,
'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel,
and to be a sign that will be opposed
so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—
and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'
(Luke 2: 33-35)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. A sword will pierce your own soul also:

R. **And fill your heart with bitter pain.**

All: O God, who willed that in the passion of your Son
a sword of grief should pierce the soul
of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother:
Mercifully grant that your Church,
having shared with her in his passion,
may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection;
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

All sing:



We move to the next station.

All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

The Fifth Station: The Cross is Laid on Simon of Cyrene

The Reading:

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. (Luke 23: 26)

If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. (Mark 8: 34b)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me:

R. **Cannot be my disciple.**

All: Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son
came not to be served but to serve:
Bless all who, following in his steps,
give themselves to the service of others;
that with wisdom, patience, and courage,

**they may minister in his Name
to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy;
for the love of him who laid down his life for us,
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**All sing: *Holy God. Holy and mighty.
 Holy immortal One,
 have mercy upon us.***

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
 Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Sixth Station: A Woman Wipes the Face of Jesus

The Reading:

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.
Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet
will receive a prophet's reward;
and whoever welcomes a righteous person
in the name of a righteous person
will receive the reward of the righteous;
and whoever gives even a cup of cold water
to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—
truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'
(Matthew 10: 40-42)

Reflection, followed by silence

**V. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:
R. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

**All: O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son
 revealed his glory upon the holy mountain:
 Grant to us that we, beholding by faith
 the light of his countenance,
 may be strengthened to bear our cross,
 and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All sing:

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and might - y. Ho - ly im - mor - tal

One, have met - cy up - on us.

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Seventh Station: Jesus Falls a Second Time

The Reading:

O Lord, all my longing is known to you;
my sighing is not hidden from you.
My heart throbs, my strength fails me;
as for the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.
My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction,
and my neighbours stand far off.
Those who seek my life lay their snares;
those who seek to hurt me speak of ruin,
and meditate treachery all day long. (Psalm 38: 9-12)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. But as for me, I am a worm and no man:
R. **Scorned by all and despised by the people.**

**All: Almighty and everliving God,
in your tender love for the human race
you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our nature,
and to suffer death upon the cross,
giving us the example of his great humility:
Mercifully grant that we may walk
in the way of his suffering,
and also share in his resurrection;
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.**

All sing: *Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us*

We move to the next station.

All: **We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Eighth Station: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

The Reading:

A great number of the people followed him,
and among them were women who were beating their breasts
and wailing for him.
But Jesus turned to them and said,
'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me,
but weep for yourselves and for your children.' (Luke 23: 27-28)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. Those who sowed with tears:

R. **Will reap with songs of joy.**

All: **Teach your Church, O Lord,
to mourn the sins of which it is guilty,
and to repent and forsake them;
that, by your pardoning grace,
the results of our iniquities
may not be visited upon our children
and our children's children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All sing: *Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us*

We move to the next station.

All: **We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Ninth Station: Jesus Falls a Third Time

The Reading:

For we do not have a high priest
who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,
but we have one who in every respect has been tested
as we are, yet without sin.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4: 15-16)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

R. **And like a sheep that before its shearers is mute,
so he opened not his mouth.**

**All: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son
you made an instrument of shameful death
to be for us the means of life:
Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ,
that we may gladly suffer shame and loss
for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

All sing:

Ho - ly God. Ho - ly and might - y. Ho - ly im - mor - tal

One, have mer - cy up - on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: 'Ho - ly God. Ho - ly and might - y. Ho - ly im - mor - tal'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'One, have mer - cy up - on us.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Tenth Station: Jesus is Stripped of his Clothes

The Reading:

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,
they took his clothes and divided them into four parts,
one for each soldier.

They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless,
woven in one piece from the top.

So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it,
but cast lots for it to see who will get it.'

This was to fulfil what the scripture says,
'They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.'

(John 19: 23-24)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. They gave me gall to eat:

R. **And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.**

**All: Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his body
to be whipped and his face to be spit upon:**

**Give us grace to accept joyfully
the sufferings of the present time,
confident of the glory that shall be revealed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**All sing: Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Eleventh Station: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

The Reading:

When they came to the place that is called The Skull,
they crucified Jesus there with the criminals,
one on his right and one on his left.

Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them;
for they do not know what they are doing.'
And they cast lots to divide his clothing.
And the people stood by, watching;
but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,
'He saved others; let him save himself
if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!'
The soldiers also mocked him,
coming up and offering him sour wine,
and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!'
There was also an inscription over him,
'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there
kept deriding him and saying,
'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!'
But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God,
since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
And we indeed have been condemned justly,
for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds,
but this man has done nothing wrong.'

Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.'
He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'
(Luke 23: 33-43)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. They pierce my hands and my feet:

R. **They stare and gloat over me.**

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out
your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross
that everyone might come
within the reach of your saving embrace:
So clothe us in your Spirit
that we, reaching forth our hands in love,**

may bring those who do not know you
to the knowledge and love of you;
for the honour of your Name. Amen.

All sing:



We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

The Reading:

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished,
he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.'
A jar full of sour wine was standing there.
So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop
and held it to his mouth.
When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.'
Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
(John 19: 28-30)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. Christ for us became obedient unto death:
R. **Even death on a cross.**

**All: O God, who for our redemption
gave your only-begotten Son to death on the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
delivered us from the power of our enemy:**

**Grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his resurrection;
who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen.**

**All sing: *Holy God. Holy and mighty.
 Holy immortal One,
 have mercy upon us.***

We move to the next station.

**All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
 Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.**

The Thirteenth Station: Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

The Reading:

When they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs.
Instead, one of the soldiers pierced
his side with a spear,
and at once blood and water came out.

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea,
who was a disciple of Jesus,
though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews,
asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus.
Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.
Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night,
also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes,
weighing about a hundred pounds.
They took the body of Jesus
and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths,
according to the burial custom of the Jews.
(John 19: 33-34, 38-40)

Reflection, followed by silence

**V. Her tears run down her cheeks:
R. And she has none to comfort her.**

All: Lord Jesus Christ, by your death
you took away the sting of death:
Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith
where you have led the way,
that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you
and wake up in your likeness;
for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

All sing:



We move to the next station.

All: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.
Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

The Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

The Reading:

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified,
and in the garden there was a new tomb
in which no one had ever been laid.
And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation,
and the tomb was nearby,
they laid Jesus there. (John 19: 41-42)

Reflection, followed by silence

V. You will not abandon me to the grave:
R. **Nor let your Holy One see corruption.**

All: O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden,
and rested on the Sabbath day:
Grant that we who have been buried
with him in the waters of baptism
may find our perfect rest
in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

All sing: *Holy God. Holy and mighty.
Holy immortal One,
have mercy upon us.*

Concluding Prayers

Priest: O Saviour of the world, by your cross and precious blood
you have redeemed us:

All: **Save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

Priest: Let us offer ourselves, in thanksgiving for the suffering of Christ,
that we might become a living sacrifice to Christ our Lord.

(Silence)

All: Our Father which art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power and glory.
For ever and ever.
Amen.

**All: We thank you, heavenly Father,
that you have delivered us
from the dominion of sin and death
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son;
and we pray that, as by his death
he has recalled us to life,
so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys;
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The Benediction

Concluding Hymn: CP 547 I Sought the Lord

Thank you to the Worship Team Members for This Service: Presider: Rev. Daniel Fournier; Prayers and Reflections: Daniel Fournier and Joan Scandrett; Online Video Production: Daniel Fournier; Musicians: Susanne Reul-Zastre, Daniel Fournier, Joan Scandrett, Sharon McMillan, Olivia Craster, and Michael Zastre; Videographer: Joan Scandrett; Online Video Production and Posting at Vimeo: Daniel Fournier; Proofreading, Posting Bulletin and Service Link at the Website: Barb Prescott; Hymn Slides, Stations of the Cross Slides, and Posting the Link at Facebook: Sharon McMillan.

Readers:

First Station: Sylvia Sinclair
Second Station: Gillian Bloom
Third Station: Kathleen Patterson
Fourth Station: Genevieve Richards
Fifth Station: Tara Poilievre
Sixth Station: Eguono Otukueku
Seventh Station: Barb Prescott

Eighth Station: Bruce Hallsor
Ninth Station: Ray Lett
Tenth Station: Sylvia Sinclair
Eleventh Station: Gillian Bloom
Twelfth Station: Kathleen Patterson
Thirteenth Station: Genevieve Richards
Fourteenth Station: Tara Poilievre

Stations of the Cross

The liturgy known as the Stations of the Cross began in Jerusalem at an early date, as pilgrims retraced the journey of Jesus from the Praetorium to the hill that had been identified as Calvary. It was popularized throughout Europe in the Middle Ages, as the devout imitated with visual reminders – either paintings or carvings – this same route from the trial to the cross. The earlier forms of the liturgy were further developed by the Franciscans to the current tradition of fourteen stations. Some of the stations are based on scriptural passages, others on traditions invented for the devotions of the Church.