

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross

A Place to Begin: Words of Welcome (10:00 a.m.)

Station One: Jesus Is Condemned to Death (1:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Luke 23:13-25



¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him." ¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Silence

Musical Meditation — "O WALY WALY"

Traditional

As Peter stood outside in fear,
A woman said, "I've seen you here.
You were with him! Just say it's so!"
But three times, Peter answered, "No!"

We say the things we ought not say;
We let concerns control the day.
Lord, take our fear and in its place,
Fill us with love and hope and grace.

Why is it, Lord, that when we're stressed
We feel things more and think things less?
We let the fear that is inside
Become our ruler and our guide.

In anxious times, Lord, make us wise
To look within our inner lives.
When fear tempts us to cave to sin,
May we seek truth and let love win!

-Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

We're called to welcome strangers in
Yet we let fear and hatred win.
When we ignore what's just and true,
O Lord, are we denying you?

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 349

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

Station Two: Jesus Takes Up His Cross (2:00 p.m.)

Scripture — John 19:16b-17



16Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.
So they took Jesus; 17and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

Silence

Musical Meditation — “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Setting by Hal Hopson
Carrie Stelter, cello

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 803

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Station Three: The Cross Is Laid on Simon of Cyrene (3:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Luke 23:26



26As 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.

Silence

Musical Meditation — “In Gethsemane”

Darrell Day
Rachel Szybnski and Emily Bruflat, handchimes

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 347, stanzas 1 & 2

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

Station Four: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem (4:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Luke 23:27-31



27A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. 28But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' 30Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' 31For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Silence

Musical Meditation — "SLANE"

Setting by Thomas Keesecker
Keith Stelter, oboe

Silence

Response — Hymn

"God of the Women"
(tune SLANE)

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

-Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

Station Five: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments (5:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Matthew 27:27-31



27Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. 28They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 30They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Silence

Musical Meditation — "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Setting by Thomas Keesecker
Beth Winterfeldt, piano

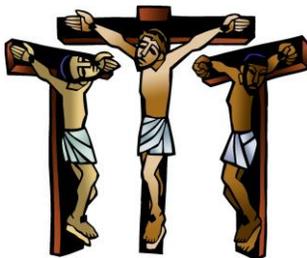
Silence

Response — Hymn no. 351

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Station Six: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross (6:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Luke 23:32-43



32Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33When 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. [[34Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35And 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!" 36The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."
39One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Silence

Musical Meditation — “There In God’s Garden”

Setting by Anne Krentz Organ
Chelsea Alger, flute

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 342, Stanzas 1-4

“There In God’s Garden”

Station Seven: Jesus Dies on the Cross (7:00 p.m.)

Scripture — Luke 23:44-49



44It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. 47When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” 48And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. 49But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Silence

Musical Meditation — “Were You There”

Spiritual

Rebekah Roemhildt, voice; Raina Roemhildt, cello; Mark Roemhildt, piano

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 353, Stanzas 2 & 3

“Were You There”

Station Eight: Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb (8:00 p.m.)

Scripture — John 19:39-42



39Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. 40They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. 41Now 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. 42And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Silence

Musical Meditation — “LLANGLOFFAN”

Setting by David Cherwien
Kayley Ronnkvist, viola

Silence

Response — Hymn no. 326

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

Final Video: Prayers (9:00 p.m.)

We now enter into a time of prayer. Each prayer topic will be introduced. Silence will follow (this provides time to pray for that topic, silently or by writing your prayers in the comments). Each section will conclude with a prayer around that topic, ending with:

...We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for First Lutheran Church in St. Peter, MN - for the leaders, members, and friends of this place.
Silent prayer.

Loving God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.
Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church,
and help them to do faithfully the work to which you have called them.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers in other churches, throughout the world, who share our faith in Jesus Christ.
Silent prayer.

Loving God, you give your church unity.
Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son.
Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith,
and keep us united in the fellowship of love.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for those who follow different religious paths (Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and many others).
Silent prayer.

Loving God, gather into your embrace
all those who call out to you under different names.
Bring an end to inter-religious strife,

and make us more perfect witnesses
of the love made known to us in your Son.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.
Silent prayer.

Loving God, you created humanity
so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.
Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace
in the world and live in the love that is You.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for God's creation.
Silent Prayer

Loving God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe.
Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care
And guide us to seek the health and wholeness of all you have created
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.
Silent Prayer

Loving God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed.
In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority,
So that all people may enjoy justice, peace, and freedom,
And share in the goodness of your creation.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen

Let us pray for those in need.
Silent prayer.

Loving God, you give strength to the weary
and new courage to those who have lost heart.
Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,
Free those unjustly deprived of liberty,
And deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.
Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble,
that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Let us pray for that which is on our hearts and minds this night.

Silent Prayer

Loving God, we thank you that you hear all our prayers, silent or spoken, conscious or unconscious. Be with us this night as you were with Jesus on the night of his death.

We pray this is the name of Jesus,

Amen

Spoken Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sung Lord's Prayer — *ELW Setting Five, page 163, front of hymnal*

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Acknowledgements

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