

# *Stations of the Cross*





# The Stations of the Cross

*The People gather in the front of the church, before the altar rail gates.*

*Officiant* In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

He who bore the Holy Cross did break the power of sin, death, and the grave. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. Tell out among the nations: That the Lord has reigned from the tree.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Grant unto us, your servants, to be made partakers of the grace of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Litany of Penitence

*Officiant* God the Father

*People* **have mercy upon us.**

God the Son

**have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit

**have mercy upon us.**

Holy Trinity, one God

**have mercy upon us.**

From all evil,

**deliver us, O Lord.**

From all sin,

**deliver us, O Lord.**

From dying suddenly and unprepared,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

From all presumption on your mercy,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy birth among us,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy baptism and forty-day fast,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy victory over temptation,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy teaching and mighty works,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy passion, death, and burial,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

By thy Resurrection and Ascension,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

In all time of our prosperity and in all time of our tribulation,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

In the hour of death and in the Day of Judgment,  
**deliver us, O Lord.**

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and give us grace that we may  
come to a true repentance and amendment of life,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That judging ourselves, we may escape thy judgment  
and refrain from judging others,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That we may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That all bitterness and anger be put away from us,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That we may not be puffed up in pride or weighed down in despair,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That in temptation, we may have wisdom and courage  
to seek the right path,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That we may work out our salvation with fear and trembling,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

That in forgiveness, we may find a new life now  
and hope for eternity,  
**hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
**spare us, Good Lord.**

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
**spare us, Good Lord.**

Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,  
**grant us thy peace.**

O Lord, hear our prayer,  
**and let our cry come to you.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.

# First Station

## Jesus Is Condemned to Death

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its  
shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice  
he was taken away, although he had done no violence, and there was no  
deceit in his mouth.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Jesus, though you were condemned  
to suffer and die, all judgment has been  
placed in your hand. Grant that we  
may be saved from all false judgments  
against our neighbor, and at the last may  
stand before you, forgiven by your great  
mercy, for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.





## Second Station

# Jesus Takes up His Cross

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The soldiers began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Grant us patience, O Lord, to follow the road you have taken. Let our confidence not rest in our own understanding but in your guiding hand; let our desires not be for our own comfort, but for the joy of your kingdom; for your cross is our hope and our joy now and unto the day of eternity. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Third Station

## Jesus Falls the First Time

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”

Surely he has borne our infirmities:  
**And carried our sorrows.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

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.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.





# Fourth Station

## Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow: For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears; for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage: My eyes are spent with weeping; my stomach churns, my heart is wrung within me; my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed.

Great as the sea is your grief:  
**Who shall heal you?**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Jesus Christ, whose Blessed Mother watched your passion and death in deep sorrow, comfort, we pray you, all those who must stand helpless while those they love suffer. Hear the cry of all victims of terror and abuse, give hope and solace to those who are bereaved. Grant that we may use such strength as we have to comfort, support, and protect all who grieve or are in need, for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Fifth Station

## The Cross Is Laid on Simon of Cyrene

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

The soldiers led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passerby, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**By which the world has been crucified to me,  
and I to the world.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O Lord Christ, by whose condemnation we are acquitted, in whose death we have life, and whose cross is our hope, keep us mindful of your boundless love and when we are called, like Simon, to bear the cross, make us to rejoice that we are counted worthy to suffer for your sake and unite what we offer with your perfect sacrifice, through the merits of your eternal redemption. Amen.

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



## vSixth Station

# A Woman Wipes the Face of Jesus

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood. Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray. *(Silence)*  
Lord, teach us to see your face and to find its imprint in all acts of mercy and compassion, and in all for whom you died; by your Holy Spirit, change us, and conform us to your own image, that through our lives, your light may shine in this dark world, for the glory of your name. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Seventh Station

## Jesus Falls a Second Time

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**  
For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. We proclaim Christ crucified, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Lord, we fall again and again: seek us out and recall us to yourself; in your strength let us stand and in our paths let us walk secure, for your passion and death are our forgiveness, our salvation and our life. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.





# Eighth Station

## Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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. For 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.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

The elders of the daughters of Zion have thrown  
dust upon their heads:

**The young girls of Jerusalem  
bowed their heads to the ground.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord, grant us to mourn with those who mourn, and to repent of all cruelty and disregard of which we are guilty; in danger, be our confidence that we may stand and accomplish your loving purposes, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Ninth Station

## Jesus Falls a Third Time

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Those who were my enemies without cause have  
hunted me like a bird; they flung me alive into a pit  
and hurled stones on me; water closed over my head;  
I said, "I am lost." I called on your name, O Lord,  
from the depths of the pit. Out of the depths I cry to  
you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice.

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:  
**And like a sheep that before its shearers is  
silent, so he did not open his mouth.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Lord Jesus Christ, save us from all false  
pride and keep us from despair, that in  
strength or weakness, we may face the  
difficulties and challenges of our lives,  
seeking to serve you and to accomplish  
your will. We ask this for the sake of  
your love. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.





# Tenth Station

## Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, 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.

They gave me gall to eat:  
**And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Lord Jesus, you stood before all the world, with no one beside you and nothing to protect you, exposed to ridicule and grievously wounded: make us strong in the face of suffering, strip from us all false pride, and for your sake, who suffered such cruelty, make us abhor all injustice and violence. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Eleventh Station

## Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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.” One of the criminals who was 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.”

They pierce my hands and my feet:  
**And have numbered all my bones.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Bring us to stand close enough to your cross, O Lord, that we hear your voice, and in your promise of forgiveness and welcome, let us rest our hope for this life and for the life to come. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Twelfth Station

## Jesus Dies on the Cross

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split.

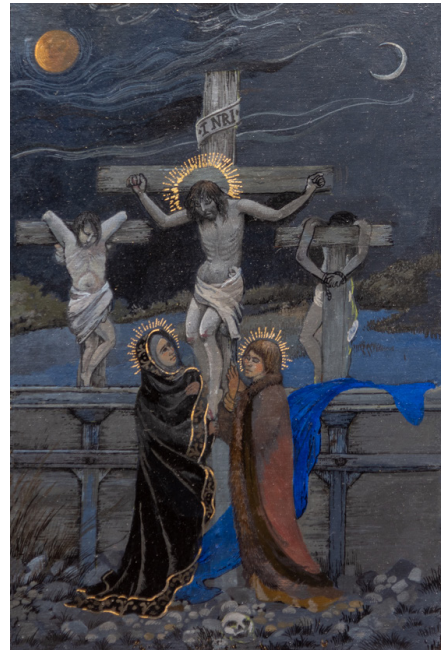
Christ for us became obedient unto death:  
**Even death on a cross.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Bow your head in silence for the prayer that follows.*

By your death, O Lord, we are given life;  
grant that we may receive this great gift  
with awe and humility, and let our lives  
be no longer our own, but yours, now  
and to the day of eternity. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Thirteenth Station

## Jesus is Brought Down from the Cross

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When the soldiers came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead so that they did not break his legs, but one of them opened his side with a lance, and immediately there came out blood and water. Joseph of Arimathea, because he was a disciple of Jesus (although a secret one for fear of the Jews), besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus. And Pilate gave permission.

Zion spreads forth her hands:  
**And there is none to comfort her.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
For the sake of your Blessed Mother, who was stricken with grief: be comfort and strength, Gracious Lord, to all who are bereaved; be light and hope to the dying and, by your own merits and through the prayers of all the saints, bring us all through life's sorrows to the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.





# Fourteenth Station

## Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

*Officiant* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
*People* Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

My soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am counted among those who go down to the Pit; I am like those who have no help, like those forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave. You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me, and my companions are in darkness.

You will not abandon me to the grave:  
Nor let your holy One see corruption.

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Christ, as your body was laid in a tomb, you descended into hell, to break its ancient doors and free those held in its grasp; give to us, ✠ and all the faithful departed release from sin and the torment of separation from you, for you are mighty to save, now and for ever. Amen.

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.



# Fifteenth Station

## The Morning of the Resurrection

*Officiant* Because by your glorious resurrection,  
*People* **Joy has come to the whole earth.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”

Christ is risen from the dead, alleluia.  
**And goes before you into Galilee,  
alleluia.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Break open our lives and pour your light  
into the night of our sorrow, that we  
may live in the joy of your resurrection,  
now and evermore. **Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**





# Final Prayers

*Officiant* Almighty and everlasting God, who, of your tender love toward humankind, has sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, when you come into your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

Our Father,  
**who art in heaven...**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

May the cross, passion, and glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ ☩ bring us to the joys of paradise. **Amen.**

## The Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross follow the path that Jesus was forced to take from Pilate's Judgment Hall to Calvary, and that his disciples continued, taking his lifeless body from there to the tomb. Moving from station to station, following the events in the words of scripture and letting the prayers draw us into the narrative, we are given the opportunity to understand something of Christ's passion and our involvement in it. The movement and the events are the heart of this devotion.

## About the Stations

The Stations at Transfiguration were created by artists Charlotte and Bill Hallett. The Halletts were commissioned in 2016 to add to this set of devotional art to our church, having already created the altar, triptych, holy water font, and processional cross. The style is inspired by the art of medieval manuscripts. Special care has been taken to include peripheral characters in the depictions, multiplying the perspectives through which we can spiritually inhabit the story. A Fifteenth Station hints at the morning of the Resurrection, as the women solemnly made their way to the tomb, as yet unaware of what awaited them there.

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