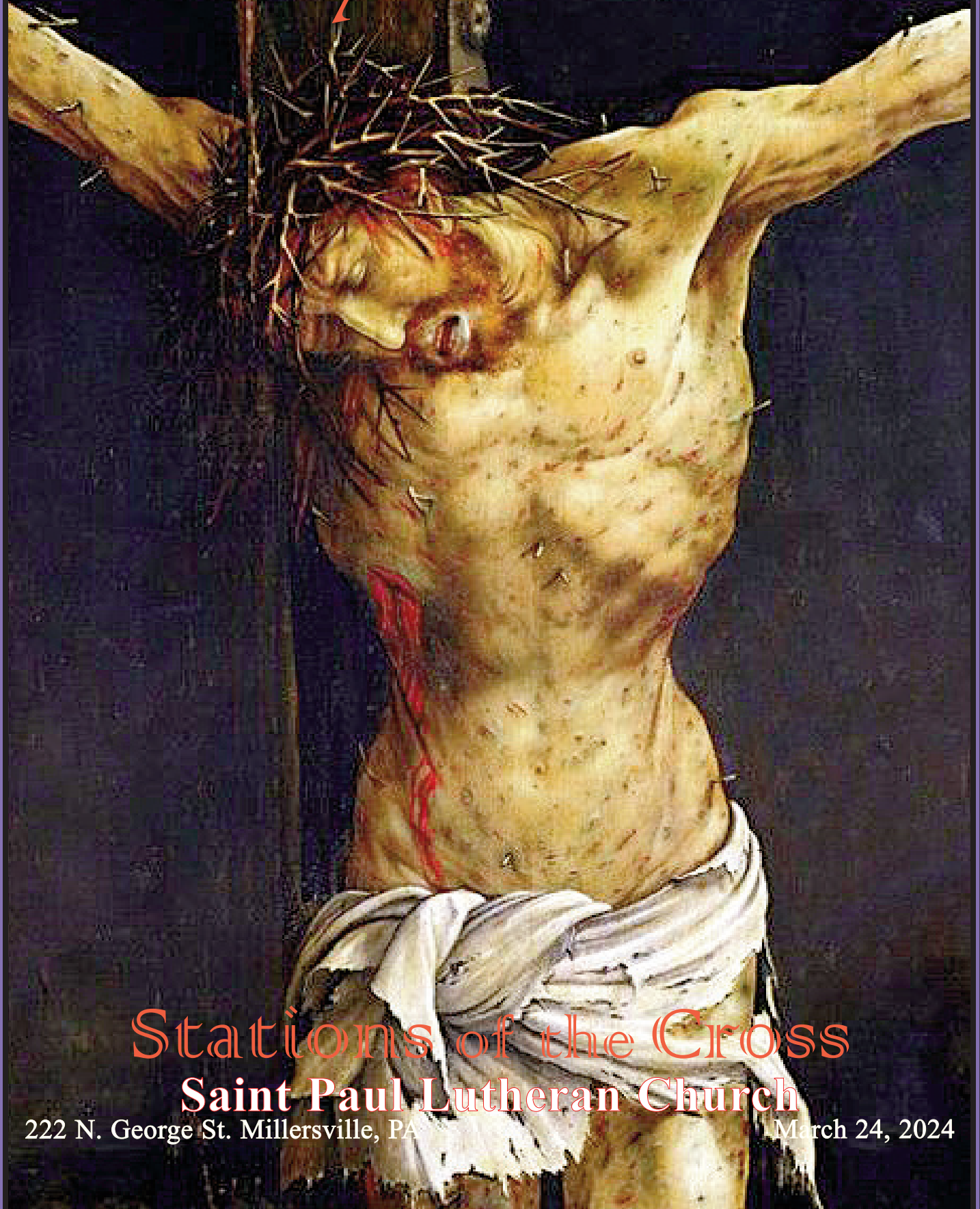


Sunday of the Passion



Stations of the Cross Saint Paul Lutheran Church

222 N. George St. Millersville, PA

March 24, 2024

Concerning the Palm Crosses:

The cross is a reminder of a brutal and extremely punishing way to die. At the same time, it is a reminder of the extreme magnitude of God's redeeming love for us. The palm crosses are gifted to the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church in memory of Anna Rannels. They were once gifted and continue to be gifted from Anna with the intention that we would take them with us to give to others as a sign of how God's love is given to each and every one of us.

So please feel free to take more than one...but remember, as Anna would sternly remind us, only take them with the intent of giving them to others!

Concerning the Service:

"Stations of the Cross" or "Way of the Cross," in Latin, *Via Crucis*; also called the *Via Dolorosa* or Way of Sorrows, or simply, The Way; it all refers to the depiction of the final hours (or Passion) of Jesus, and the devotion commemorating the Passion.

The tradition, as chapel devotion, began with St. Francis of Assisi and extended throughout the Roman Catholic Church in the medieval period. It may be done at any time, but is most commonly done during the Season of Lent. The object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. It has become one of the most popular devotions for the Christian Church.



Concerning the Banners:

The figures depicted on each stations' banner are very stark and plain in order that the spiritual aspect may be elevated over the aesthetic view of the banners. The Christ figure is white representative of the piety of Jesus and the light no darkness can overcome. The cream color of Jesus' tunic is also the color of the other figures featured throughout each station signifying the 'Humanness' of Christ as well as the body of Christ that we are all gathered into through the waters of our Baptism. The Virgin Mary figure within station four is the blue figure. Throughout the history of art, Mary is depicted wearing blue clothing because the color blue has a Biblical meaning symbolizing heavenly grace. The black figures, Pontius Pilate and the soldiers represent the separation from God. The hands of Pontius Pilate are made to be seen so that it we may remember that Pilate washed his hands of the death of Jesus. But like our understanding of Law and Gospel, you will see the hands that convict Jesus are the same color as the hands that help Jesus along his Way of the Cross.

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

222 North George St.
Millersville, PA 17551
Phone (717) 872-7392



*Congregation stand as they are able
Regular type = pastor/leader **Bold type = Congregation**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE

The Gathering

Please stand and face the entrance of the church

**GATHERING ACCLAMATION*

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

* *PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 12th chapter,

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** *(spoken)*

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord-- the King of Israel!" ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(spoken)*

**BLESSING OF THE PALMS*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us Pray.

The blessing of the Palms

C: **Amen**

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

*The assembly sings "The Palms"
as the palms are distributed by the children throughout the Sanctuary.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN*

"The Palms"

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festal preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.

Join all and sing, his name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praise be the Lord!

Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation.
His word goes forth, and people by its might
Once more their freedom gain from degradation,
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light.

Join all and sing, his name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praise be the Lord!

Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation.
Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore.

Join all and sing, his name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praise be the Lord!
Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation.

As the distribution ends, the presiding minister says:

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Prayer of the day is prayed by presiding minister

C: **Amen**

The Word

FIRST LESSON

A: A reading from Isaiah.

(Isaiah 50:4-9a)

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

A: Holy wisdom, holy word.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY *(chanted responsively by whole verse)*

(Psalm 31:9-16)

⁹ Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;*
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat | and my belly.

¹⁰ **For my life is wasted with grief,
and my | years with sighing;*
My strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones | are consumed.**

¹¹ I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of | my acquaintance;*
when they see me in the street | they avoid me.

¹² **I am forgotten like a dead man, | out of mind;*
I am as useless as a | broken pot.
and from those who | persecute me.**

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O LORD.*
I have said, "You | are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are | in your hand;*
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,

¹⁶ **Make your face to shine up- | on your servant,*
and in your loving- | kindness save me."**

SECOND LESSON

(Philippians 2:5-11)

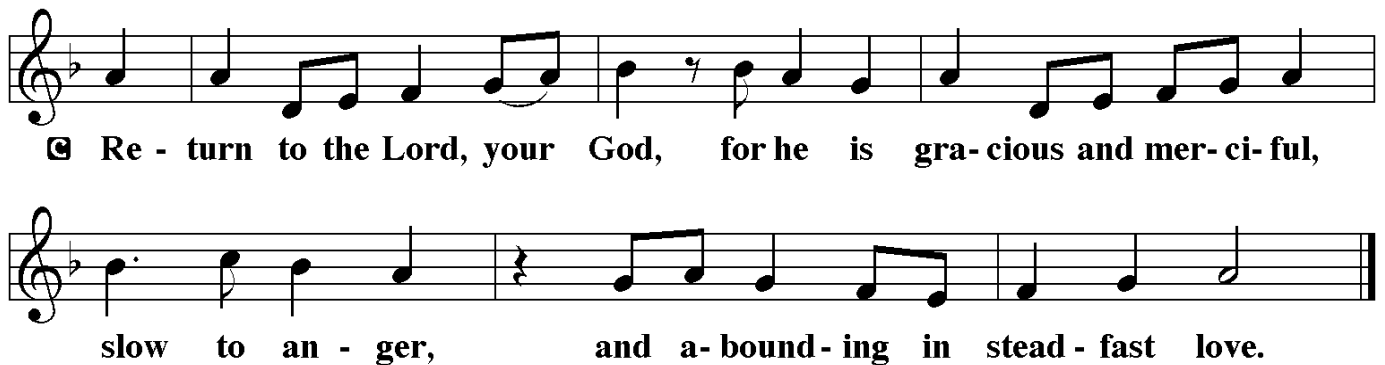
A: A reading from Philippians

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A: Holy wisdom, holy word.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.



Presenters of the Stations of the Cross:

Readers: Mackenzie Esbenshade
Mason Kahler
Samantha Morales
Connor Van Aulen

Banner Bearers: Elaina Van Aulen
Camden Kendig

The Way of the Cross

*P: Lord, have mercy

*C: **Christ, have mercy.**

*P: Lord, have mercy.

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

*C: **In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Please be seated

Pastor: A reading from Saint Matthew:

(Matthew 26:36-39)

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane;
and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

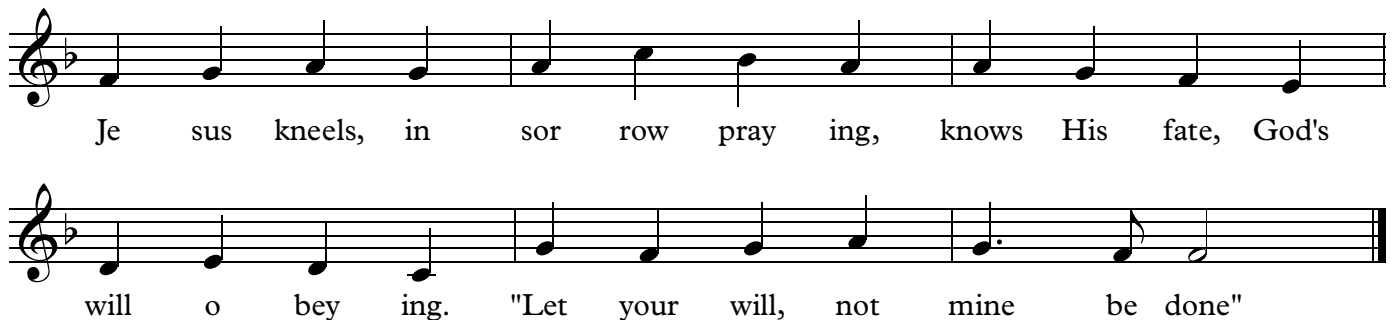
³⁷ He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved
and agitated. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death;
remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹ And going a little farther,
he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible,
let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."

P: Let us pray:

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.

C: **Amen.**

Introductory verse:



Je sus kneels, in sor row pray ing, knows His fate, God's
will o bey ing. "Let your will, not mine be done"

The First Station:

Samantha: Jesus is condemned to death
We adore you, O Christ and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Connor: A reading from Saint Mark *(Mark 14:61-64)*

⁶¹ But Jesus was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶² Jesus said, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'" ⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death.

God did not spare his own Son:

C: But delivered him up for us all.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Jesus is condemned



The Second Station:

Samantha: Jesus Takes up his cross
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mason: A reading from Saint John *(John 19:14-17)*

¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵They 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."
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.

Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing:

The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:

C: For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

P: Let us pray.

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 forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Jesus carries his cross

In the weight of the cross beams wo den Je sus feels the
hea vy bur den of our frail hu man i ty.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The Third Station:

Samantha: Jesus falls the first time
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mackenzie: A reading from Saint John:

(John 15:18-20)

Jesus said: "If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you.
¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world-- therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you, 'Servants are not greater than their master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also.

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is the Lord our God.

Surely he has borne our griefs:

C: And carried our sorrows.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Jesus falls the first time

Stum bling un der weight so crush ing, Jeer ing crowds up
pon him rush ing Je sus falls, re turns to dust.

The Fourth Station:

Samantha: Jesus meets his afflicted mother
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Connor: A reading from Saint John *(John 19:25-27)*

After the soldiers cast lots for the tunic of Jesus, standing near the cross were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

To what can I liken you, to what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem?
What likeness can I use to comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
The Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your days of mourning shall be ended.

A sword will pierce your own soul also:

C: And fill your heart with bitter pain.

P: Let us pray.

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; through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Jesus meets his mother

She who knew her heart in sorrow Would be pierced here
brave ly fol lows In her Son's di stress and pain.

The Fifth Station:

Samantha: The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mason: A reading from Saint Mark

(Mark 15:20-22)

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. ²¹ They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²² Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).

As they led Jesus away, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross to carry it behind Jesus. "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

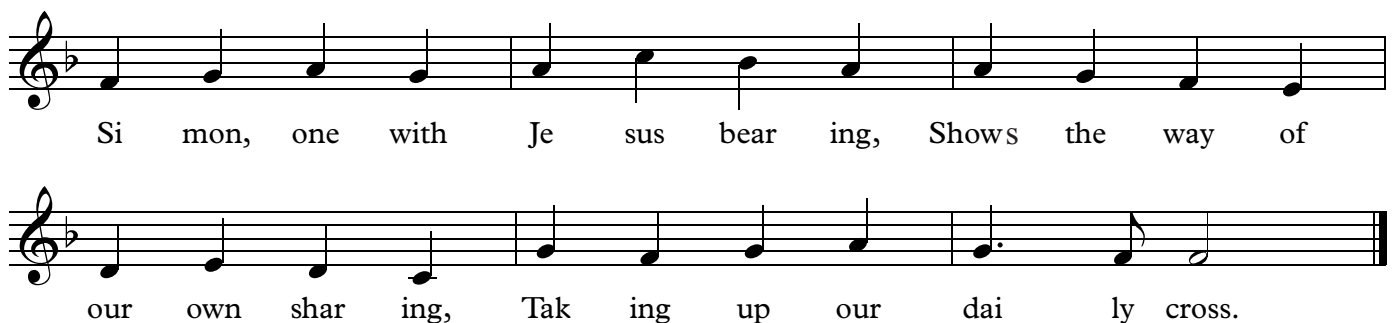
C: Cannot be my disciple.

P: Let us pray.

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

C: Amen.

Simon helps carry his cross



The Sixth Station:

Samantha: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mackenzie: A reading from Saint Matthew *(Matthew 25:37-40)*
Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?' ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

We have seen him without beauty or majesty, with no looks to attract our eyes. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of men. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon, him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.

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

C: Cannot be my disciple.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Bold ly fac ing dis ap pro val She, in cleans ing,
seeks re mov al Of the stains of a go ny.

The Seventh Station:

Samantha: Jesus falls the second time
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Connor: A reading from Isaiah *(Isaiah 53:4)*
Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But 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. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

But as for me, I am a worm and no man:

C: Scorned by all and despised by the people.

P: Let us pray.
Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take on 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; through Jesus Christ our Savior who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Jesus falls the second time

Fal ling once a gain, Lord Je sus Shows the suf fer
ing that frees us As we strug gle on our way.

The Eighth Station:

Samantha: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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

Those who sowed with tears:

C: Will reap with songs of joy.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Is ra el's own daugh ters weep ing Come to Je sus,
com fort seek ing In the time of their dis tress.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes, with lyrics placed directly below the corresponding notes.

The Ninth Station:

Samantha: Jesus falls a third time
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mackenzie: I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light. He has besieged me and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago. Though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes.
"Remember, Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!"

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

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

P: Let us pray.

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 Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Jesus falls a third time

Je sus weak ened, bruised and fee ble, falls a gain, ap
pears un a ble To com plete his pain ful road.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes, with lyrics written below each note.

The Tenth Station:

Samantha: Jesus is stripped of his garments
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Connor: A reading from Saint Matthew (Matthew 27:34-35)
they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it,
he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes
among themselves by casting lots;

This was to fulfill the scripture which says,
"They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing."

They gave me gall to eat:

C: And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

P: Let us pray.
Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior 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.

C: Amen.

Jesus is stripped of his garments

Na ked, stark, in des o la tion, Je sus knows hu
mil i a tion, Robbed of His last dig ni ty.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a single system. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Na ked, stark, in des o la tion, Je sus knows hu' and the second staff contains 'mil i a tion, Robbed of His last dig ni ty.' The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are placed directly below the corresponding notes.

The Eleventh Station:

Samantha: Jesus is nailed to the cross
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mason: A reading from Saint Luke *(Luke 23:33-34a)*
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. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

They pierce my hands and my feet:

C: They stare and gloat over me.

P: Let us pray.

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 honor of your Name.

C: Amen.

Jesus is nailed to the cross

Hands which heal and bless and feed us, Feet which to the
king dom lead us, Now are pierced with bru tal steel.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Hands which heal and bless and feed us, Feet which to the". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "king dom lead us, Now are pierced with bru tal steel." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

The Twelfth Station:

Samantha: Jesus dies on the cross
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mackenzie: When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!"

A reading from Saint Luke

(Luke 23:44-46)

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

Christ for us became obedient 'unto death:

C: Even death on a cross.

P: Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and forever.

C: Amen.

Jesus dies on the cross

There be tween the earth and hea ven Death Ap pears, in
tri umph, pro ven: Je sus draws his dy ing breath.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.

The Thirteenth Station:

Samantha: The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Connor: A reading from Saint John

(John 19:33-34, 38)

But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.³⁴ 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;

All you who pass by, behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. My eyes are spent with weeping; my soul is in tumult; my heart is poured out in grief because of the downfall of my people. "Do not call me Naomi (which means Pleasant), call me Mara (which means Bitter); for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me."

Her tears run down her cheeks:

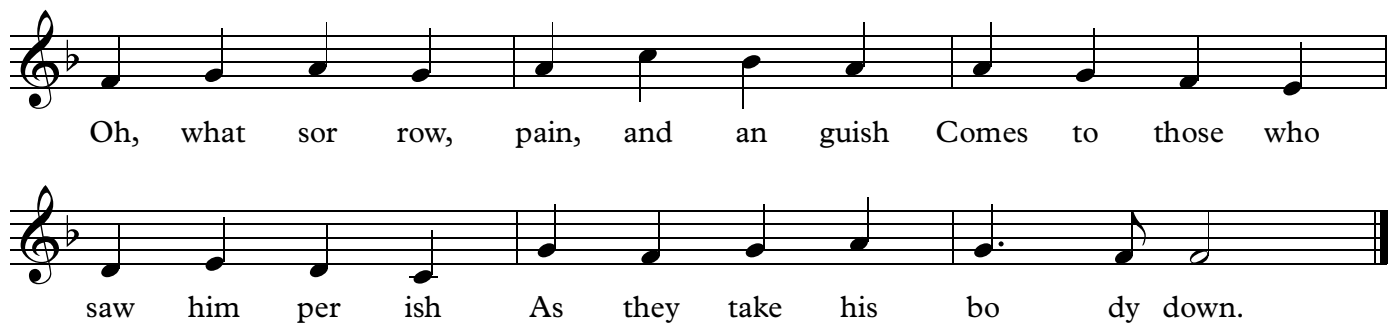
C: And she has none to comfort her.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross



Oh, what sor row, pain, and an guish Comes to those who
saw him per ish As they take his bo dy down.

The Fourteenth Station:

Samantha: Jesus is laid in the tomb
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

C: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Mason: A reading from Saint Matthew *(Matthew 27:59-60)*

So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.

You will not abandon me to the grave:

C: Nor let your holy One see corruption.

P: Let us pray.

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 forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Jesus is laid in the tomb



Some believe the awful journey finishes all
bleak and stony, Yet a new life will arise.

The Conclusion:

Mackenzie: Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:

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

Mackenzie: Let us pray.

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from 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; Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a priestly people to serve our God and Father, to him be glory and honor forever and ever.

C: Amen.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"There In God's Garden"



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

**APOSTLES' CREED*

A: We Confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

**THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:*

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

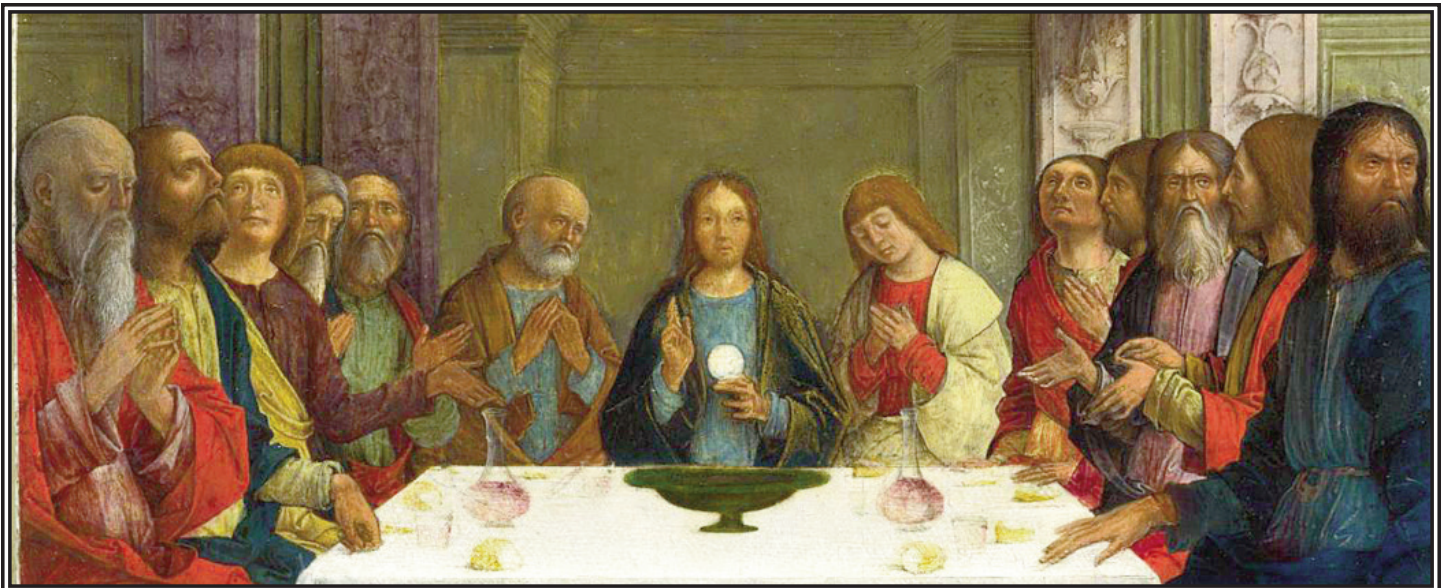
P: Lord in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**



THE MEAL

*THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

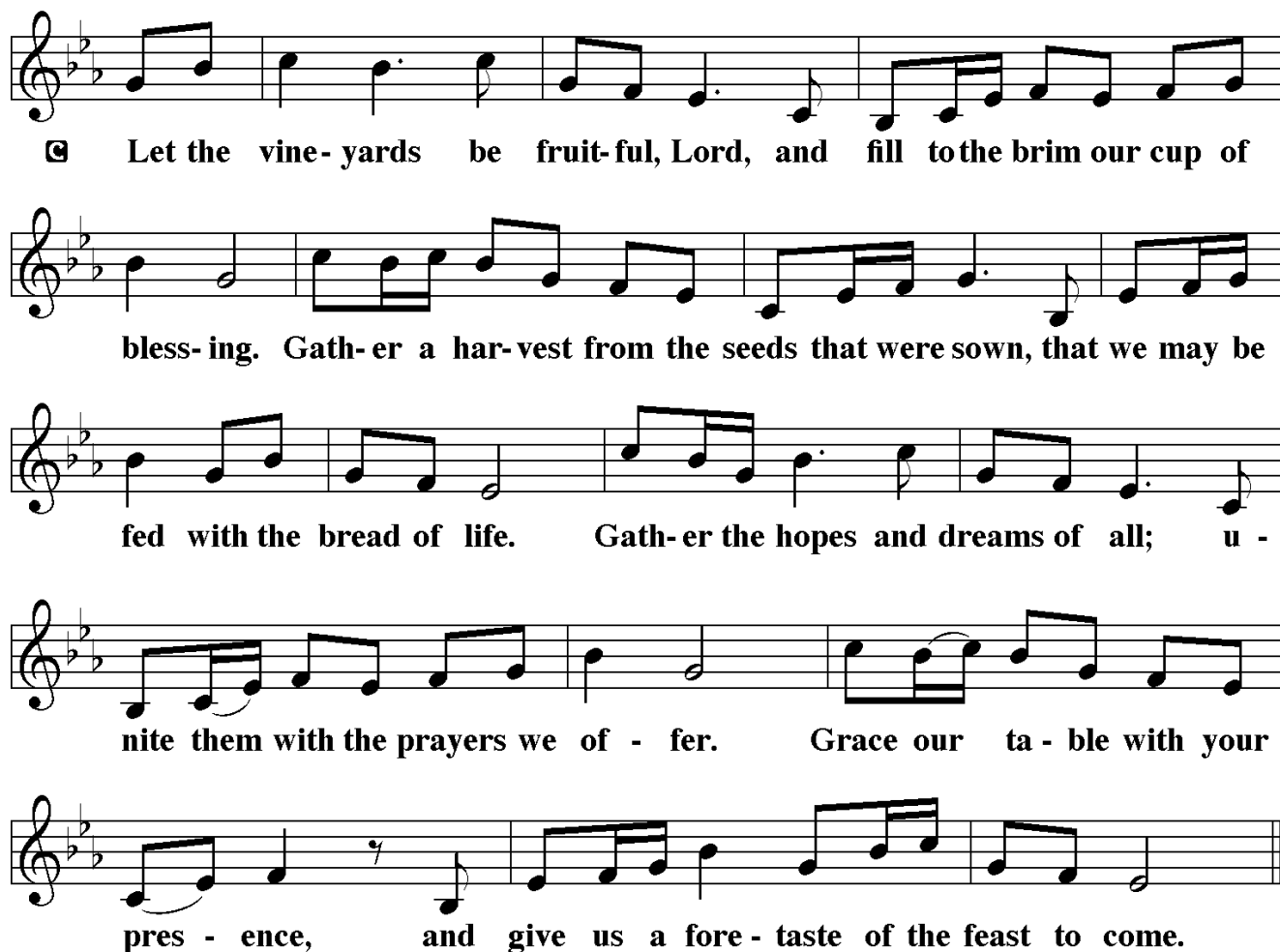
C: And also with you.

greet one another, saying:

Peace be with you.

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY:



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray.

God our provider,

C: you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING & EUCHARISTIC PRAYER*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ,
your beloved Son,
whom you sent
in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us
and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word,
inseparable from you.
Through him you created all things,
and in him you take delight.
He is your Word,
sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.
He there took on our
nature and our lot
and was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit
and of the virgin Mary.
It is he, our Lord Jesus,
who fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands
in suffering
in order to free from suffering
those who trust you.
It is he who, handed over to a death
he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death,
to break the bonds of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot,
to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant,
and to show forth the resurrection,

taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:
Take and eat; this is my body,
broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup,
gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This is my blood poured out for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then,
his death and resurrection,
we lift this bread and cup before you,
giving you thanks
that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and
to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you:

Send your Spirit
upon these gifts of your Church;
gather into one
all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit
to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you
through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church
both now and forever.

C **Amen**

* *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is 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, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

**FRACTION - BREAKING OF BREAD AND INVITATION TO COMMUNION.*

P: In this holy sacrament God comes to us.
Let us approach in wonder at all that God has done.

C: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

**THE AGNUS DEI*



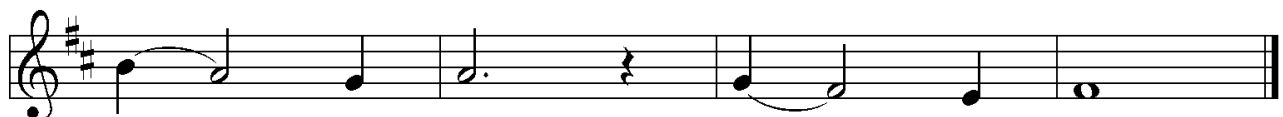
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Lutherans believe Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. For this our response when receiving His presence is "AMEN" and not "THANK YOU" because this Holy Meal is instituted and comes from God and not those serving it to you. Any one who does not yet receive Holy Communion is welcome to come forward to the altar rail for a blessing. Communion cups are available at the front of the church on either side of the center isle.

after all have communed

***THE BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

***THE POST - COMMUNION CANTICLE**

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted;
honor all people; love and serve God;
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

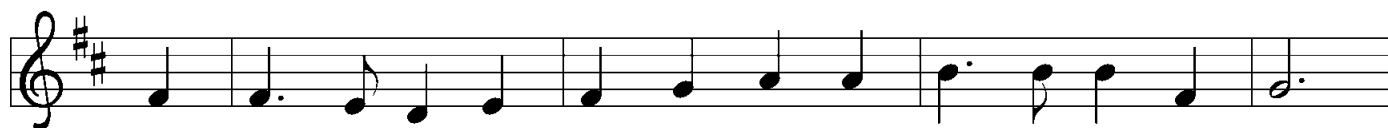
Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent. This day also marks the beginning of Holy Week. **Our Holy Week continues** with worship services that will begin at 7:00 pm on Maunday Thursday, March 28th and Good Friday, March 29th here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. We will participate with the Easter Vigil, Saturday March 30th at Grace Lutheran Church, at the corner of Queen and James Streets in Lancaster beginning at 6:00 pm. The form for the Way of the Cross or The Stations of the Cross as found in this worship folder is appropriate for either a public service or private devotions, PLEASE feel free to take the worship folder to use for your personal devotions.