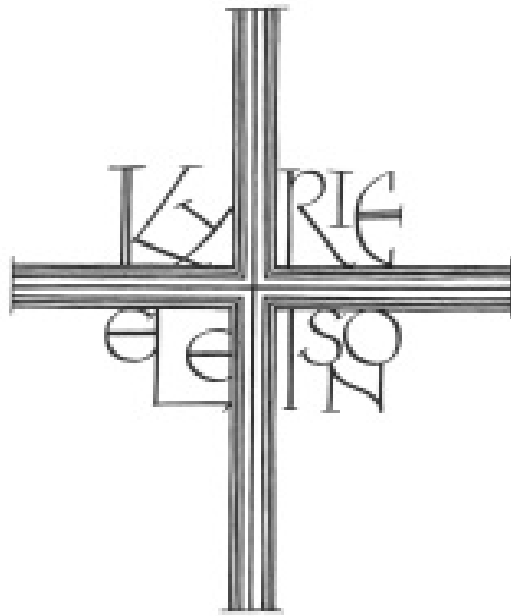


**Biblical Stations of the Cross:  
A Lenten Journey**

Welcome to our Stations of the Cross gathering. This time together is a meditative journey of stops along the path that Jesus took to Calvary. We begin in the Garden of Gethsemane and we finish as his body is being laid in the tomb. This is the path that Jesus took; there is no way to arrive at Easter without taking this path. As we gather at each station, scripture will tell the story. An artist's rendition will set a visual scene and a hymn will invite our response. A pause will allow for private meditation and a prayer will signal the move to the next station. As the final hymn concludes you may leave in silence, remain for personal prayer and meditation or you may revisit any of the stations.



## The First Station : Jesus Prays

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: 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." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." 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." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Matthew 26:36-46

L: [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them,

All: **"When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."**

Luke 11:1-4

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;  
Your Redeemer's conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

**347** *Go to Dark Gethsemane stanza 1*

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Loving Father, your beloved son taught us to pray always and not to lose heart. Help us in our prayers to seek and find pathways of justice, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace to confront our world's times of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Second Station: Jesus is Betrayed**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!" Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. Luke 22:47-54

L: Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;  
**All: and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.** Mark 13:12-13

For us by wickedness betrayed,  
For us in crown of thorns arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death,  
For us gave up his dying breath.

**322 Oh, Love How Deep stanza 5**

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Compassionate Father, even as he was betrayed your son continued to care for those around him, including his betrayer. Open our eyes, our ears and our hearts so that we may continue to reach out with compassion to others in times of disappointment and adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Third Station: Jesus is Condemned**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." Matthew 26:59-66

L: Can wicked rulers be allied with you, those who contrive mischief by statute?  
**All: They band together against the life of the righteous, and condemn the innocent to death.** Psalm 94:20-21

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
That we to judge thee hath in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted.

349 *Ah, holy Jesus stanza 1*

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son was rejected and condemned to die by your own people. Grant that we may never reject his word of truth and salvation, but follow him all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Fourth Station: Jesus Is Denied**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:54-62

L: For our transgressions before you are many, and our sins testify against us. Our transgressions indeed are with us, and we know our iniquities:  
**All: transgressing, and denying the LORD, and turning away from following our God...** Isaiah 59:12-13a

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord, Jesus, I it was denied thee!  
I crucified Thee.

349 *Ah Holy Jesus stanza 2*

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Merciful God, Jesus knows our every weakness and still he chooses us as his own. In your mercy cleanse us with our tears of repentance and give us courage to stand firm in faith rather than empty resolve; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Fifth Station: Jesus Is Judged**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." After flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Matthew 27:1-2,22,24,26b

L: God did not spare his own Son,  
**All: but gave him up for us all.** Romans 8:32

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross

347 *Go to Dark Gethsemane stanza 2*

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Only you Lord judge with justice. Give us the courage to see corrupt powers at work and help us to stand with those who have neither voice nor power to confront the injustices that weaken our communities; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

All: **Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Sixth Station: Jesus Is Scourged**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.

John 19:1-3

L: I gave my back to those who struck me:

All: **And my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The 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; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me.**

Isaiah 50:6-9a

Lord Jesus, think on me  
And purge away my sin;  
From earthborn passions set me free  
And make me pure within.

599 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me stanza 1*

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. God of grace, seeing how your son suffers at our hands sends us to our knees in prayer. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me a poor sinner, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

All: **Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Seventh Station: Jesus Carries His Cross**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: 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 19:14-17

L: Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For that is your due; among all the wise ones of the nations and in all their kingdoms there is no one like you.

All: **They are both stupid and foolish; the instruction given by idols is no better than wood!**

Jeremiah 10:7-8

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood;  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.     **490** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* stanza 2

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, your Son laid aside all power in order to take up the cross and show us the depths of your love for us. Increase our willingness to bear our own cross, for love of him and for love of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
All: **Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Eighth Station: Jesus Is Helped by Simon**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: As the soldiers led Jesus 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

L: A disciple is not above the teacher:

All: **Nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**     Matthew 10:24-25a, 37-38; 11:29-30

We share each other's woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.     **656** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* stanza 3

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Loving Father, you have called us into fellowship under the cross of your Son that we might bear your love to all in the world. Help us to be as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need, that all may be called out of the darkness into the light of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
All: **Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Ninth Station: Jesus Encounters the Women of Jerusalem**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: 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

L: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All: **The Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.**     2 Corinthians 1:3-5

From sorrow, toil and pain,  
And sin, we shall be free,  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity

**656** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* stanza 4

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are but mortal flesh, and the span of our lives is very brief. Help us to see our frailty and affliction as a sharing in Christ's frailty and affliction, and through them, the path to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Tenth Station: Jesus Is Crucified**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Mark 15:22-27

L: All of you must clothe yourselves with humility:

**All: In your dealings with one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.**

1 Peter 5:5b-7,10

How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;  
How does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn.  
Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression, But thine the deadly pain.

**351** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Stanza 2

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Lord God, your Son endured humiliations and indignities beyond compare, yet without complaint. Keep us humble in our work and daily lives with a willingness to put others before ourselves as Jesus put us before himself; through Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Eleventh Station: Jesus Promises to Share his Reign**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Jesus. 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 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 23:32-34a; 39-43

L: When we were dead in trespasses:  
**All: God made us alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.** Colossians 2:13-14

Lord be my consolation; shield me when I must die;  
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.  
These eyes new faith receiving, from thee shall never move,  
For all who die believing, die safely in thy love.

**351** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Stanza 4

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, despite his wounds, Jesus showed his love throughout his passion: for the women of Jerusalem, for the good thief, even for those who nailed him to the cross. Bind us ever to that love, and help us to look beyond ourselves and our sufferings in order to share that love with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Twelfth Station: Jesus Speaks to Mary and the Disciple**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.  
John 19:26-27

L: "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!"  
**All: For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.** Matthew 12:48-50

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

**296** *What Child Is This* stanza 2

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Creator God, your Word became flesh and lived among us calling us home to your kingdom. Help us to be your loving family following your will to love each other and care for all that you have provided for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Thirteenth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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

Luke 23:44-46



L: When you make his life an offering for sin:  
**All: He shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**

Isaiah 53:10b-12

Calvary, Calvary,  
Calvary, Calvary,  
Calvary, Calvary,  
Surely he died on Calvary  
Don't you hear him say, "It is finished!"  
Don't you hear him say, "It is finished!"  
Don't you hear him say, "It is finished!"  
Surely he died on Calvary

**354** *Calvary* stanza 3

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. Who would have believed it, O God? Who would have thought that the Savior would die? Yet in the world's darkest hour, you snatched him out of the jaws of death, crushing sin and death underfoot. Keep us ever close to his cross and death, now and at the hour of our death; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

L: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**All: Have mercy and hear us.**

### **The Fourteenth Station: Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb**

L: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

L: Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. He and Joseph took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where Jesus 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 19:39-42

L: Thus says the Lord GOD:

**All: "I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.**  
Ezekiel 37:12-13a,14

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
The grave as little as my bed.  
Teach me to die, that so I may  
Rise glorious at the awesome day.

**565** *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* stanza 3

*Pause for reflection*

L: Let us pray. God of hope, you have promised that if we are buried with Christ in the waters of Baptism, then we too will rise with him to new life. Make us ever mindful of our baptism and remove all stain of sin from us through repentance; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

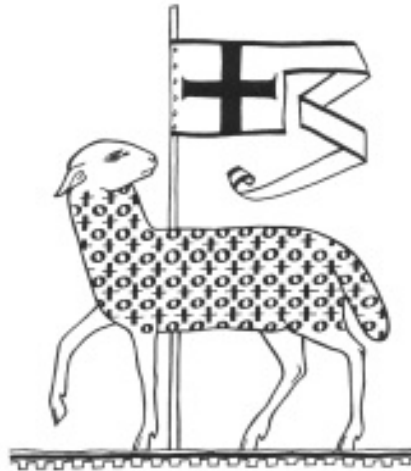
Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of one who suffered there for me;  
And from my contrite heart with tears two wonders I confess;  
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

**338** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* stanza 2

As we await the new dawn of Easter, hear the words of Jesus:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. "

John 14:1



For this collection of *Biblical Stations of the Cross*, I adapted and expanded the format and collection of scripture and prayers from *The Way of the Cross: Scripture and Prayers on the Passion and Death of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ* by the Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

<http://www.liturgybytlw.com/Lent/Stations.html>

All the hymn stanzas I added are from hymns in the public domain which may be found in the ELW with the hymn number given. I hope that you will find your walk through the images, scripture, hymns and prayers to be a contemplative Lenten Journey that enhances your experience of the coming dawn of Easter.

Your sister in Christ,

The Rev. Lorrel C. Strøm-Jensen

The artwork used in this bulletin is by Rudolf Koch (1876-1934)

<http://catholic-resources.org/Art/Koch-ChristianSymbols.htm>

*The Lamb of the Passion* - on the front cover

*Lord, Have Mercy* - on page 3

*The Lamb That Was Slain* - above