

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS

Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York

About the Stations of the Cross

The devotion known as the Stations of the Cross, sometimes known as the Way of the Cross, is an adaptation to local usage of a custom widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem: the offering of prayer at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death.

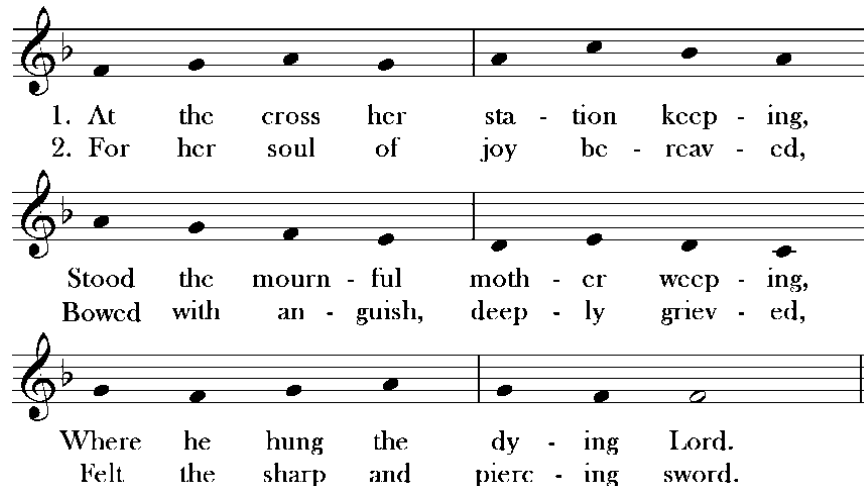
The number of stations, which at first varied widely, finally became fixed at fourteen. Of these, eight are based directly on events recorded in the Gospels. This form is taken, and adapted, from *The Book of Occasional Services 2003* of the Episcopal Church. We are grateful to Fr. Stephen Gerth and the people of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Time Square, for allowing us to use their booklet to create our own.



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Hymn

The Congregation stands and sings the following hymn during the entrance of the ministers.



1. At the cross her sta - tion keep - ing,
2. For her soul of joy be - reav - ed,
Stood the mourn - ful moth - er weep - ing,
Bowed with an - guish, deep - ly griev - ed,
Where he hung the dy - ing Lord.
Felt the sharp and pierc - ing sword.

The Opening Devotions

The Celebrant says

People ✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

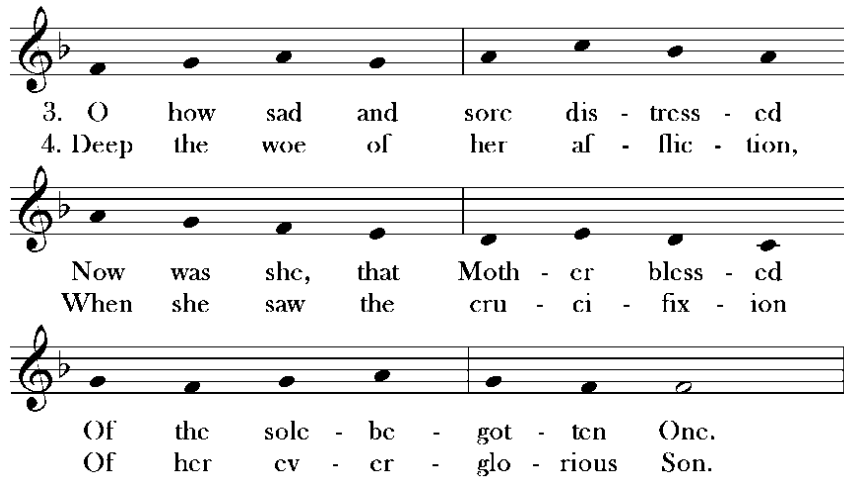
Celebrant We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:
People **In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Celebrant 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.
Amen.

Hymn

As the procession goes to the First Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



3. O how sad and sore dis - tress - ed
4. Deep the woe of her af - flic - tion,
Now was she, that Moth - er bless - ed
When she saw the cru - ci - fix - ion
Of the solc - be - got - ten One.
Of her ev - er - glo - rious Son.

The First Station: Jesus is condemned to death

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, "He deserves to die." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

Celebrant

God did not spare his own Son:

People

But delivered him up for us all.

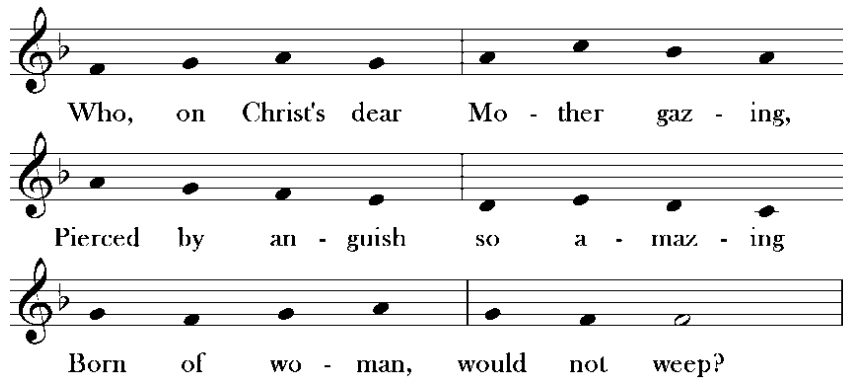
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Second Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Second Station: Jesus takes up his Cross

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, *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.

Celebrant

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

People

For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

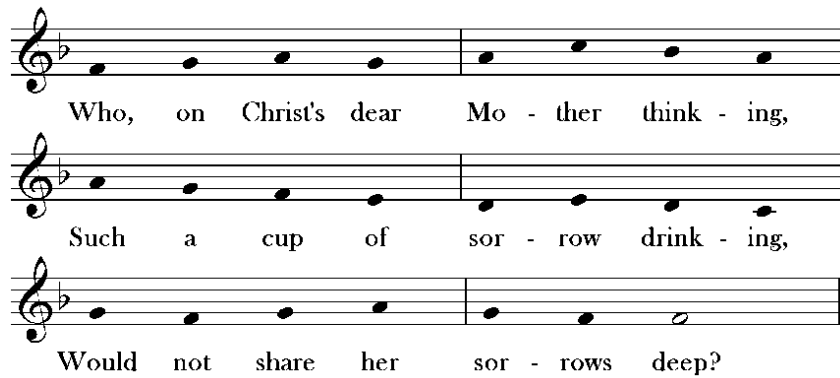
Celebrant

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 for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Third Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Third Station: Jesus falls the first time

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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.

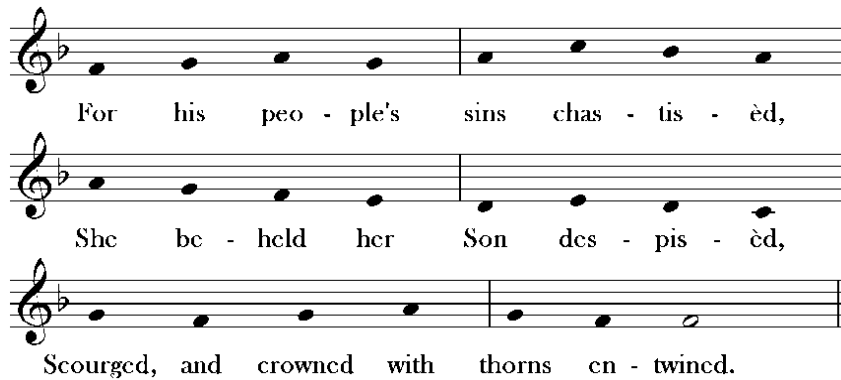
Celebrant Surely he has borne our griefs:
People **And carried our sorrows.**

Celebrant 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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Fourth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Fourth Station: Jesus meets his afflicted mother

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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.

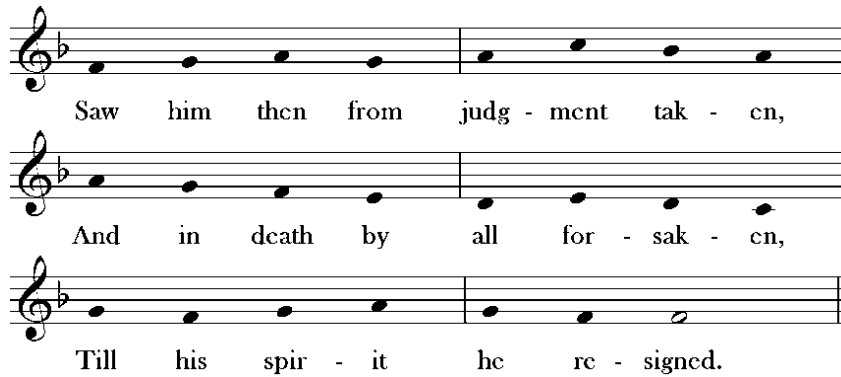
Celebrant A sword will pierce your own soul also:
People **And fill your heart with bitter pain.**

Celebrant 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; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Fifth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



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

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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."

Celebrant

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

People

Cannot be my disciple.

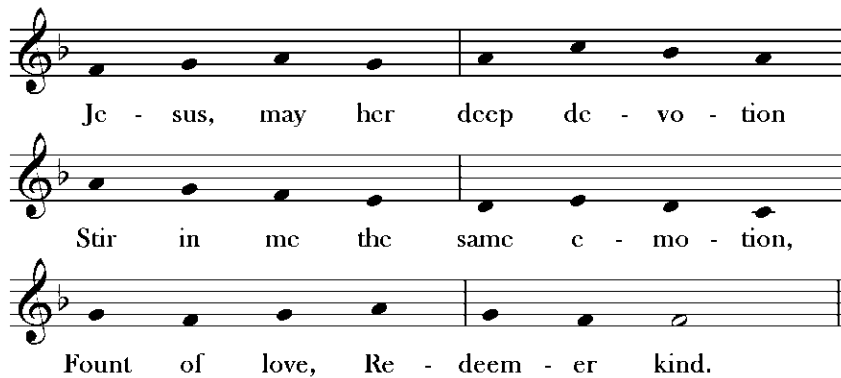
Celebrant

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Sixth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Sixth Station: A woman wipes the face of Jesus

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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.

Celebrant

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:

People

Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

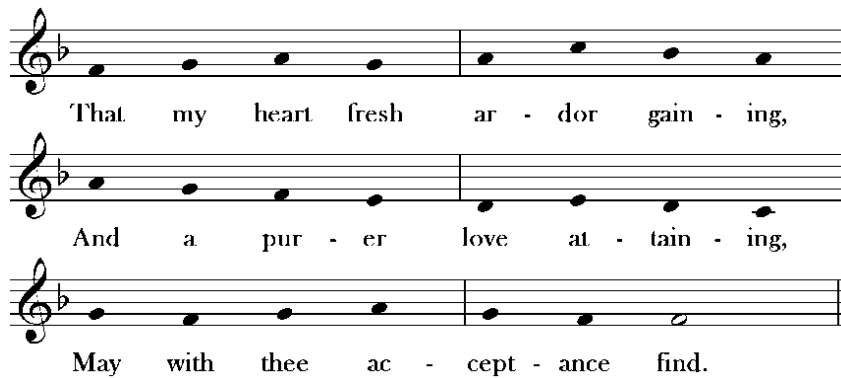
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Seventh Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Seventh Station: Jesus falls a second time

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one 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.

Celebrant

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

People

Scorned by all and despised by the people.

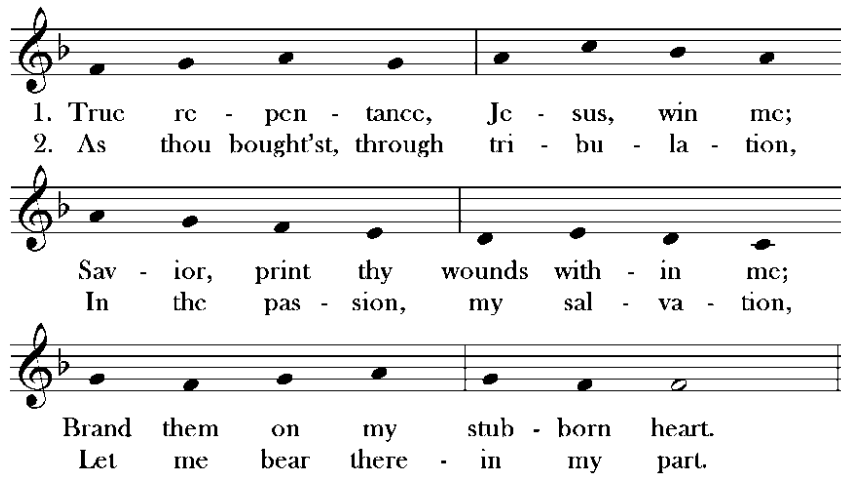
Celebrant

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 upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Eighth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



1. True re - pen - tance, Je - sus, win me;
2. As thou bought'st, through tri - bu - la - tion,
Sav - ior, print thy wounds with - in me;
In the pas - sion, my sal - va - tion,
Brand them on my stub - born heart.
Let me bear there - in my part.

The Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

There followed after Jesus a great multitude of the people, and among them were women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

Celebrant

Those who sowed with tears:

People

Will reap with songs of joy.

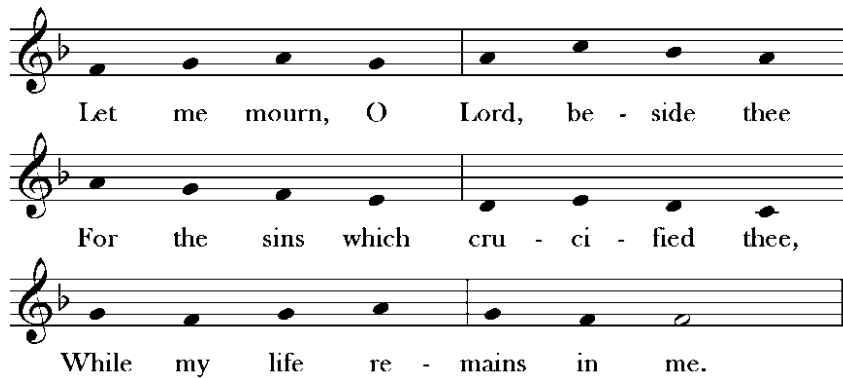
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Ninth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Ninth Station: Jesus falls a third time

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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, O Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!"

Celebrant

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

People

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

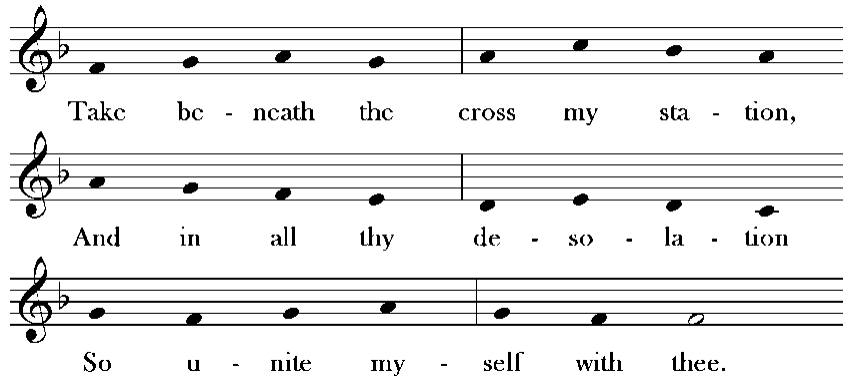
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Tenth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of his garments

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill the scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing."

Celebrant

They gave me gall to eat:

People

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

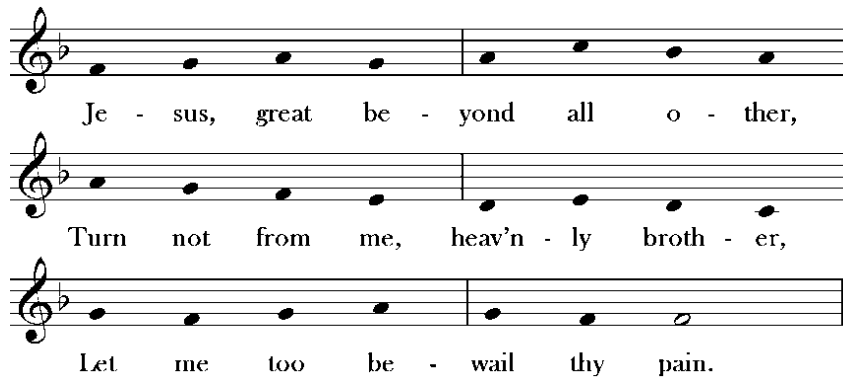
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Eleventh Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the Cross

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

When they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, the other on the left, and Jesus between them. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was numbered with the transgressors."

Celebrant

They pierce my hands and my feet:

People

They stare and gloat over me.

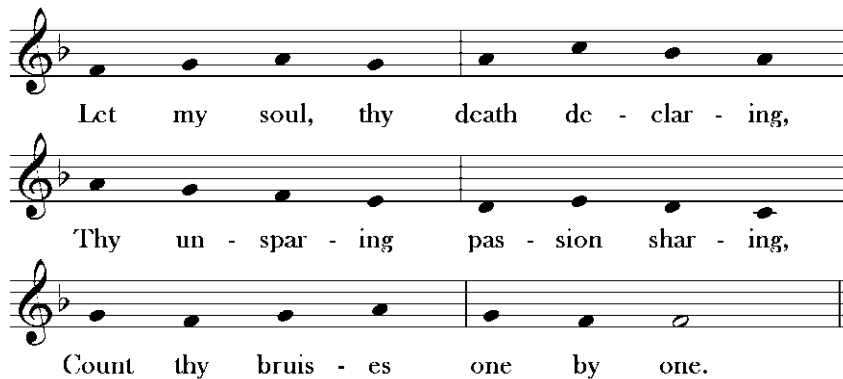
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Twelfth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the Cross

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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!" And when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished!" And then, crying with a loud voice, he said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." And he bowed his head, and handed over his spirit.

All kneel. Silence is kept. The Congregation stands as the Celebrant rises. The Celebrant says

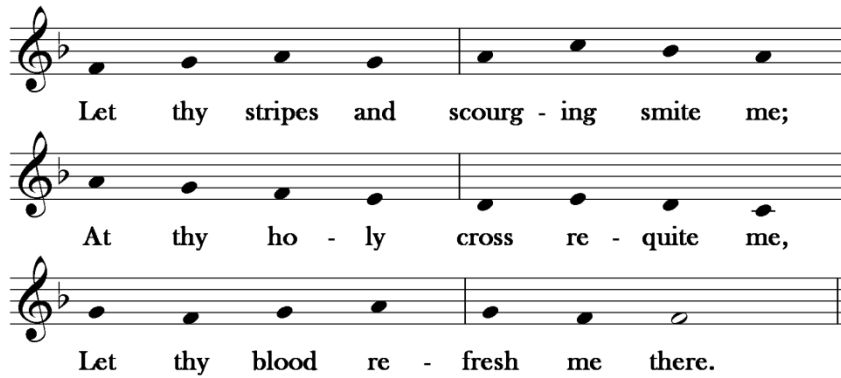
Celebrant Christ for us became obedient unto death:
People **Even death on a cross.**

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

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Thirteenth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Thirteenth Station: The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

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."

Celebrant

Her tears run down her cheeks:

People

And she has none to comfort her.

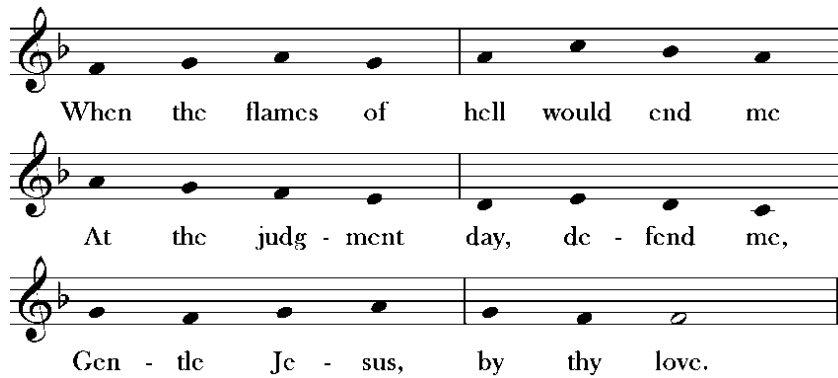
Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Fourteenth Station, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.



The Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb

The Congregation and the Celebrant kneel. The Celebrant says

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

People

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Congregation and the Celebrant stand. A minister says

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

Celebrant

You will not abandon me to the grave:

People

Nor let your holy One see corruption.

Celebrant

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 for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

As the procession moves to the Resurrection Altar, the Congregation follows, singing the hymn.

1. Je - sus, may thy cross de - fend me,
2. When to dust my dust re - turn - eth,
And thy sav - ing death be - friend me,
Grant a soul that to thee yearn - eth
Cher - ished by thy death - less grace.
In thy par - a - dise a place. A - men.

The Peace

The Celebrant says

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

Ephesians 2:13,14

People

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

And all may exchange a sign of peace.

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an
offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn: Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow

As the altar is prepared, the Congregation sings this hymn

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The music features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row, where the
2 Here the King of all the a - ges, throned in
3 O mys - ter - ious con - de - scend - ing! O a -
4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row, where the

blood of Christ was shed, per - fect Man on
light ere worlds could be, robed in mor - tal
ban - don - ment sub - lime! Ve - ry God him -
blood of Christ was shed, per - fect Man on

thee did suf - fer, per - fect God on thee has bled!
flesh is dy - ing, cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
self is bear - ing all the suf - fer - ings of time!
thee did suf - fer, per - fect God on thee has bled!

Words: William J. Sparrow-Simpson (1860–1952)

Music: *Cross of Jesus*, John Stainer (1840–1901)

The Celebrant says

Pray, *brothers and sisters*, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
People **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

The Celebrant says

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and every-where to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high
upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself;
and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal
salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels
and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim
the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People remain standing.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, [*Saint N.*,] and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say

People and Celebrant

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

People Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

People and Celebrant

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

The Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant says

Behold the Lamb of God.
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. In the Resurrection Chapel, please form a line in front of the altar. In the Chantry Chapel and at the High Altar, please use the Communion Rail. Gluten-free hosts are available; please ask the minister at the altar.

Please do not dip the host in the chalice. If you wish to receive by intinction, the minister will take the host from the palm of your hand, intinct, and place it on your tongue.

The Concluding Prayers after Communion

After Communion, silence is kept. The Celebrant and People stand.

Celebrant Savior of the world, by your cross and
precious blood you have redeemed us:
People **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

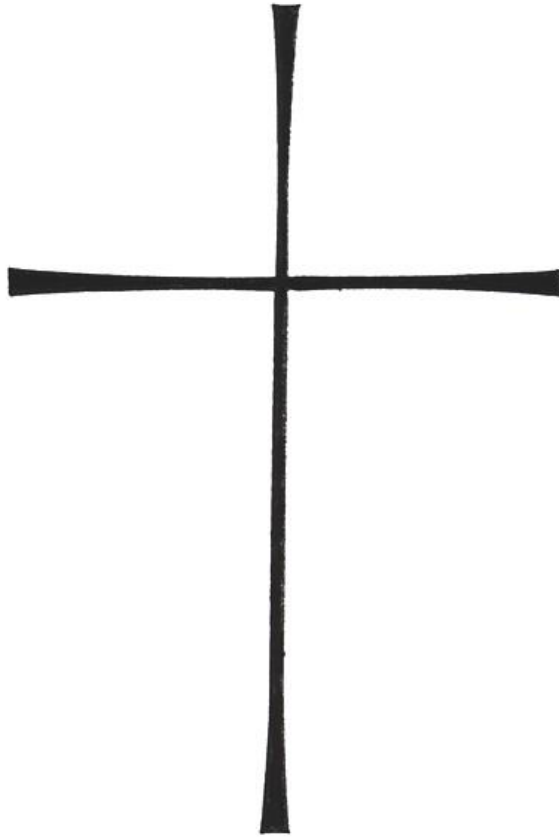
Celebrant Let us pray.

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

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a
kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for
ever and ever. **Amen.**

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.





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