

Mary's  
Reflections  
at the  
Stations  
of the  
Cross

**GOOD FRIDAY**

March 29, 2024

Please enter and leave in silence.

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

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**PRELUDE:** *“Watch, O Lord”* – Choir

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*P: We have been here before—*

**All: A place of grieving and mourning.**

*P: We have been here before—*

**All: A night that seems it won’t end.**

*P: We have been here before—*

**All: Knee deep in fear, knee deep in doubt.**

*P: We have been here before—*

**All: Good Friday, the night Christ died..**

*P: We have been here before—*

**All: In community, in God’s arms.**

*P: Where else would we go when the world falls apart?*

**All: Let us worship holy God.**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*P: Forgive us, merciful God, when we deny you and betray those who seek our welfare.*

**All: Redeemer, have mercy.**

*P: Forgive us when we forget your story and deny your place in our lives.*

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

*P: Forgive us when we wash our hands of responsibility and refuse to stand up for truth.*

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

*P: Forgive us when we follow crowds that would crucify, when we listen to ideas that destroy.*

**All: Kyrie, eleison.**

*P: Forgive us when we mock and scorn others, without listening to their cries of despair.*

**All: Christe, eleison.**

*P: Forgive us when we refuse to take a stand against injustice, and instead hide in the shadows of our denial.*

**All: Kyrie, eleison.**

*P: Help us walk through the valley of the shadow of death, knowing that we do not walk it alone,*

**All: for Christ has walked this lonesome valley, and is with us every step of the way. Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “Pieta”**



# THE FIRST STATION

## Jesus is Condemned to Death.

*P: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,*

**All: because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.**

### A READING FROM JOHN 19:13-16

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. 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.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

### PRAYER

*P: Let us pray together:*

**All: When we are disheartened by the suffering around us and can see no way to help, God, have mercy. When we stand aside and fail to protest when others are victimized by slander, cruelty or injustice, Christ have mercy. When we refuse to act or to speak up because our cause is unpopular, God have mercy.**

**SONG: "Kyrie" – sing 3 times**

(translation: "Lord, have mercy.")

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

*P: Lord Jesus crucified,*

**All: have mercy on us.**

## THE SECOND STATION

### Jesus Accepts the Cross.

*P: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,*

**All: because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.**

### A READING FROM ISAIAH 53:7-8

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

### PRAYER

*P: Let us pray together:*

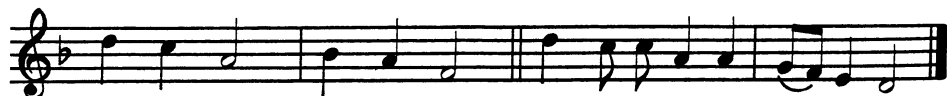
**All: Often, Yahweh, the cross seems to make no sense. And yet you have said, "Anyone who does not take up the cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me." Help me, Lord, to bear the burden of my own pain. Help me, Lord, to relieve the burden of others' pain. Help me to do this, Lord, even when I do not understand.**

**SONG: "Salvator Mundi" – sing 2 times**

*(translation: "Savior of the world, save us.")*



Sal - va-tor mun-di sal - va nos. Sal - va - tor mun-di sal - va nos.



Sal - va nos, sal - va nos. Sal - va-tor mun-di sal - va nos.

*P: Lord Jesus crucified,*

**All: have mercy on us.**

## THE THIRD STATION

### Jesus Falls the First Time.

*P: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,*

**All: because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.**

### A READING FROM PSALM 37:23-24

Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

### PRAYER

*P: Let us pray together:*

**All: God, forgive us for the times we have refused to take risks for fear of falling on our faces and looking foolish before others. Forgive us for the times we have fallen and lacked the courage to begin anew. Forgive us for the times we have failed to encourage others who struggle with the weight of their own problems and uncertainties.**

### SONG: "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" – sing 2 times



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

*P: Lord Jesus crucified,*

**All: have mercy on us.**

## THE FOURTH STATION

### Jesus Meets His Mother.

*P: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,*

**All: because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.**

#### A READING FROM LUKE 2:34-35

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

#### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P: Let us pray together:*

**All: Mary, we admire your courage. You were there for Jesus when many who loved him, who had shared those wonder-filled days of his ministry, ran away in fear and despair. You faced the challenge in Jesus' eyes. Often we are called to face things in life unpleasant things, painful things, fearful things, things that must be faced. Mary, may we share in your courage that we may look at these things squarely, and not run away.**

**SONG:** "The Lord is My Light" – sing 2 times



The Lord is mylight, mylight and sal-va-tion:in God I trust, in God I trust.

*P: Lord Jesus crucified,*

**All: have mercy on us.**

## THE FIFTH STATION

### Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry his Cross.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM LUKE 23:26

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, whatever good we do on this earth, may we do it freely. Let us love and serve others, not because we are forced to do so by the pressure of public opinion, not out of any self-centered need, but because we freely choose to be a servant of our brothers and sisters.

### SONG: “Ubi Caritas” – sing 2 times

(Translation: *Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.*)

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 the song, with lyrics 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes. A triplet of eighth notes is used for 'i - bi' in the second line.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.



## THE SIXTH STATION

### Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM ISAIAH 53:2-3

He had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness. Help us, Lord, to carry out those small acts of kindness that make life richer and fuller and brighter for us all. Help us to believe that we can make a difference with every prayer we say, and with every act of mercy we perform.

**SONG:** “Nothing Can Ever Come” – sing 2 times

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The melody is simple and consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Noth-ing can ev-er come be - tween us and the love of God, the  
love of God re - vealed to us in Christ Je - sus.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## THE SEVENTH STATION

### Jesus Falls the Second Time.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM PSALM 22:14-15

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** When we fail, Lord, help us to forgive ourselves.

**When we fall, Lord, grant us the strength to rise and continue to do whatever needs to be done. And when we grow weary, Lord, remind us that every step on our journey has meaning.**

### SONG: "Holy Spirit, Come to Us" – sing 2 times

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, kin - dle in us the fire of your love.

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## THE EIGHTH STATION

### Jesus Speaks to the Women of Jerusalem.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM LUKE 23:27-29

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.'"

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, save us from centering on ourselves and shutting out others from our concern. Though our problems are real and our needs are great, let us not overlook those who daily come into our lives, hungry for a little warmth, looking for a little attention.

### SONG: "Nothing Can Trouble" – sing 2 times

Notation: Treble clef, common time (C). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en,  
those who seek God shall nev-er go want - ing. Noth- ing can trou - ble,  
noth - ing can fright - en, God a - lone fills us.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

# THE NINTH STATION

## Jesus Falls the Third Time.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM PSALM 62:1-3, 5

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken. How long will you assail a person, will you batter your victim, all of you, as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence? For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

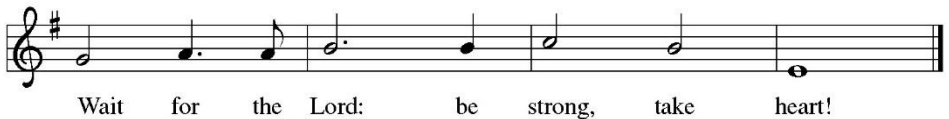
### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, may we always remember that it is not our achievements that please you most, but rather our determination to keep on trying.

### SONG "Wait for the Lord" – sing 2 times



*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## THE TENTH STATION

### Jesus is Stripped of His Garments.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM JOHN 19:23-24

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Jesus, as we recall your suffering and death, we pray for all the persecutors in the world who lose their humanity in their passion to subjugate and control others. And we pray for all who have been victims of people's inhumanity to their fellow human beings.

### SONG: "Bless the Lord" – sing 2 times



*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## THE ELEVENTH STATION

### Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM LUKE 23:32-33

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 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.

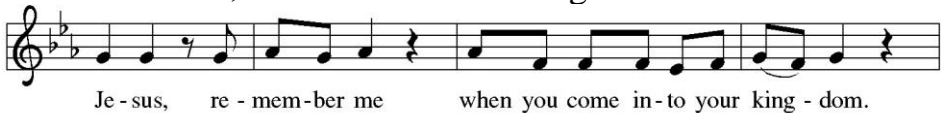
### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, often we have asked ourselves, who am I? Why am I here? What am I called to do? We look to your life and death for answers, and the answers are quite simple: we are loved, and we are called to love.

### SONG: “Jesus, Remember Me” – sing 2 times



*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

# THE TWELFTH STATION

## Jesus Dies on the Cross.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM LUKE 23:44-47

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. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent."

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Jesus, you waited to be born. Jesus, you waited to die. Jesus, you waited to rise in triumph. Grant us patience to wait. Help us to endure our own weaknesses, to endure the darkness that sometimes envelops us, to endure the little crosses and the little deaths that daily confront us. Jesus, brother, like you may we always place ourselves in God's hands.

### SONG: "In God Alone" – sing 2 times

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The lyrics are: "in God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in God, my peace and rest. On-ly in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace." The score includes a key signature change to 2/4 time for the final phrase.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## THE THIRTEENTH STATION

### Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM ISAIAH 53:8-9

By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, often endings are difficult to deal with. The ending of the life of a loved one, the ending of a project, a career, a relationship, disturbs and grieves us. In times such as these, Lord, help us to grow, even as we experience diminishment.

**SONG:** “Stay with Me” – sing 2 times

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 the song: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "pray. Watch and pray." The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words like "watch" and "and" spanning across bar lines.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.



## THE FOURTEENTH STATION

### Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb.

*P:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

**All:** because by your suffering and death on the cross, you have redeemed the world.

### A READING FROM MATTHEW 27:59-60

So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth 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.

### MARY SPEAKS

*(silence)*

*P:* Let us pray together:

**All:** Jesus, there are times in our lives when things fall apart, when dreams are shattered, when hope no longer seems possible. In our poverty, our brokenness, we come to you for healing. In those times of trial, Jesus, remind us of your love, remind us of your forgiveness, remind us of your promise to be with us always, and grant us the grace to go forward in faith.

### SONG: "Stay Here" – sing 2 times



Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come.



Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray.

*P:* Lord Jesus crucified,

**All:** have mercy on us.

## **DISMISSAL**

*P: Go to dark Gethsemane, and watch with Christ through this time of darkness and sorrow. Do not turn away from this time of grief, but in all things turn to God with prayer. See Jesus: beaten, bound, reviled, accused, condemned, and crucified. Do not shun suffering or sacrifice, but trust that God is with us in all of life's suffering.*

(Please leave in silence.)

## **PRAYERS BEFORE THE CROSS**

Those who wish may now approach the cross.  
We commit to Christ everything that is weighing us down,  
as well as all the burdens of others – the oppressed,  
the despised, the marginalized and the persecuted

Please leave the church in reverent silence and shadows.  
Worshippers may remain for prayer and meditation.  
Your offerings may be left in the offering plate in the Narthex.

MARY – *Carmen Blair*

INSTRUMENTALISTS – *Michael Keating,  
Kathleen Keating, Dean Sieglaff*

READERS – Joe Allen, Linda Headrick,  
Krista Lanzarotta