



TAIZÉ

Stations of The Cross

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 5, 2023
7:00 PM



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

116 South Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

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www.ELPC.church

TAIZÉ STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Prelude by Gerard Rohlif

Welcome and Opening Centering by Rev. BJ Woodworth

This worship space is created to enhance your prayer. As you enter, grab a prayer stone or palm cross to hold. Feel free to come forward to the craft table to doodle or color a mandala, come sit on prayer cushion and be closer to the front, pray with one of the icons, light a candle, or move with the music. If the songs are new to you, let their simple repeated refrains be sung over you and join in as you are able. We hope that you will become aware of the presence of the living God as you pray in this place and that you might take that awareness out with you into the world.

A NOTE ABOUT THE ARTWORK USED IN THIS SERVICE:

The *Stations of the Cross* images used in this bulletin and in our livestreamed (and archived) service slides of this service are from Janet McKenzie.

Vermont artist Janet McKenzie pays homage to the feminine figure through sacred and secular imagery. Ms. McKenzie's paintings depict an inner strength that often challenge and comfort the viewer. Using a variety of female forms including African American, Asian, and Caucasian women Ms. McKenzie is able create empowering images of women that are beautiful, thought provoking, and often haunting. Through her paintings Ms. McKenzie strives to convey the heart of the feminine being as a universal symbol of hope. "Women are for me sacred beings that are the foundation of life, subjects that have the power to captivate my imagination and inform my expression."

Ms. McKenzie's work is collected and exhibited around the world. At the Millennium Ms. McKenzie's image of Jesus, Jesus of the People, was selected winner of the National Catholic Reporter's "Jesus 2000 competition, by judge Sister Wendy Beckett. The painting was revealed for the first time on the "Today Show". "Jesus of the People" confronts stereotypical thinking by celebrating Jesus as African American. The feminine aspect is served by the fact that the model for this painting was a woman.

Contact Ms. McKenzie:

www.janetmckenzie.com • or call 802.723.4122

The Stations of the Cross and The Resurrection © 2013 Janet McKenzie

Our readers tonight are:

**Douglas Booth, Dorn Checkley, Jan Herzer, Jeff Parsons, Kay Shissler,
The Rev. John Titus, Susan Wadsworth-Booth, Reed Williams**

All readings are from
Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year by Malcolm Guite



Station #1

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

The very air that Pilate breathes, the voice
With which he speaks in judgement, all his powers
Of perception and discrimination, choice,
Decision, all his years, his days and hours,
His consciousness of self, his every sense,
Are given by this prisoner, freely given.
The man who stands there making no defense,
Is God. His hands are tied, his heart is open.
And he bears Pilate's heart in his and feels
That crushing weight of wasted life. He lifts
It up in silent love. He lifts and heals.
He gives himself again with all his gifts
Into our hands. As Pilate turns away a door swings open.
This is judgement day.

NB17 Our Eyes Are Turned

O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum,
Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.

o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum.
Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior.



Station #2

**JESUS TAKES
UP HIS
CROSS**

He gives himself again with all his gifts
 And now we give him something in return.
 He gave the earth that bears, the air that lifts,
 Water to cleanse and cool, fire to burn,
 And from these elements he forged the iron,
 From strands of life he wove the growing wood,
 He made the stones that pave the roads of Zion,
 He saw it all and saw that it is good.
 We took his iron to edge an axe's blade,
 We took the axe and laid it to the tree,
 We made a cross of all that he has made,
 And laid it on the one who made us free.
 Now he receives again and lifts on high
 The gifts he gave and we have turned awry.

CLM30 Nothing Can Ever

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. (Last time ♪)

O O



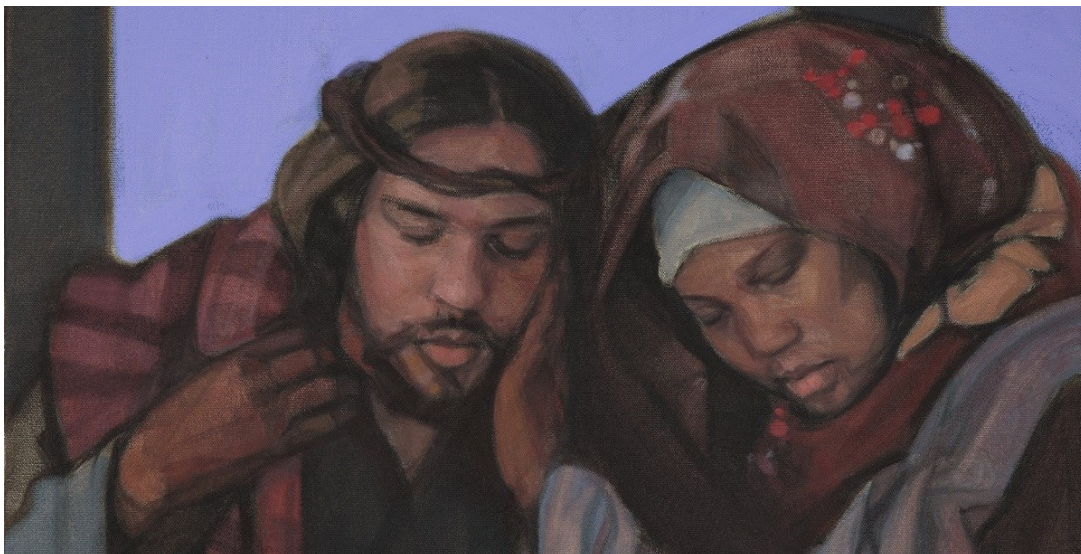
Station #3

JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

He made the stones that pave the roads of Zion
And well he knows the path we make him tread;
He met the devil as a roaring lion
And still refused to turn these stones to bread,
Choosing instead, as love will always choose,
This darker path into the heart of pain.
And now he falls upon the stones that bruise
The flesh, that break and scrape the tender skin.
He and the earth he made were never closer,
Divinity and dust come face to face.
We flinch back from his *via dolorosa*,
He sets his face like flint and takes our place,
Staggers beneath the black weight of us all
And falls with us that he might break our fall.

NB1 All You Who Pass This Way





Station #4

JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

This darker path into the heart of pain
Was also hers whose love enfolded him
In flesh and wove him in her womb. Again
The sword is piercing. She, who cradles him
And gentled and protected her young son,
Must stand and watch the cruelty that mars
Her maiden making. Waves of pain that stun
And sicken pass across his face and hers
As their eyes meet. Now she enfolds the world
He loves in prayer; the mothers of the disappeared
Who know her pain, all bodies bowed and curled
In desperation on this road of tears,
All the grief-stricken in their last despair,
Are folded in the mantle of her prayer.



CLM17 Consoling Spirit Of God

Es - prit — con - so - la - teur, a - mour de tout a -
Con - sol - ing Spir - it of God, O love in all our

mour. Es - prit — con - so - la - teur, a - mour de tout a - mour.
love. Con - sol - ing Spir - it of God, O love in all our love.

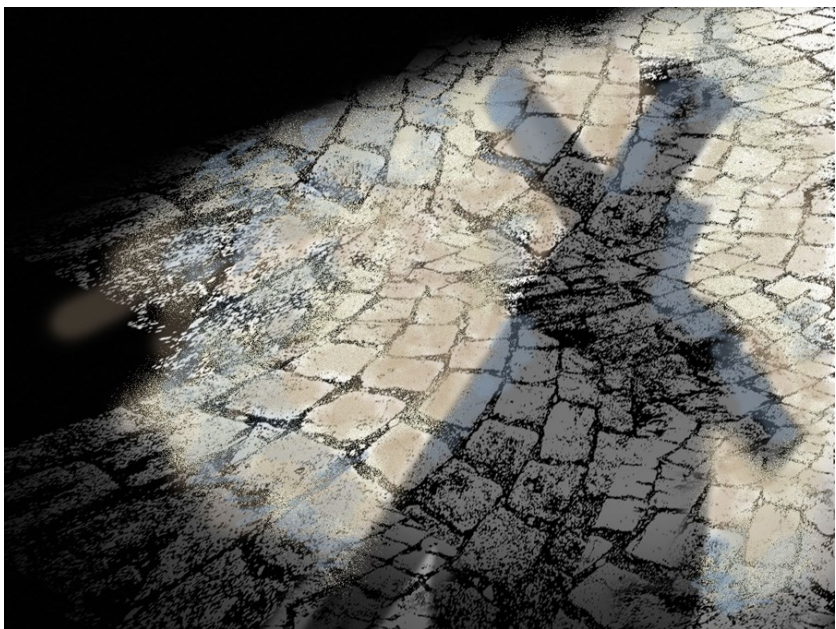
(♩ Last time)

unis.

O

unis.

O





Station #5

SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

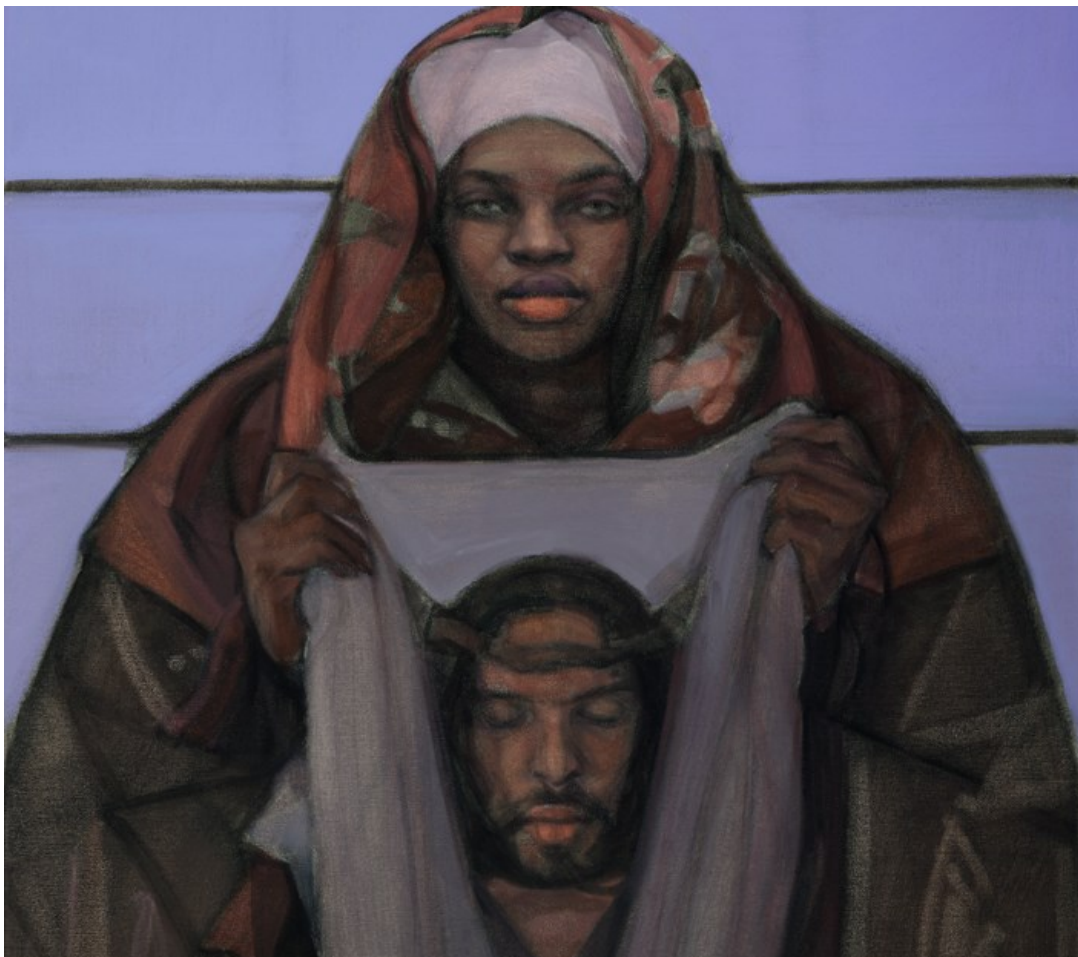
In desperation on this road of tears
 Bystanders and bypassers turn away.
 In other's pain we face our own worst fears
 And turn our backs to keep those fears at bay,
 Unless we are compelled as this man was
 By force of arms or force of circumstance to face and feel and carry someone's cross
 In Love's full glare and not his backward glance.
 So, Simon, no disciple, still fulfilled
 The calling, "Take the cross and follow me."
 By accident his life was stalled and stilled,
 Becoming all he was compelled to be.
 Make me, like him, your pressed man and your priest,
 Your *alter Christus*, burdened and released.

NB59 There Can Be No Greater Love

There can be no great - er love than to lay down our life for those we love.
 Il n'est pas de plus grand a-mour que de don-ner sa vie pour- ceux qu'on ai me.

Last time

Last time



Station #6

**VERONICA
WIPES THE
FACE OF JESUS**

Bystanders and bypassers turn away
And wipe his image from their memory.
She keeps her station. She is here to stay
And stem the flow. She is the reliquary
Of his last look on her. The bloody sweat
And salt tears of his love are soaking through
The folds of her devotion and the wet
Folds of her handkerchief, like the dew
Of morning, like a softening rain of grace.
Because she wiped the grime from off his skin,
And glimpsed the godhead in his human face
Whose hidden image we all bear within,
Through all our veils and shrouds of daily pain
The face of God is shining once again.

CLM38 All My Heart Lies Open To You

Music score for "All My Heart Lies Open To You" (CLM38). The score is written for voice and piano, featuring two systems of music. The first system is in 4/4 time, and the second system is in 3/4 time. The lyrics are in both Lithuanian and English.

System 1:

Vieš - pa - tie, tu vis - ką ži - nai. Tu ži -
All my heart lies o - pen to you, and you

System 2:

nai, kad ta - ve my - liu.
know, Lord, that I love you.

(♩ Last time)

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Station #7

JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

Through all our veils and shrouds of daily pain,
Through our bruised bruises and re-opened scars,
He falls and stumbles with us, hurt again
When we are hurt again. With us he bears
The cruel repetitions of our cruelty;
The beatings of already beaten men,
The second rounds of torture, the futility
Of all unheeded pleading, every scream in vain.
And by this fall he finds the fallen souls
Who passed a first, but failed a second trial,
The souls who thought their faith would hold them whole
And found it only held them for a while.
Be with us when the road is twice as long
As we can bear. By weakness make us strong.

NB18 Our Darkness

♩ = 66

F# Bm Am D G F#

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the
La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant toi: la

Bm A D Em6 F#SUS fine F#

deep - est night is clear as the day light. Our
nuit com - me le jour est lu - miè re. La té -

fine



Station #8

JESUS MEETS THE WEeping WOMEN

He falls and stumbles with us, hurt again,
But still he holds the road and looks in love
On all of us who look on him. Our pain
As close to him as his. These women move
Compassion in him as he does in them.
He asks us both to weep and not to weep.
Women of Gaza and Jerusalem,
Women of every nation where the deep
Wounds of memory divide the land
And lives of all your children, where the mines
Of all our wars are sown: Afghanistan,
Iraq, the Cote d'Ivoire ... he reads the signs
And weeps with you, and with you he will stay
Until the day he wipes your tears away.

21 Stay With Us

♩ = 72

p Gm Cm D Gm Dm *mf*

Stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, night will soon fall. Then
Bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, Herr Je - su Christ. Ach,

p Gm Eb Cm F Bb *f* Cm Bb F Gm D *mf*

stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, light in our dark - ness.
bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, du treu - er Gott.

f *p subito*



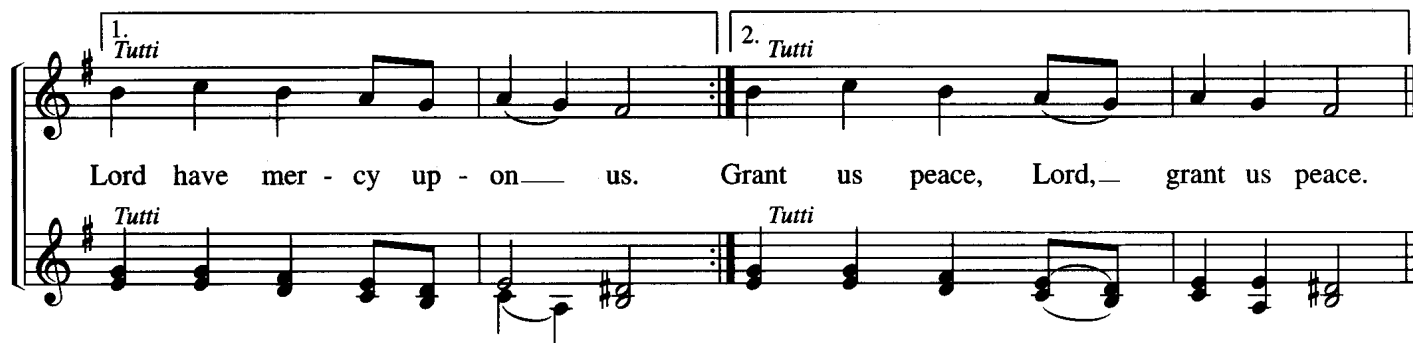
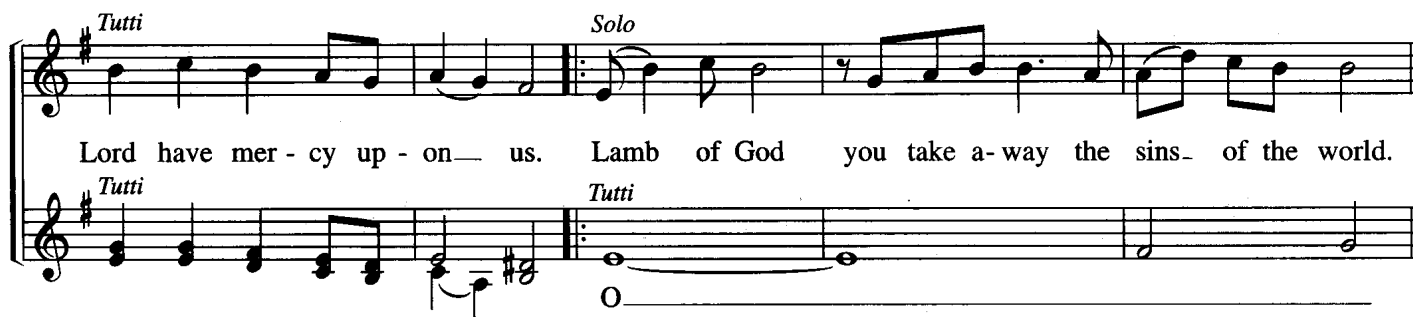
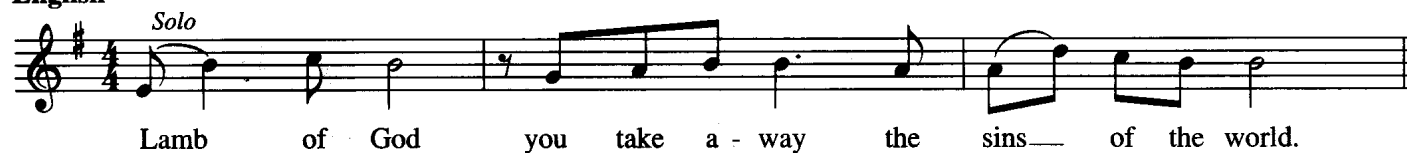
Station #9

JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

He weeps with you and with you he will stay
When all your staying power has run out;
You can't go on, you go on anyway.
He stumbles just beside you when the doubt
That always haunts you cuts you down at last
And takes away the hope that drove you on.
This is the third fall and it hurts the worst,
This long descent through darkness to depression
From which there seems no rising and no will
To rise, or breathe or beat your own heartbeat.
Twice you survived; this third will surely kill,
And you could almost wish for that defeat
Except that in the cold hell where you freeze
You find your God beside you on his knees.

NB55 Agnus Dei

English



Latin





Station #10

JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

You can't go on, you go on anyway,
He goes with you, his cradle to your grave,
Now is the time to loosen, cast away
The useless weight of everything but love.
For he began his letting go before,
Before the worlds for which he dies were made,
Emptied himself, became one of the poor,
To make you rich in him and unafraid.
See, as they strip the robe from off his back
They strip away your own defenses too,
Now you could lose it all and never lack,
Now you can see what naked love can do.
Let go these bonds beneath whose weight you bow,
His stripping strips you both for action now.

25 When The Night Becomes Dark

Em Am⁶ E Am E

When the night be - comes dark, your love, O Lord,

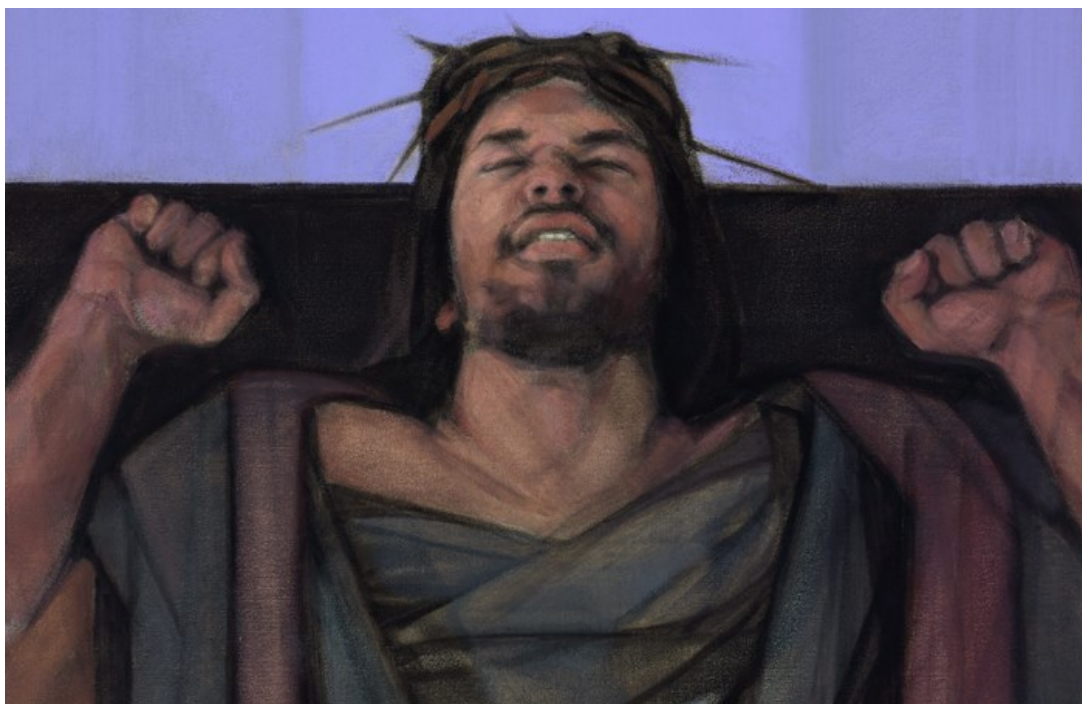
Am E C⁶ Dm C F⁶ E Am

is a fire; your love, O Lord, is a fire.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'When The Night Becomes Dark'. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system covers the first line of the lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: Em, Am⁶, E, Am, E in the first system, and Am, E, C⁶, Dm, C, F⁶, E, Am in the second system. The lyrics are written below the bass staff.

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Station #11

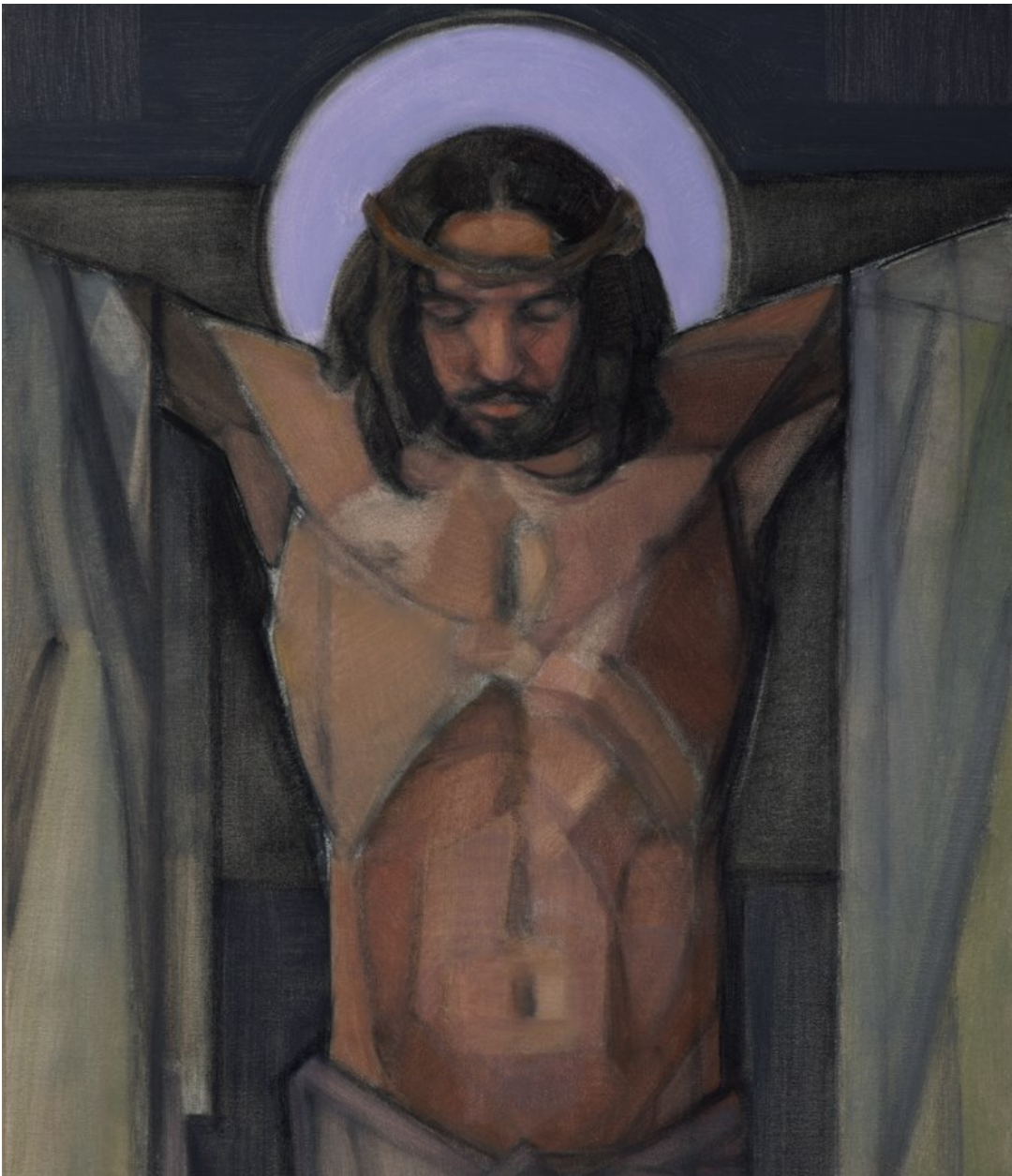
JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

See, as they strip the robe from off his back
And spread his arms and nail them to the cross,
The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black,
And love is firmly fastened on to loss.
But here a pure change happens. On this tree
Loss becomes gain, death opens into birth,
Here wounding heals and fastening makes free,
Earth breathes in heaven, heaven roots in earth.
And here we see the length, the breadth, the height,
Where love and hatred meet and love stays true,
Where sin meets grace and darkness turns to light,
We see what love can bear and be and do.
And here our Savior calls us to his side,
His love is free, his arms are open wide.

NB11

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Station #12

**JESUS DIES
ON THE
CROSS**

The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black,
We watch him as he labors to draw breath.
He takes our breath away to give it back,
Return it to its birth through his slow death.
We hear him struggle, breathing through the pain,
Who once breathed out his spirit on the deep,
Who formed us when he mixed the dust with rain
And drew us into consciousness from sleep.
His Spirit and his life he breathes in all,
Mantles his world in his one atmosphere,
And now he comes to breathe beneath the pall
Of our pollutions, draw our injured air
To cleanse it and renew. His final breath
Breathes and bears us through the gates of death.

Silence is held

CLM21 Into Your Hands, O Father

spi - ri - tum

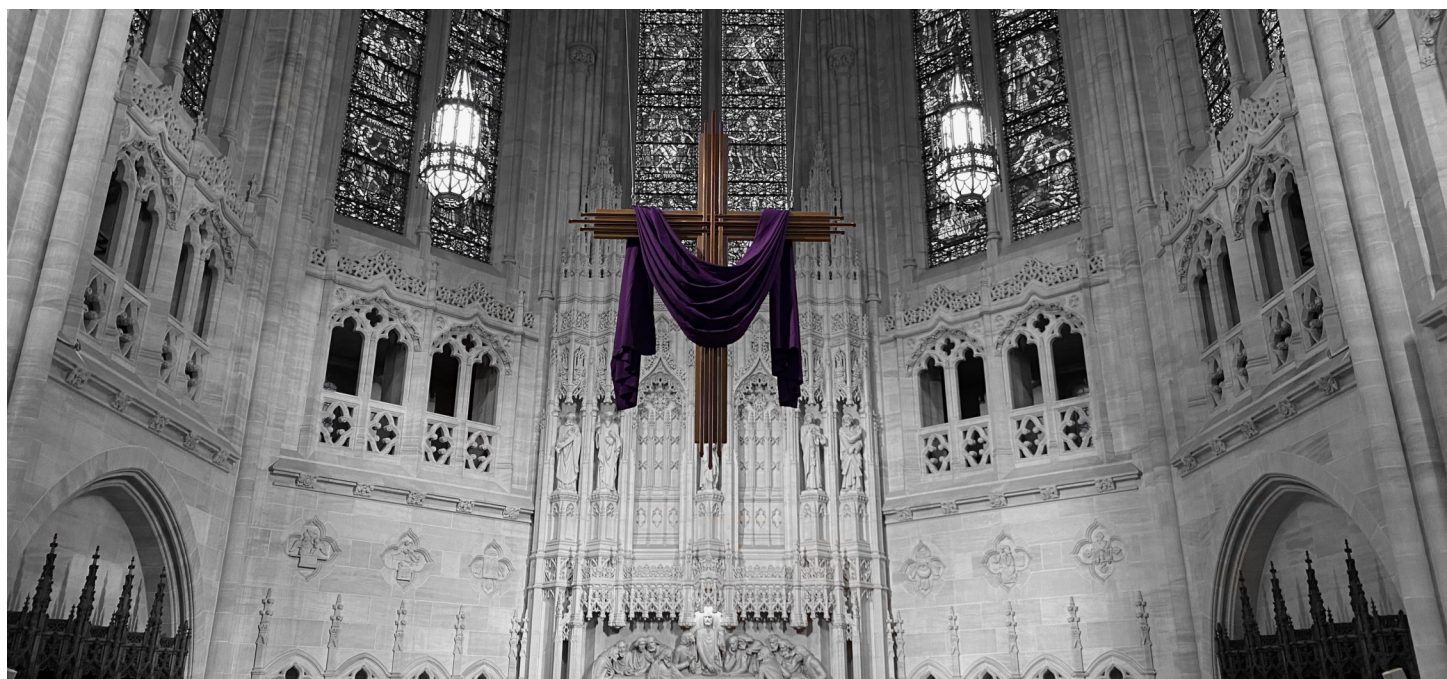
In ma - nus tu - as, Pa - ter, com - men - do spi - ri - tum me - um. In
In - to your hands, O Fa - ther, I now com - mend my spir - it, In -

(Last time ♪) ,

ma - nus tu - as, Pa - ter, com - men - do spi - ri - tum me - um. In
to your hands, O Fa - ther, I now com - mend my spir - it. In -

(Last time ♪) ,

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Station #13

JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

His spirit and his life he breathes in all,
Now on this cross his body breathes no more.
Here at the center everything is still,
Spent, and emptied, opened to the core.
A quiet taking down, a prising loose,
A cross-beam lowered like a weighing scale,
Unmaking of each thing that had its use,
A long withdrawing of each bloodied nail.
This is ground zero, emptiness and space,
With nothing left to say or think or do,
But look unflinching on the sacred face
That cannot move or change or look at you.
Yet in that prising loose and letting be
He has unfastened you and set you free.

22 By Your Cross

(A) Dm Gm C F B \flat Gm A Dm

Per cru cem et pas - si o - nem tu am,
By your cross and all the wounds you suf fered,

(B)

li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne.
grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, in your love.

(C)

Per cru cem et pas - si o - nem tu am,
By your cross and all the wounds you suf fered,

(D)

li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne.
grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, in your love.

(E)

Per sanc - tam re - sur - rec - ti o - nem tu am,
By your ho - ly, life - giv - ing re - sur - rec - tion,

(F)

li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, li - be - ra nos Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne.
grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, grant us free - dom in your love, in your love.



Station #14

JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Here at the center everything is still,
Before the stir and movement of our grief
That bears its pain with rhythm, ritual,
Beautiful useless gestures of relief,
So they anoint the skin that cannot feel
And soothe his ruined flesh with tender care,
Kissing the wounds they know they cannot heal,
With incense scenting only empty air.
He blesses every love that weeps and grieves,
And makes our grief the pangs of a new birth.
The love that's poured in silence at old graves,
Renewing flowers, tending the bare earth,
Is never lost. In him all love is found
And sown with him, a seed in the rich ground.

37 Within Our Darkest Night

$\text{♩} = 63$

p *B* *Em* *D*

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -
 Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés al - lu - me le feu qui ne s'é - teint ja -

p *G* *C* *G* *D* *G* *Em* *C* *Am*

way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the
 mais, ne - s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le

mf *p* *B* *Em* *Am* *B* *Em* *Am* *B*

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est
 feu qui ne s'é - teint ja - mais, ne s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri -

pp *fine* *fine*

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Unison Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, your passion and death is the sacrifice that unites earth and heaven and reconciles all people to you. May we who have faithfully reflected on these mysteries follow in your steps and so come to share your glory in heaven where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit; one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please depart in silence