

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - ST CATHARINES, ON

*Good Friday*

March 29, 2024 + Ten O'Clock AM

# GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

## Litany for the Passion

"Today, you are with Me in Paradise."

*"Let us speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs;  
singing praises in your heart to the Lord" Eph. 5:19*

### CHOIR ANTHEM

#### ***"Behold Him In Dark Gethsemane"***

Behold Him in dark Gethsemane. Behold Him, alone in agony.  
Hear the Saviour softly pray, "Father, take this cup away."  
Behold Him in dark Gethsemane. Behold Him.  
The hour is drawing near. (the hour is near)  
Behold him. At midnight they appear (they will appear).  
See the soldiers bar His way. Watch the kiss that will betray.  
Behold Him. The hour is drawing near. Behold Him within the judgment hall.  
Behold Him. He answers not at all. Hear the raging angry cry,  
"Crucify Him! Let him die!" Behold Him within the judgment hall.  
Behold Him upon the shameful tree. Behold Him for all eternity.  
See the sky grow dark above. Kneel before God's gift of love.  
Behold him upon the shameful tree. Behold him, the Lamb of Calvary.

*One License Song # 35735 -- Words by Mary Kay Beall Music by Jay Althouse; Copyright© 1993, Hope Publishing Company All Rights reserved; Streamed with OneLicense # A-741085 All rights reserved*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit, + be with you all.

#### **And also with you.**

Jesus told his disciples, "If any wishes to come after Me,

#### **let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me.**

For whoever saves their life will lose it,

#### **But whoever loses their life for My sake and the Gospel's shall find it"**

Christ has humbled himself and become obedient to death:

#### **Even to death on a cross.**

### HYMN

*"Go To Dark Gethsemane"*

*LSB # 436*

**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 of Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;  
O the wormwood and gall! O the pangs his souls sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.**

*James Montgomery, public domain*

SCRIPTURE RESPONSIVE READING

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

**And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?**

For he grew up before him like a young plant,

**and like a root out of dry ground;**

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,

**and no beauty that we should desire him.**

He was despised and rejected by men;

**a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;**

Surely he has borne our griefs

**and carried our sorrows;**

yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

**But he was pierced for our transgressions;**

he was crushed for our iniquities;

**and with his wounds we are healed.**

Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,

**and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,**

so he opened not his mouth.

**And they made his grave with the wicked**

and with a rich man in his death,

**Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;**

he has put him to grief; yet he bore the sin of many,

**and makes intercession for the transgressors.**

*(Isaiah 53 selected verses)*

HYMN

*"O Dearest Jesus"*

*LSB # 439*

**O dearest Jesus, what law have You broken**

**That such sharp sentence should on You be spoken?**

**Of what great crime have You to make confession, --**

**What dark transgression?**

**They crown Your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge You;**

**With cruel mockings to the cross they urge You;**

**They give You gall to drink, they still decry You;**

**They crucify You.**

**The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;**

**Child-rem of man-kind now may live in gladness;**

**We forfeited our lives and are acquitted, --**

**God is committed.**

*Words: Johann Heermann, 1630 Translated by: Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt. Music: "Herzliebster Jesu"*

## THE FIRST STATION

### *Jesus Is Condemned to Death*

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. (St. Matthew 27:1-2,22,24,26b)



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**

## HYMN

*"O Sacred Head"*

*Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153*

**O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Your only crown.  
O sacred head what glory, what bliss till now was Thine?  
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine!**

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

*St. Bernard of Clairvaux, public domain LSB 449 Tune*

## THE SECOND STATION

### *Jesus Carries His Cross*

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this



inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." (John 19: 16b-24)

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**

HYMN

*"Nearer My God To Thee"*

*www. Hymary.org*



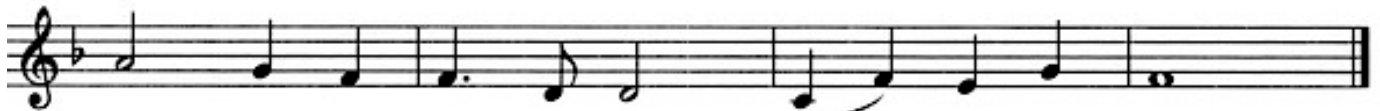
1. Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee!  
2. Though like the wan - der - er, The sun gone down,



E'en though it be a cross That rais - es me,  
Dark - ness be o - ver me, My rest a stone;



Still all my song shall be, Near - er, my God, to thee;  
Yet in my dreams I'd be Near - er, my God, to thee;



Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee!  
Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee!

Text: Sarah F. Adams, 1805-1848, alt.; tr. by Tomás M. Westrup, 1837-1909, alt.  
Tune: BETHANY, 6 4 6 4 6 6 6 4; Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

## THE THIRD STATION

### Jesus is stripped of His Clothes

Then the soldiers took Jesus' garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them and for my clothing they cast lots." (John 19:23-24a)



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**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
 Oh---! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
 Oh---! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?**

*African American Spiritual*

## THE FOURTH STATION

### *Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross*

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." (Luke 23:32-34a)



Let us pray. Heavenly Father, despite His wounds, *Jesus* showed his love throughout his passion: for his mother, 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**

### CHOIR ANTHEM *"Face The Cross"*

Upon the cross of *Jesus* my eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me.....Face the cross, He hangs there in your place;

See the Lamb upon the killing tree.

Stand and look into the Saviour's face, as on the cross, He dies for you and me.

Face the cross and see the dying Son -- See the Lamb upon the killing tree

See His anguish and His tears of love Face the cross, He dies to set us free. –

Turn not away, turn not away. His nail pierced hands are reaching out to you, ....to you.

Look upon, upon the One (without sin, Spotless Lamb) upon the killing tree.

Feel His pain and love from deep within. So great a price, yet paid so willingly.

Turn not away, turn not away. Face the cross, Face the cross.

Face the One who suffers in your place; See the Lamb upon the killing tree

Light of the world, now clothed in darkness grim; As on the cross, He hangs in agony.

Face the cross and turn not away, turn not away.

His nail pierced hands are reaching out to you..... Turn not away, behold His wounded side.

Turn not away, behold the crucified.

Face the cross, He hangs there in your place.

Face the cross and see the King of Grace Face the cross and see the King of Grace;

Turn not away, turn not away. Face the cross, face the cross.

*One License Song # 62359. Words: Herb Frombach Music: David Lantz Copyright © 2006, Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved Streamed with permission OneLicense #A-741085 All rights reserved.*

## THE FIFTH STATION



### ***Jesus Speaks To His Mother***

So the soldiers did these things, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:25-27)

Let us pray. Father of mercies, a sword of grief pierced deep into the heart of Mary as she witnessed her Son's passion. As we share in her sorrow by walking the way of sorrows, may we also share in the joy that is to come, the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

HYMN

*"The Old Rugged Cross"*

<https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/618>

**On a hill, far away, stood an old, rugged cross, the emblem of suff'ring and shame  
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain --  
So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged Cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see;  
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
To pardon and sanctify me.  
So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged Cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**



## THE SIXTH STATION

### *Jesus promises Paradise to a criminal*

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 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."

Let us pray. Lord God, your Son promised Paradise to a thief who expressed hope and faith in His suffering and forgiving grace. May we also find the mercy to forgive others as we have been so forgiven; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

*"Do Lord!"*

**Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
look away beyond the blue.**

**I gotta home in gloryland that outshines the sun,  
I gotta home in gloryland that outshines the sun,  
I gotta home in gloryland that outshines the sun,  
look away beyond the blue.**

**Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me,  
look away beyond the blue.**

*African American spiritual*



## THE SEVENTH STATION

### *Jesus Is Pierced*

Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had



been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.” (John 19:31-37)

Let us pray. Gracious Lord and Consoler of all who mourn, comfort us in all our sorrows. Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love. Help us always to put our faith in you and entrust our loved ones into your infinite care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

HYMN

*“Sweet By & By”*

**There’s a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we shall see it afar,  
for the Father waits over the way - to prepare us a dwelling place there.  
*In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
in the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.***

**We shall sing on that beautiful shore the melodious songs of the blest,  
and our spirits shall sorrow no more, not a sigh for the blessing of rest;  
*In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
in the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.***

*Reprinted from: [http://www.hymnary.org/text/theres\\_a\\_land\\_that\\_is\\_fairer\\_than\\_day\\_an](http://www.hymnary.org/text/theres_a_land_that_is_fairer_than_day_an)*

## THE EIGHTH STATION



### ***Jesus Is Taken Down And Buried***

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)

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 your merciful grace, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



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



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



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



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

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869  
 Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

ST. CHRISTOPHER  
 76868686

## HOMILY

## GOOD FRIDAY LITANY

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

**Have mercy upon us.**

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**Have mercy upon us.**

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,

**Have mercy upon us.**

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

**Have mercy upon us.**

Gracious Jesus, You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

**Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.**

The weight of your cross was the weight of our sins which make us stumble and fall.

**In our weakness, we turn to you for strength.**

Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

**Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.**

Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

**Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.**

The full burden of our sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

**Do not forsake us in our falling, but bring us to repentance and faith.**

Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

**Take your place beside us sinners, and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.**

When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and it is finished.

**Keep us close to your cross and death, now and at the hour of our death.**

Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

**Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.**

In the tomb you were laid, but from the tomb you arose.

**Be the Lord of the resurrection for us and for all the baptized.**

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

That it may please You to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which You give us to do with singleness of heart as Your servants, and for the common good,

**We humbly ask You to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

**We humbly ask You to hear us, good Lord.**

O Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,

**Have mercy and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come...**

## CLOSING GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER

Far be it from me to glory:

### **Except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who for the redemption of the world was pleased to be born; to be circumcised; to be rejected; to be betrayed; to be led to the slaughter; to be whipped and torn; and crowned with thorns, mocked and hated; to be nailed down upon and hoisted up on the cross; to be reckoned among thieves; to have gall and vinegar to drink; to be pierced with a spear; through Your most Holy Passion, which we, Your redeemed and humble servants, call to mind, and by Your holy Cross and gracious death, deliver us from the pains of hell, and lead us unto eternal Paradise where You led the thief who was crucified with You, Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN:

*"I'm But A Stranger Here"*

[www.Hymnary.org/LW82](http://www.Hymnary.org/LW82)

1 I'm but a stran-ger here, Heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem-pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
3 There-fore I mur-mur not, Heav'n is my home;

Earth is a des-ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pil-grim-age, Heav'n is my home;  
What-e'er my earth-ly lot, Heav'n is my home;

Dan-ger and sor-row stand Round me on ev-'ry hand;  
And time's wild win-try blast Soon shall be o-ver-past;  
And I shall sure-ly stand There at my Lord's right hand.

Heav'n is my fa-ther-land, Heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
Heav'n is my fa-ther-land, Heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807-1835  
Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

HEAVEN IS MY HOME  
64 64 6664

OFFERINGS *may be placed in the plate near the entrance of the Church.*  
*Depart in the peace, hope and joy in serving the Lord in the world.*

SERVICE NOTE: The Good Friday Stations of the Cross & hymns are adapted from the service in "This Far By Faith", an African American Lutheran Hymnal, 1999 © Augsburg Fortress, MN, a hymnal compilation from The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LC-MS) & the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA).



You are all welcome to join us for worship this weekend!

March 29 @ 7 PM Solemn Tenebrae service

March 31 @ 10 AM Festive Easter Communion