

Stations of the Cross Service

As this service was written for a large group, it may feel challenging to navigate in a small group or as an individual. We encourage you to adapt the liturgy however you see fit for your circumstances.

Larger families or groups may select one person to be the Officiant for the service, and the rest to read the responses as the People. Groups may also rotate readers for the Scripture selections. Individuals may choose to skip the beginning liturgical responses at each station, and simply read and reflect upon the Scripture selection at each stop.

The music for the chants are also included. Traditionally, they are sung en route to the next Station. They may also be spoken aloud or read silently.

Officiant: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Christ, for our sake, became obedient unto death.*

People: **Even death on a cross.**

Officiant: *By his own blood he entered into the holy place.*

People: **Having obtained eternal redemption for us.**

Officiant: *O Savior of the world, who by your cross and passion have redeemed us,*

People: **Save and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

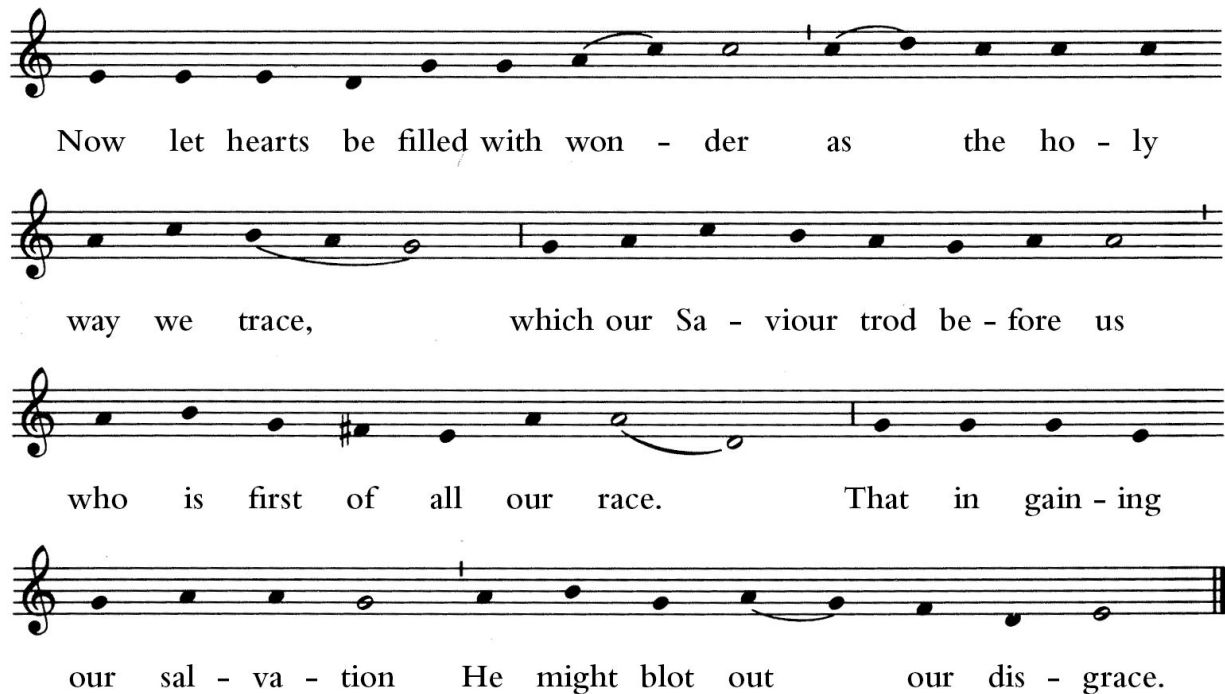
Officiant: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you walked the way of the cross to redeem the world*

and bore in your own sinless self the sins of many; grant that we, following in your footsteps, may increase in your love and walk in your paths all the days of our life, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**



Now let hearts be filled with won - der as the ho - ly
 way we trace, which our Sa - viour trod be - fore us
 who is first of all our race. That in gain - ing
 our sal - va - tion He might blot out our dis - grace.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

I. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

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." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." *Matthew 26:36-41*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, who prayed in agony for us, mercifully accept our prayers and give us grace to please you both in will and deed; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Dark a - mong the trees of o - lives Christ is la - bor -
 ing in pray - er, ask - ing for his three dis - ci - ples
 to re - main and watch with care, but they fall a -
 sleep and slum - ber. No one sees his sweat and tears.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

II. Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, Is Arrested

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

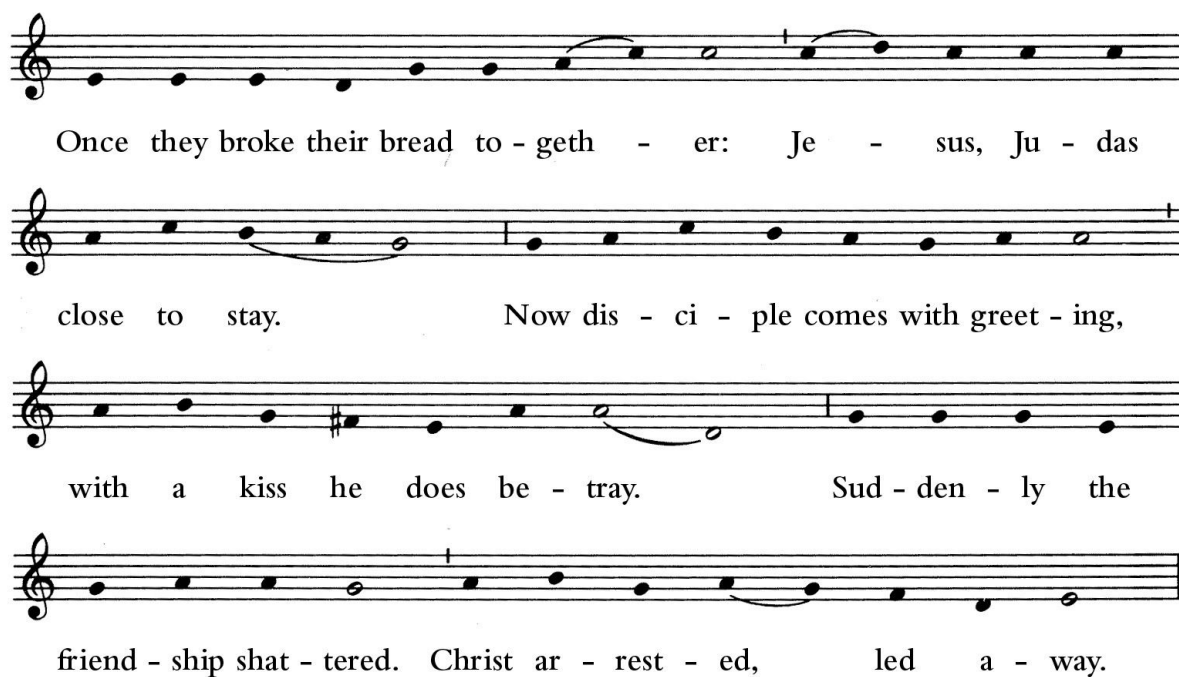
People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. *Mark 14:43-46*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help*

ourselves: defend us from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Once they broke their bread to - geth - er: Je - sus, Ju - das
close to stay. Now dis - ci - ple comes with greet - ing,
with a kiss he does be - tray. Sud - den - ly the
friend - ship shat - tered. Christ ar - rest - ed, led a - way.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

III. Jesus Is Condemned by the Sanhedrin

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God." So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips." Luke 22:66-71

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, be gracious to us and all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring us home again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

As the ru - lers come to judge him and the coun - cil
sits to try, jus - tic - es now pro - se - cute Him,
with their ve - nom and their lies, twist - ing e - ven
good to e - vil, caus - ing Truth it - self to die.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

IV. Jesus Is Denied by Peter

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.
Matthew 26:69-75

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Pe - ter fol - lows to the court - yard, as his Lord they
 sit to try, "Are you not this man's dis - ci - ple?"
 "I am not," comes his re - ply. Christ a - ban - doned,
 no one faith - ful, roost - er crow - ing marks the lie.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

V. Jesus Is Judged by Pilate

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. *Mark 15:1-5, 15*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you who were the cornerstone that the builders rejected; stand with us when we are treated unjustly, that we may follow the example of your patience and become partakers of your resurrection; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

See how Pi - late makes ab - lu - tion as the crowd shouts,
 "Cru - ci - fy!" Who in cow - ard - ly sur - ren - der
 own - ing Cae - sar, Christ de - ny, thus con - demn - ing
 him their Mak - er on a shame - ful cross to die.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

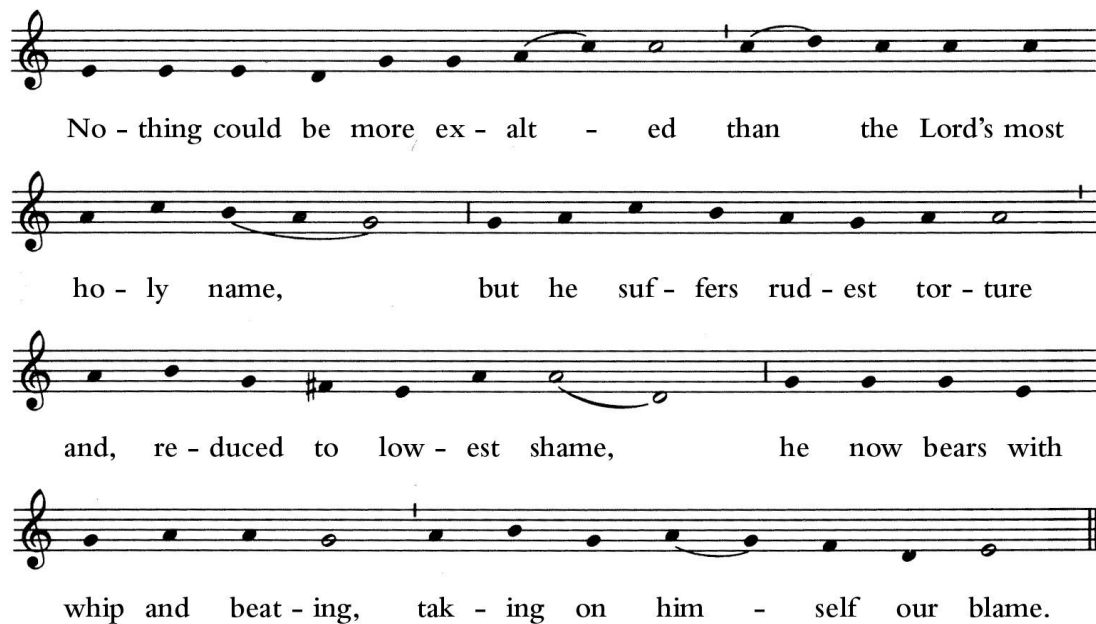
VI. Jesus Is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. *John 19:1-3*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, once crowned with thorns yet forever crowned as King of kings and Lord of lords: grant that the peoples of the earth may be brought together under your most gracious rule; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



No - thing could be more ex - alt - ed than the Lord's most
 ho - ly name, but he suf - fers rud - est tor - ture
 and, re - duced to low - est shame, he now bears with
 whip and beat - ing, tak - ing on him - self our blame.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

VII. Jesus Bears the Cross

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

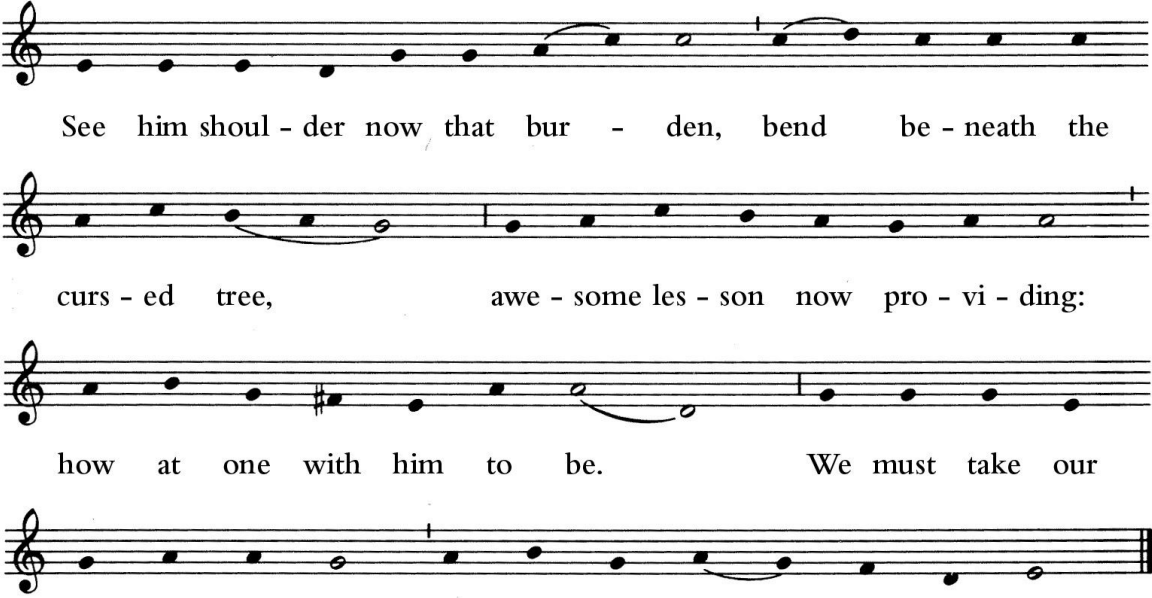
Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him. They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified. 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. *John 19:6, 15-17*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, who taught us to pray "Your will be done" and who said, "Unless you take up your cross and follow me, you can have no part in me;" grant us by your grace cheerfully to bear the slights and discouragements, the frustrations and temptations of our daily life with patience and humility, that we may be made one with you who bore your Cross for us, and who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



See him shoul - der now, that bur - den, bend be - neath the
 curs - ed tree, awe - some les - son now pro - vi - ding:
 how at one with him to be. We must take our
 cross and fol - low in the self - same path as he.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

VIII. Jesus Is Helped by Simon the Cyrenian to Carry the Cross

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

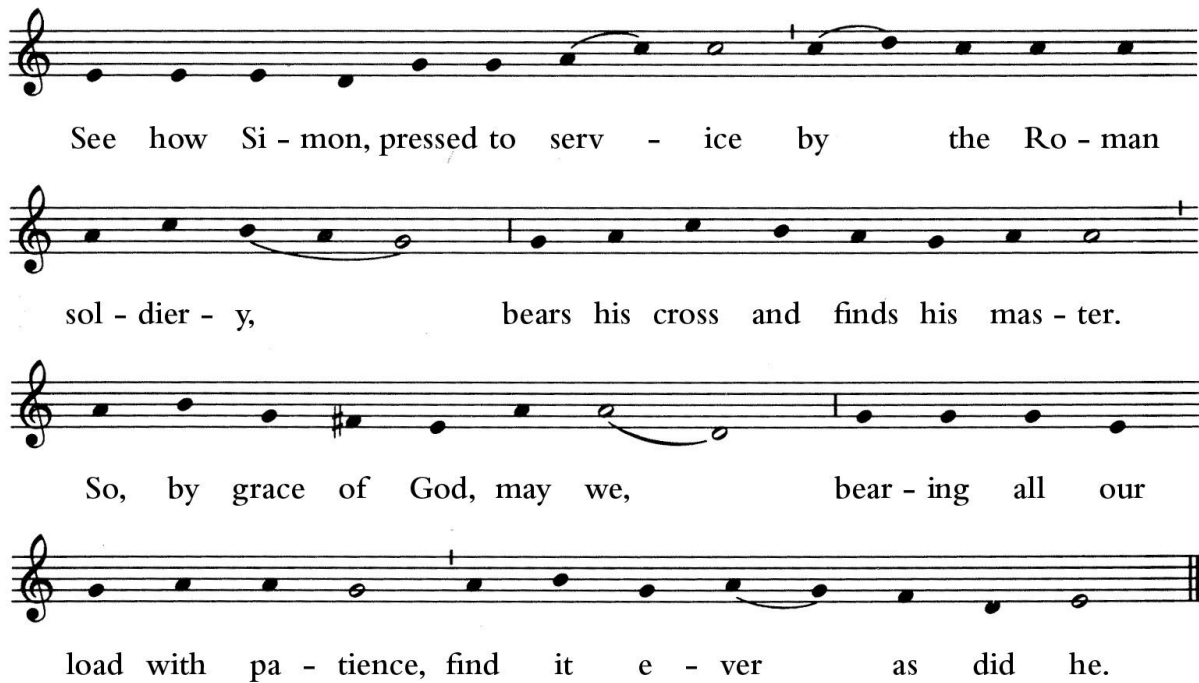
Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. *Mark 15:21*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, who taught us to take up our cross and follow you; grant that we may share your cross in every burden of our daily life, just as Simon shared your cross on that first Good Friday, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



See how Si - mon, pressed to serv - ice by the Ro - man
sol - dier - y, bears his cross and finds his mas - ter.
So, by grace of God, may we, bear - ing all our
load with pa - tience, find it e - ver as did he.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

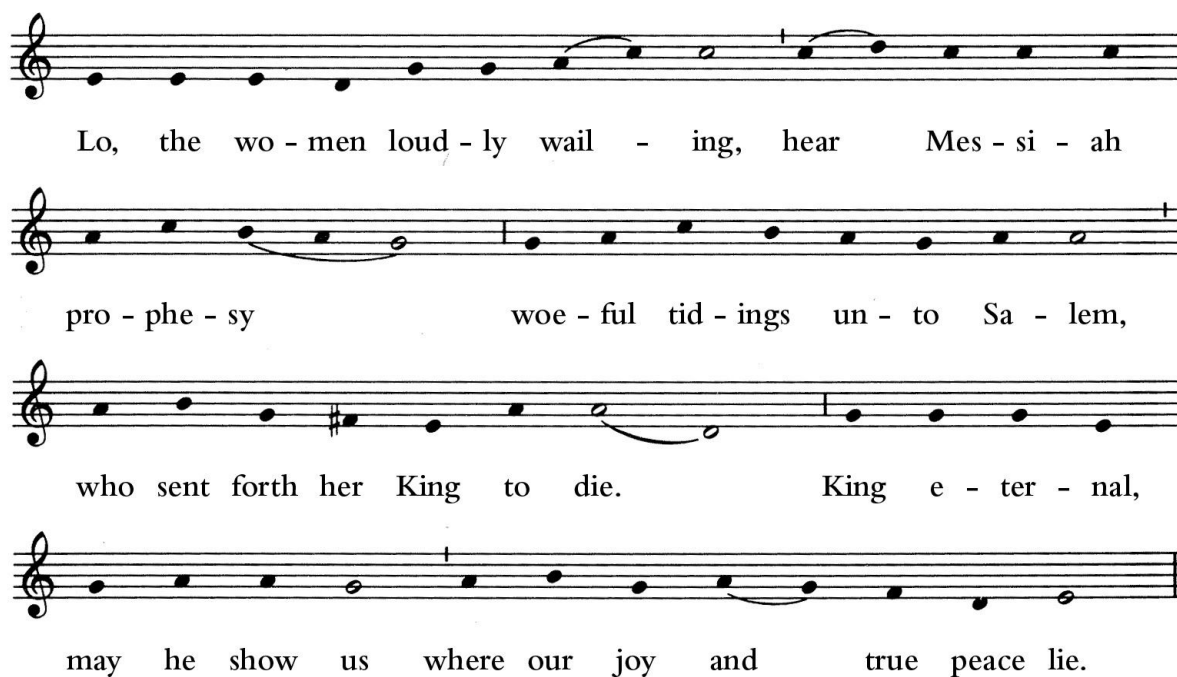
IX. Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" *Luke 23:27-31*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you taught us to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume, and where thieves do not break in and steal: grant, that in the midst of this transitory world, our hearts may be set on you as the goal of all our striving and the answer to all of our restlessness; you who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



Lo, the wo - men loud - ly wail - ing, hear Mes - si - ah
 pro - phe - sy woe - ful tid - ings un - to Sa - lem,
 who sent forth her King to die. King e - ter - nal,
 may he show us where our joy and true peace lie.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

X. Jesus Is Crucified

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. *Luke 23:33-34*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you prayed for those who nailed you to the cross; may the light of your Gospel and the healing power of your grace reach to the ends of the earth, that all may have their debt of sin nailed to your cross; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

See we how he prays for - give - ness while the mul - ti -
 tude doth rail, as with bru - tal blows and hea - vy
 ham - mer strokes are plied on nail. May we all our
 sin and ran - cor on that stan - dard now im - pale.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

XI. Jesus Promises His Kingdom to the Good Thief

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

People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**

Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? 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 justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." *Luke 23:39-43*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you entrance into Paradise; who now lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Je - sus suf - fers cru - el mock - ing, hears the rough a -
 buse and scorn. E - ven cri - mi - nals in - sult him,
 and by lead - ers he is torn. But the low - est
 thief, con - fess - ing in that mo - ment is re - born.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

XII. Jesus Speaks to His Mother and the Disciple

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

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*

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys you have prepared for those who truly love you; who now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

See the Bles - sed Vir - gin Ma - ry, her heart rent by
 pierc - ing sword, as she stands be - neath the cross beam
 of God's on - ly Son, our Lord, now en - trust - ed
 to di - sci - ple, both to wor - ship their A - dored.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

XIII. Jesus Dies on the Cross

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. Luke 23:44-46

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, you committed yourself into the hands of your Father; accept the lowly offering of our heart's love; and grant that dying to self we may live for you, who died for us, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Love and thanks and praise ad - dress we, as with gaze con -
 tem - pla - tive, see we now where Christ our Sav - iour
 hung and died that we might live, and with low - ly
 a - dor - a - tion all our heart's best off' - ring give.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

XIV. Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb

Officiant: *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,*
 People: **Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.**
 Officiant: *Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,*
 People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Officiant or Reader reads the Scripture passage:

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 cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.
Matthew 27:57-60

Officiant: *Let us pray. O blessed Lord Jesus, while your sacred body was at rest that Sabbath, you descended to the dead and made captivity captive; teach us again that nothing may separate us from your love, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Now let hearts be filled with won - der as the ho - ly
 way we trace, which our Sa - viour trod be - fore us
 who is first of all our race. That in gain - ing
 our sal - va - tion He might blot out our dis - grace.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry to his
 on - ly son, low - ly vic - tim, might - y Vic - tor,
 reign - ing now, his con - flict done, glo - ry to the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, who from one with both is one.

Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, Worcester MS, 13th cent.

87. 87. 87

Officiant: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And with your spirit.**

Officiant: *Let us pray.*

All: **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,

forever and ever. Amen.

Officiant: *O blessed Lord Jesus, the Living Stone rejected by the builders that has now become the cornerstone; grant that we may be built together in you into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.*