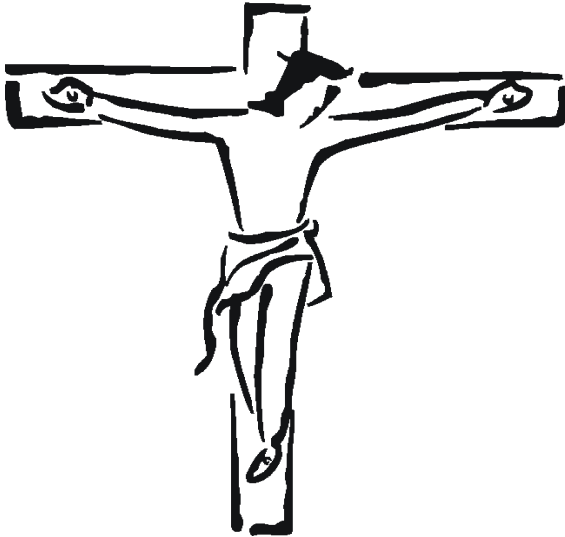


**The Way
of the Cross
for Children & Families**



Good Friday



TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Opening Hymn

*Jesus Loves the Little Children
Jesus loves the little children;
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

*Jesus died for little children;
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus died for little children of the world.*

Opening Devotions

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

People: *Christ, have mercy.*

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

Officiant 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.*

Officiant: We give thanks for the cross of our Lord
Jesus Christ.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray.

Help us, Lord God, to know your love as we
walk the way of the cross; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

(The procession goes to the First Station.)

First Station - Jesus Is Condemned To Death

After Jesus was arrested, he was taken to the governor, a man by the name of Pontius Pilate. There, Jesus' enemies made fun of him, dressed him in a purple robe and crown of thorns and said, "Hail, King of the Jews," and they beat him. The crowd cried, "Crucify him, crucify him." So Pilate gave Jesus to them to be crucified. They took Jesus and led him away.

Sometimes we are teased or made fun of or mistreated. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: God did not spare his own Son: But delivered him up for us all.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Almighty God, whose most dear Son suffered pain and was crucified: Help us, when we are teased or made fun of or mistreated to remember the cross; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. ***Amen.***

(*Pilgrims are given the opportunity to touch the crown of thorns.*)

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

*Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, Kum Ba Yah,
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, Kum Ba Yah,
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, Kum Ba Yah,
Oh, Lord, Kum Ba Yah.*

(*Sung as the procession goes to the Second Station.*)



Second Station - Jesus Takes Up His Cross

Jesus went out, carrying his own cross, to the place called the place of the skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. Like a lamb he was led to be killed and didn't make a sound. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

Sometimes we find it hard to obey. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: The Lord has laid on him the wrongdoing of us all:

For our sin was he crucified.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for us: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

(*Pilgrims carry a large wooden cross to the next station.*)

Hymn

Ba Yah

Kum

Someone's obeying Lord, *Kum Ba Yah...*
(*Sung as procession goes to the Third Station*)



Third Station – The Cross is Laid on Simon of Cyrene

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. Jesus has said, “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.”

Sometimes when we, like Simon, are asked to help, we don't want to do it.

Our friend Jesus understands.

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

cannot be my disciple.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (silence)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be helped but to be a helper; bless all who, following in his steps, help others; that they may offer love and care 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.*

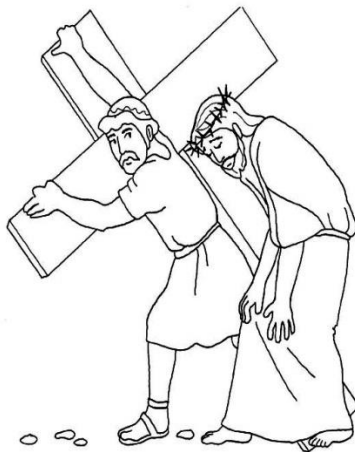
(Some pilgrims carry Simon's burdens for him as he helps carry the cross.)

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

Someone's helping Lord, Kum Ba Yah...

(Sung as the procession goes to the Fourth Station)



Fourth Station – Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

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

Sometimes we feel sad when we see the suffering around us.

Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Teach your people, O Lord, to be sorry for their sins and to repent and change their way; that the results of sin may not be suffered by children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

(Children will be given a comfort cross to carry through the remaining stations))

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

Someone’s crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah...

(Sung as procession goes to the Fifth Station)



Fifth Station – Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

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.

Sometimes we get thirsty and we need pure water to drink. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: They gave me gall to eat: And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Lord God, whose blessed Son Jesus gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Help us to accept the sufferings of the present time; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Pilgrims are given the opportunity to taste vinegar water)

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

Someone's thirsty Lord, Kum Ba Yah...

(Sung as the procession goes to the Sixth Station)



Sixth Station – Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

When they came to a 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.

Sometimes we forget how much is done for us. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: They pierce my hands and my feet:
They stare and gloat over me.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

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.

(Pilgrims are given nails.)

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

Someone's hurting Lord, Kum Ba Yah...
(Sung as the procession goes to the Seventh Station)



Seventh Station – Jesus Dies on the Cross

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.

Sometimes we wonder what it must be like to die. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: Christ for us was obedient unto death:
Even death on a cross.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

O God, who gave your only Son to the death on a cross, help us to do your will that we may evermore live with Jesus in heaven; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

(*Pilgrims stand quietly as a bell is rung three times.*)

Hymn

Kum Ba Yah

Someone's dying Lord, Kum Ba Yah...

(*Sung as the procession goes to the Eighth Station*)



Eighth Station – Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

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 clean linen and laid it in his own new tomb, that he had carved in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

Sometimes we wonder if we can be a disciple, like Joseph of Arimathea. Our friend Jesus understands.

Officiant: You will not leave us in death: You will never leave us.

People: ***We thank you Lord Jesus.***

Officiant: Let us pray. (*silence*)

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden:

Grant that we who have been baptized
may be his disciples now
and dwell forever in his eternal and
glorious kingdom;
where he lives and reigns forever and
ever. ***Amen.***

(*Pilgrims roll a stone over the entrance to the tomb.*)

Officiant: Let us pray.
To Christ our Lord who loves us, and
washes us and makes
us special people to serve his God and
Father, to him be all
glory and all power forever and ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Were You There

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 laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Concerning the Service

The devotion 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.

At first the number of stations varied widely, but finally became fixed at fourteen.

Of these, eight are based directly on events recorded in the Gospel account or from pious legend.

Traditionally, the stations are made before a series of plain wooden crosses, placed along the walls of the church or in some other convenient place. With each cross there is sometimes associated a pictorial representation of the event being commemorated.

Adaption based on The Way of The Cross, Book of Occasional Services, page 54ff, Lent 1990.

