

Jesus' Journey

Station by Station Towards the Cross

(The Stations of the Cross)



Artist: Christopher Giede

Monday, April 15—Thursday, April 18, 2019

9:00 am—9:00 pm, Daily

As you begin...

The stations of the cross, is a station by station reflective journey of walking with Jesus through the last hours of his life. The experience of his last hours incorporates scripture and artwork created by artists from the Emmanuel community.

In the Christian church the Stations of the Cross has been formational in providing an opportunity for a deep devotional life. Early Christian pilgrims who journeyed to Jerusalem would retrace the route of Jesus as he carried his cross to his death. During the Medieval period many people could not make the arduous journey to Jerusalem. Worshippers imaginatively developed depictions of each biblical scene for their own devotional journey of following Jesus and as an act of devotion to God.

Gary Jensen suggests, as you begin your devotional journey, retracing the steps of the Passion, allow time to imagine the different Biblical scenes that Jesus walked through. The journey begins with reading scripture, allowing time to reflect and think about the passage. Ask yourself questions like:

- What does it mean?
- What is going on?
- How does the passage relate to other stories you have read in the past?
- What sounds do you hear? What do you smell? What do you see?
- What emotions do you experience?
- How does Christ's Passion affect you today? Does it? Should it?
- What is your cross to bear?
- Ask the Holy Spirit for help to lift the weight and open your imagination...

Pay attention to what the Holy Spirit might be saying as you meditate on each station. Trust that God is guiding you along the way. As you do, He will.

For Jesus the journey towards the cross began at the gates of Jerusalem. When he approached the city he knew deep within him the journey ahead would be harsh, for him and the people. However what was ahead was not about him but the city. He stood and cried. As you enter this devotional journey through the stations, consider what Jesus may have experienced as he looked upon God's beloved city.

“Receive and experience the amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, deep, deep within yourselves.”

Philippians 4:23

He Cried

Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, “Teacher, get your disciples under control!”

But he said, “If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise.”

When the city came into view, he wept over it.

“If you had only recognized this day, and everything that was good for you! But now it’s too late. In the days ahead your enemies are going to bring up their heavy artillery and surround you, pressing in from every side. They’ll smash you and your babies on the pavement. Not one stone will be left intact. All this because you didn’t recognize and welcome God’s personal visit.”

Palm Sunday

Luke 19:41-44d

Now to the gate of my Jerusalem,
The seething holy city of my heart,
The saviour comes.

But will I welcome him?

Oh crowds of easy feelings make a start;
They raise their hands, get caught up in the
singing, and think the battle won.

Too soon they’ll find the challenge,
the reversal he is bringing
changes their tune.

I know what lies behind
The surface flourish that so quickly fades;
Self-interest, and fearful guardedness,
The hardness of the heart, its barricades,
And at the core, the dreadful emptiness
Of a perverted temple. Jesus, come

Break my resistance and make me your home.

Malcolm Guite

A Prayer:

Generous in love—God, give grace!
Huge in mercy—wipe out my bad record.
Scrub away my guilt,
soak out my sins in your laundry.
I know how bad I’ve been;
my sins are staring me down.
Generous in love—God, give grace!

Psalms 51:1-3



Artist: Malcolm Gilbert

Imagine...

Jesus’ response was to weep.

He stood looking at Jerusalem. He knew he would be rejected with deep hatred. He knew he would be taken to the cross. He wept for a city that was sinful, stubborn and blind to the fact He was God’s Messiah. Jesus knew God loved the city but the city had no love for Him.

Jesus wept not for Himself, but for the people. Malcolm Guite ends his poem titled, “Jesus Weeps” with this thought: If we could see ourselves through Jesus’ tears.

As you begin this journey what might you need to bring before God?

Station One: Luke 22:39-46

He is in the garden of Gethsemane.

Jesus Prays.



Artist: Charles Sebesteyn

Leaving there, he went, as he so often did, to Mount Olives.

The disciples followed him.

When they arrived at the place, he said, "Pray that you don't give in to temptation.

He pulled away from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, remove this cup from me. But please, not what I want. What do you want?"

At once an angel from heaven was at his side, strengthening him. He prayed on all the harder. Sweat, wrung from him like drops of blood, poured off his face.

Luke 22:39-44

It was a very dark night.

Jesus responded by praying to His Father.

Imagine...

Jesus' response was to pray.

Jesus went to the garden experiencing fear and knowing he would go through whatever was before him. He would be obedient to the will of God for His life. In his suffering and uncertainties he turns, turns to God in prayer. He does not give into his anxieties. Instead, he turns his attention to God, the giver of strength and peace.

What are you facing today that causes fear and anxiety? Will you choose to let worries burden you or will you turn in prayer to the God who gives peace and strength?

Your response...

If you were Jesus, what would you pray for?

What might be your prayer to God?

What would your reaction be if you were going to suffer?

He got up from prayer, went back to the disciples and found them asleep, drugged by grief.

He said, "What business do you have sleeping? Get up. Pray so you won't give in to temptation."

Luke 22:45-46



Artist: Jana-Lyn Bergen

Imagine "In Gethsemane"

The coldest night of the year. A transparent moon hangs in the sky. Beneath it, a garden like the one where your ancestors played. You cry into your hands. There are whispers in the dark and the spirit of another watching over you. You remember a young child, walking in the cool breeze by the sea with his mother and father.

There were twelve rocks in the boy's pocket, small ordinary stones taken from the shore, from the streets. You remember the child crying when he lost one. The twelfth is missing, the boy said. Now there are only eleven. His father beside him, touching his hair. His mother holding him in her arms a prescient embrace. Her neck like the smell of roses.

The deep air, a waking dream. The cup before you. Is this yours? a voice asks, trying to lift it. So heavy for such a small thing. Don't touch it. Put it down. You don't want this. This is not how things were supposed to be. There was a promise of something else. Your stomach burns. A strange sweat on your lips. Please, you say. I cannot bear it. Then, a quiet voice. The wind, the perfume of flowers, touches your hair. You can. You must. You see a stone moving, giving way to light. Your will, you cry. I will.

Gary Jensen

A Prayer:

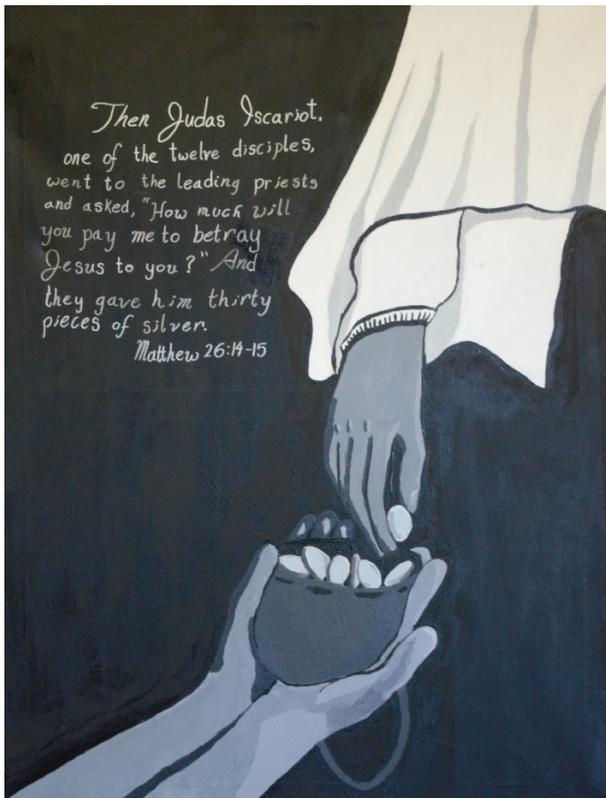
Mighty God in heaven, life on earth can seem so unfair. People mistreat us and harm us and mock us. We try to be true to you through it all, but it is tough to hang in there. Your kingdom can seem so far away. Help me endure and not yield to temptation.

Help me hold fast to you, no matter what Satan and the world throw at me. You let your body be broken. You spilled your blood for me. I will live for you. Amen.

Station Two: Matthew 26:14-15, 47-51

He is betrayed by Judas and arrested.

Jesus is calm.



Artist: Stefan Gibson

The words were barely out of his mouth when Judas (the one from the Twelve) showed up, and with him a gang from the high priests and religious leaders brandishing swords and clubs. The betrayer had worked out a sign with them: "The one I kiss, that's the one—seize him." He went straight to Jesus, greeted him, "How are you, Rabbi?" and kissed him.

Jesus said, "Friend, why this charade?"

Then they came on him—grabbed him and roughed him up. One of those with Jesus pulled his sword and, taking a swing at the Chief Priest's servant, cut off his ear.

Matthew 26:47-51

Imagine...

Jesus responded by staying calm.

Can you recall a time when you felt betrayed? How did you respond?

That is when one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the cabal of high priests and said, "What will you give me if I hand him over to you?" They settled on thirty silver pieces. He began looking for just the right moment to hand him over.

Matthew 26:14-15



Artist: Portia Winter

Station Three: Luke 22:66-71

He is condemned by the Sanhedrin.

Jesus is steadfast.



Artist: Dan Bryden

When it was morning, the religious leaders of the people and the high priests and scholars all got together and brought him before their High Council. They said, “Are you the Messiah?”

He answered, “If I said yes, you wouldn’t believe me. If I asked what you meant by your question, you wouldn’t answer me. So, here’s what I have to say: From here on the Son of Man takes his place at God’s right hand, the place of power.”

They all said, “So you admit your claim to be the Son of God?”

“You’re the ones who keep saying it,” he said.

But they had made up their minds, “Why do we need any more evidence? We’ve all heard him as good as say it himself.”

Luke 22:66-71

Imagine...

Jesus responded by being steadfast.

Jesus stood firm without wavering as false accusations whirled at him from practiced accusers. Their insults and name calling failed to anger him, which made their desire to have him sentenced to death even greater at any price. Jesus knew he did not deserve the sentence given by the Jewish leaders, yet he continued to stand firm and steadfast, not wavering.

In what ways have you denied Jesus? God is always present. As you turn to him, he will help you be steadfast in following Jesus. At all times.

Station Four: Matthew 26:69-75

He is denied by Peter.

Jesus accepts others' weakness.

All this time, Peter was sitting out in the courtyard. One servant girl came up to him and said, "You were with Jesus the Galilean."

In front of everybody there, he denied it. "I don't know what you're talking about."

As he moved over toward the gate, someone else said to the people there, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene."

Again, he denied it, salting his denial with an oath: "I swear, I never laid eyes on the man."

Shortly after that, some bystanders approached Peter. "You've got to be one of them. Your accent gives you away."

Then he got really nervous and swore. "I don't know the man!"

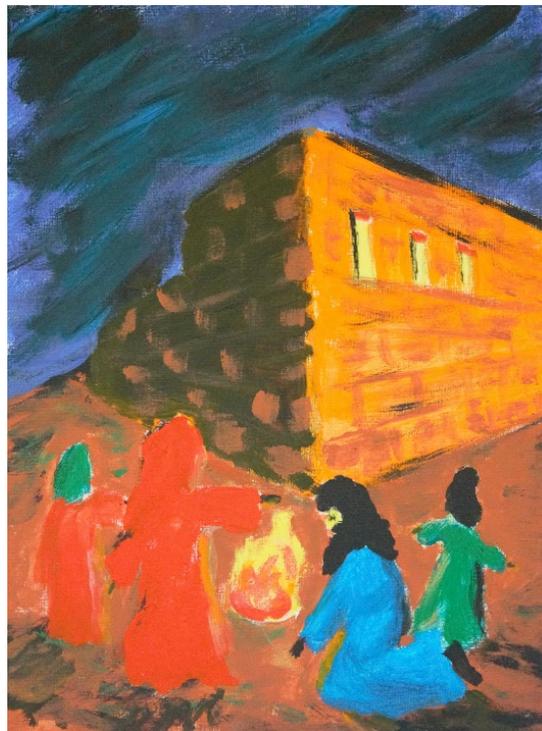
Just then a rooster crowed. Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." He went out and cried and cried and cried.

Matthew 26:69-75

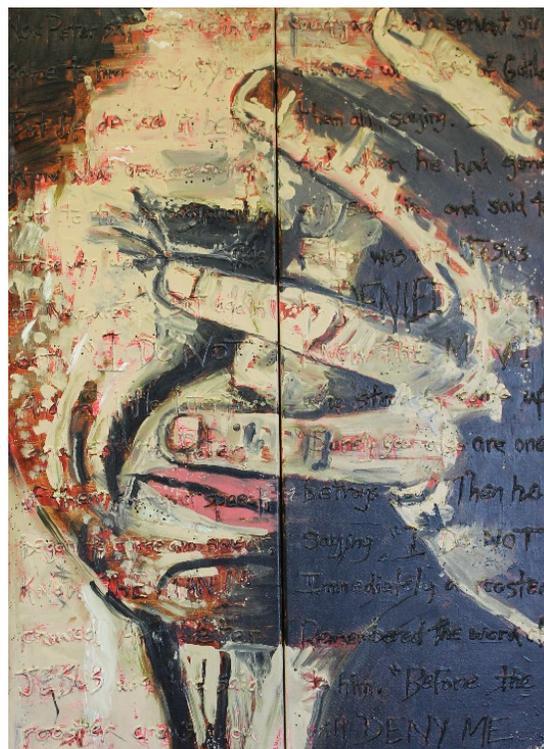
Imagine...

Jesus in his suffering responded by accepting other's weaknesses.

Jesus and his disciples had been in the public eye all week, and the people of the city knew them well. A young servant girl was the first to challenge Peter, and then others followed. Jesus knew Peter well. He knew he wanted to be loyal but he still had weaknesses to overcome. He had not learnt to depend on God for wisdom and strength to overcome his limitations.



Artist: Edwin Van Der Spuy



Artist: Shawn Toovey

In what ways do you need to be less confident in yourself and more dependent on God?

Station Five: Matthew 27:15-24

He is judged by Pilate.

Jesus is quiet.

It was an old custom during the Feast for the governor to pardon a single prisoner named by the crowd. At the time, they had the infamous Jesus Barabbas in prison. With the crowd before him, Pilate said, "Which prisoner do you want me to pardon: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus the so-called Christ?" He knew it was through sheer spite that they had turned Jesus over to him.

¹⁹ While court was still in session, Pilate's wife sent him a message: "Don't get mixed up in judging this noble man. I've just been through a long and troubled night because of a dream about him."

²⁰ Meanwhile, the high priests and religious leaders had talked the crowd into asking for the pardon of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus.

²¹ The governor asked, "Which of the two do you want me to pardon?"

They said, "Barabbas!"

²² "Then what do I do with Jesus, the so-called Christ?"

They all shouted, "Nail him to a cross!"

²³ He objected, "But for what crime?"

But they yelled all the louder, "Nail him to a cross!"

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere and that a riot was imminent, he took a basin of water and washed his hands in full sight of the crowd, saying, "I'm washing my hands of responsibility for this man's death. From now on, it's in your hands. You're judge and jury."

Matthew 27:15-24

Imagine...

Jesus responded by being quiet.

Craziness and madness filled the air. The people choose to let a notorious madman, an insurrectionist, and a prisoner go free. Envy covered the souls of the Jewish leaders. Pilate recognized that the leaders were afraid of losing their influence to this teacher, who was claiming to be the Messiah. Jesus' popularity with the people caused the Jewish leaders hearts to grow cold and bitter towards an innocent man. The Chief priest and the elders had managed to convince the crowds to believe their case against Jesus. Through it all... Jesus was quiet. He did not try to defend himself. He was simply quiet. Even when the crowd's persistent cries were "Crucify Him!" He uttered not a word. Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified and once again Jesus had been betrayed.



Artist: Barbara Dawson

“Judged by Pilate”

I thought I would be taller,
But he is just a man.
Let it be done.

Gary Jensen

A Prayer:

Lord, your grace is what I need
when I experience unfair events in
my life.

When crazy emotions blur my
vision, help me to look to you for
clarity and strength. Amen.

Your Response:

As you read through this
station what dominant emotion
surfaced for you?

Confusion? Fear? Cruelty?
Injustice? Betrayal? Anger?

What do you think was going
through Jesus' mind as he
stood as a spectacle before
Pilate, and those who were
present?

What feelings arise as you
mediate upon this scene?

What might you say to God
now?

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 defence,
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.

Malcolm Guite

Station Six: John 19:1-3

He is scourged and crowned with thorns.

Jesus is broken.

So, Pilate took Jesus and had him whipped. The soldiers, having braided a crown from thorns, set it on his head, threw a purple robe over him, and approached him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they greeted him with slaps in the face.

John 19:1-3

Imagine...

Jesus' body is now beaten and broken.

Humiliated. Now Jesus is a prisoner of Rome. The fine art of cruelty was crashing down upon him with no mercy. No compassion was shown from the Jewish leaders or the mobs of people who witnessed his whipped, bruised and blood stained body. No sympathy. No pity. Only harden hearts. Violence filled the air. Jesus knew that they really had no power over him, if it was not given from his Father.

A Prayer:

Jesus, thank you, for being obedient and for taking on all of our sins at Calvary. For paying the price with your life, so we would have freedom and eternal life. Thank you for the free gift of grace that you have given to all of humanity. Thank you Lord. Thank you. Have mercy on us. Amen.



Artist: Carol Giede NEW



Artist: Tim Halstrom

Station Seven: John 19:16-17

He bears the cross.

Jesus endures.

Imagine...

Jesus responded by enduring.

Man of sorrows! What a name
for the Son of God, who came
ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Guilty, helpless, lost were we;
blameless Lamb of God was he,
sacrificed to set us free:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

He was lifted up to die;
"It is finished" was his cry;
now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Psalter Hymnal, (Gray), 1987

A Prayer:

Gracious God, I bow before you in wonder
at the cross on which your beloved Son
died. Thank you for the unconditional love
and sacrifice shown by Jesus. What an
amazing gift of love. I ask for courage to tell
others of your love. Amen.

Pilate caved in to their demand. He turned
him over to be crucified.

They took Jesus away. Carrying his cross,
Jesus went out to the place called Skull Hill
(the name in Hebrew is Golgotha), where
they crucified him, and with him two others,
one on each side, Jesus in the middle. Pilate
wrote a sign and had it placed on the cross.
It read:

JESUS THE NAZARENE
THE KING OF THE JEWS.

JOHN 19:16-17



Artist: Mark Everett

Station Eight: Luke 23:26

He is helped by Simon the Cyrenian to carry the Cross.

Jesus allows others to help.



Artist: Kathy Malanovich

As they led him off, they made Simon, a man from Cyrene who happened to be coming in from the countryside, carry the cross behind Jesus.

Luke 23:26

A Prayer:

Jesus, I desire to follow you but not only with my feet. I open my hands. I surrender my life to you. Numerous times you revealed a surrendered heart to God our Father.

Now...I come, as I must, with an open heart and hands, not just for me, but also for all of humanity. I pick up my crossbeam and follow even when it is hard to bear.

Thank you, that when it is tough, you send others to help carry the load.
Amen.

Imagine...

Jesus responded by letting another come along side.

Barely alive Jesus was forced to carry an extremely heavy crossbeam upon his beaten and bloody shoulder. Was it compassion and mercy moving when the Roman soldiers forced a man from the crowd to carry the wooden beam? Or did the Roman soldiers just want to get on with business?

The man who was chosen to help carry the load was Simon of Cyrene. He was simple and humble man. Carrying another's heavy load was not what he expected to be undertaking on the day of the Passover Feast. Unexpected for sure! He came as a Jewish pilgrim to celebrate. Now by helping Jesus, in an inadvertent way, Simon's name is remembered...

What burdens of others are you to carry? In what ways are you called to be a friend and listen?

Station Nine: Luke 23:27-31

He meets the women of Jerusalem.

Jesus thinks of others.

At one-point Jesus turned to the women and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t cry for me. Cry for yourselves and for your children. The time is coming when they’ll say, ‘Lucky the women who never conceived! Lucky the wombs that never gave birth! Lucky the breasts that never gave milk!’ Then they’ll start calling to the mountains, ‘Fall down on us!’ calling to the hills, ‘Cover us up!’ If people do these things to a live, green tree, can you imagine what they’ll do with deadwood?”

Imagine...

Luke 23:27-31

Jesus responded by having compassion for others.

Jesus cared about the people. He was always aware of the needs of others. He desired that the women would not grieve for him, but that they would look inward to their own suffering and loss. A time would come when these mourners would face horrific and devastating circumstances. The city of peace would soon be a city of great suffering. The women needed to save their tears for their own loss. Jesus knew soon he would be in the Father’s care, and he did not need to be mourned. Jesus already wept for the fate of the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

A Prayer:

Oh Father, forgive us.

Save us from ourselves.

Thank you for the place you have prepared for us, now and into eternity.

Jesus, let us be faithful witnesses to what you have done for us on the cross.

Let us be a people who will bring glory to your name, here in our church, and in all of the earth.

Now Lord, we commit our life’s to you.

Amen.

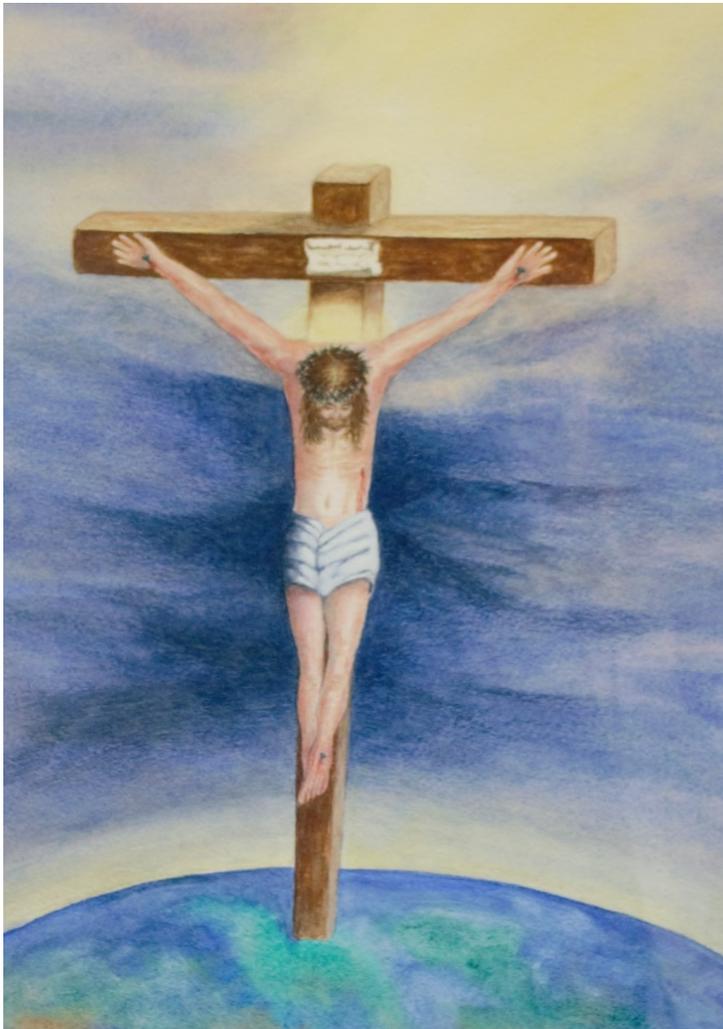


Artist: Scott Parisien

Station Ten: Luke 23:33-34

He is crucified.

Jesus experiences pain.



Artist: Glenda Mood

When they got to the place called Skull Hill, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right, the other on his left.

Jesus prayed, “Father, forgive them; they don’t know what they’re doing.”

Dividing up his clothes, they threw dice for them. The people stood there staring at Jesus, and the ringleaders made faces, taunting, “He saved others. Let’s see him save himself! The Messiah of God—ha! The Chosen—ha!”

Luke 23:33-34

A Prayer:

Lord, have mercy. Have mercy on me. Thank you that you give strength and guidance when I turn to you. Thank you for all that you gave to set me free from my sin. Amen.

Imagine...

Jesus responded by experiencing pain and suffering.

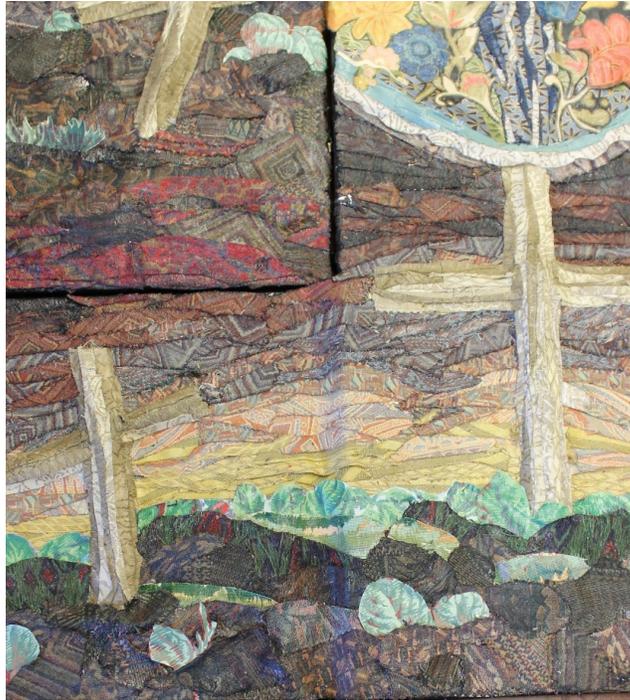
Jesus knew he would die a criminal’s death on the cross. Cruel Roman justice placed the criminal against the skyline for all to witness, so that none would follow in their scandalous ways. It would seem Jesus death was just one more example of a criminal’s death. Jesus, ironically, was demonstrating that to follow him, a person would need to take up his or her own cross. To save their life they would need to lose their life. Confusing. Shocking. Yet, it is the way to real freedom in this life.

What hard circumstance do you find you are carrying at this time? Seek the heart of God, and he will give you the strength needed to draw close to him, and endure.

Station Eleven: Luke 23:39-43

He promises His kingdom to the repentant thief.

Jesus forgives.



Artist: Dawn Johnson

One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: “Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!”

But the other one made him shut up: “Have you no fear of God? You’re getting the same as him. We deserve this, but not him—he did nothing to deserve this.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom.”

He said, “Don’t worry, I will. Today you will join me in paradise.”

Luke 23:39-43

Imagine...

Jesus responded by forgiving.

Forgiveness. Jesus was the master teacher who did not simply teach on the meaning of forgiveness he actually lived it out. Forgiveness, he taught, comes by forgiving others and it has no limits. He communicated often to love your enemies. Hanging helpless on a cross, he practiced all that he had taught through his earthly ministry. Now, he asked the Father to forgive, to forgive all people. He deeply loved and had compassion on the city of Jerusalem.

Are there people in your life you need to forgive? Freedom in Christ comes through forgiveness.

Station Twelve: John 19:25-27

He speaks to his mother and the disciple.

Jesus cares for His family.



Artist: Betty Elmgren NEW

While the soldiers were looking after themselves, Jesus' mother, his aunt, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood at the foot of the cross. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her. He said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that moment the disciple accepted her as his own mother.

John 19:25-27

Imagine...

Jesus responded by being considerate and respectful towards his family.

Jesus respected and fulfilled the Old Testament teaching to "honor your father and your mother."

Perhaps, at this moment, Mary remembered the words from the prophet Simeon.

Jesus' father and mother were speechless with surprise at these words. Simeon went on to bless them, and said to Mary his mother,

"This child marks both the failure and the recovery of many in Israel, a figure misunderstood and contradicted—the pain of a sword-thrust through you—But the rejection will force honesty, as God reveals who they really are."

Luke 2:34-35

Jesus Speaks to His Mother and John

The black represents the darkness of the sin that led to this dark hour. The red is for the stripes Jesus endured. The white represents the pure lamb that was slain. The thin white ribbon is for the mother of Jesus, and the blue coming from the opposite side is for the disciple. They start apart, but come together because of Jesus, and are united at the bottom when Jesus passes his mother into his care.

What has your relationship been like with your parents? In what ways do you care for your them?

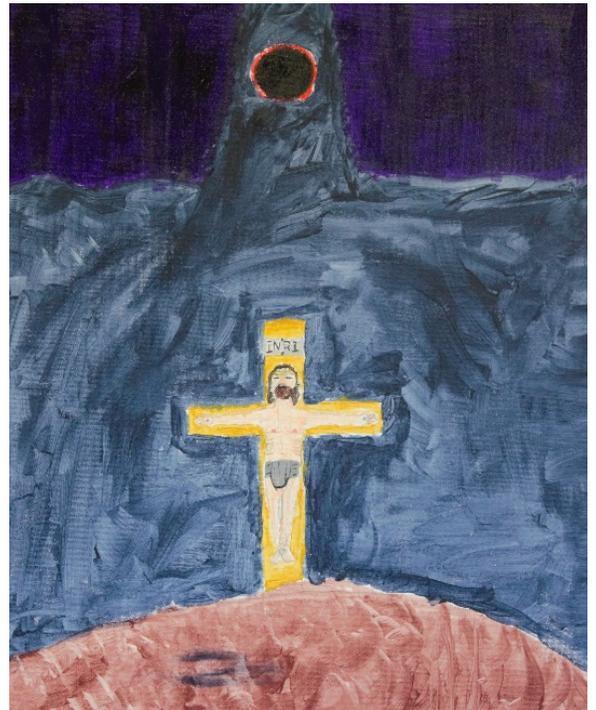
Station Thirteen: Luke 23:44-46

He dies on the cross.

Jesus weeps.

By now it was noon. The whole earth became dark, the darkness lasting three hours—a total blackout. The Temple curtain split right down the middle. Jesus called loudly, “Father, I place my life in your hands!” Then he breathed his last.

Luke 23:44-46



Artist: Maria Vander Der Spuy NEW



Artist: Ayssa Scheffler

Imagine...

Jesus responded by lamenting.

Jesus knew where he was going. His last words on the cross were a deep expression of his faith and his intimate relationship with God. He knew his death and the cross did not represent the final end...the final word.

Death opened a way for him to be safe in the hands of his Father for eternity.

Death is nothing more than an obstacle, like the temple curtain, when it is torn into two, there will be instantaneous and unending access to the Father.

Jesus entrusted his life into God's care when death open the way, is it not the same for all of us who trust in Him?

Station Fourteen: Luke 23:50-56

He is placed in the tomb.

Jesus loves.

There was a man by the name of Joseph, a member of the Jewish High Council, a man of good heart and good character. He had not gone along with the plans and actions of the council. His hometown was the Jewish village of Arimathea. He lived in alert expectation of the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Taking him down, he wrapped him in a linen shroud and placed him in a tomb chiseled into the rock, a tomb never yet used. It was the day before Sabbath, the Sabbath just about to begin.

The women who had been companions of Jesus from Galilee followed along. They saw the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. Then they went back to prepare burial spices and perfumes. They rested quietly on the Sabbath, as commanded

Luke 23:50-56

Imagine...

Jesus' response was one of love.

“Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal.” John 12:24-25

The entire chapter of John 12 in The Message translation has been very thought provoking in my thinking, and highlights again, what a good storyteller Jesus is. The complexity of metaphor collides directly with the reality of Roman capital punishment. The public execution of Jesus was both humiliating and grotesque. New to my thinking has been considering the Trinity, the three timeless and equal Persons. All that had to proceed the death of Jesus, and all that comes after is through that relationship. What does sin look like falling in and through the relationship of the Three? What does death look like? What does it mean for Jesus to bear our punishment?

Metaphor is how we grapple with mystery, this is mine.

Christie Bodnarchuk—Lent 2019

Note: Christie has a piece of art with this station.

Your Response:

In what ways have you experienced God's love in your life?

Easter Dawn

He blesses every love that weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong though the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognize the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question, 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply,
'They took my love away, my day is night.'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

Malcolm Guite

Resources:

All Scripture is from the Message (MSG)

Jansen, Gary. Station-to-Station: An Ignatius Journey through the Stations of the Cross. Pg. 15, 58, 60. Loyola Press. Kindle Edition.

Guite, Malcolm. Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year. Canterbury Press. Pg. 32, 37, 44

Butler, T. C. (2000). Luke (Vol. 3, p. 379). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

***A Special thank-you to all the artist,
who have contributed pieces to the Stations of the Cross over the years.***

