



*Way of
the Cross*

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH.**



Introduction

The Way of the Cross is an ancient devotion that combines movement, prayer, and reflection. We walk The Way using our spiritual imagination to place ourselves with Jesus as he suffers and dies. Traditionally there are 14 stations, but we are using only the 9 that are specifically in the Bible.

If you are not participating in person at Trinity, we encourage you to participate by walking The Way at home or in a nearby park with friends or loved ones. You can "walk" The Way by yourself, too, either physically or by sitting reflectively where you are. Simply pause at each station to read, pray, and sing as you remember and contemplate these moments in Christ's Holy Passion. You will find it to be a poignant experience in preparation for the amazing joy of Easter Sunday.

Begin with these words and prayer:

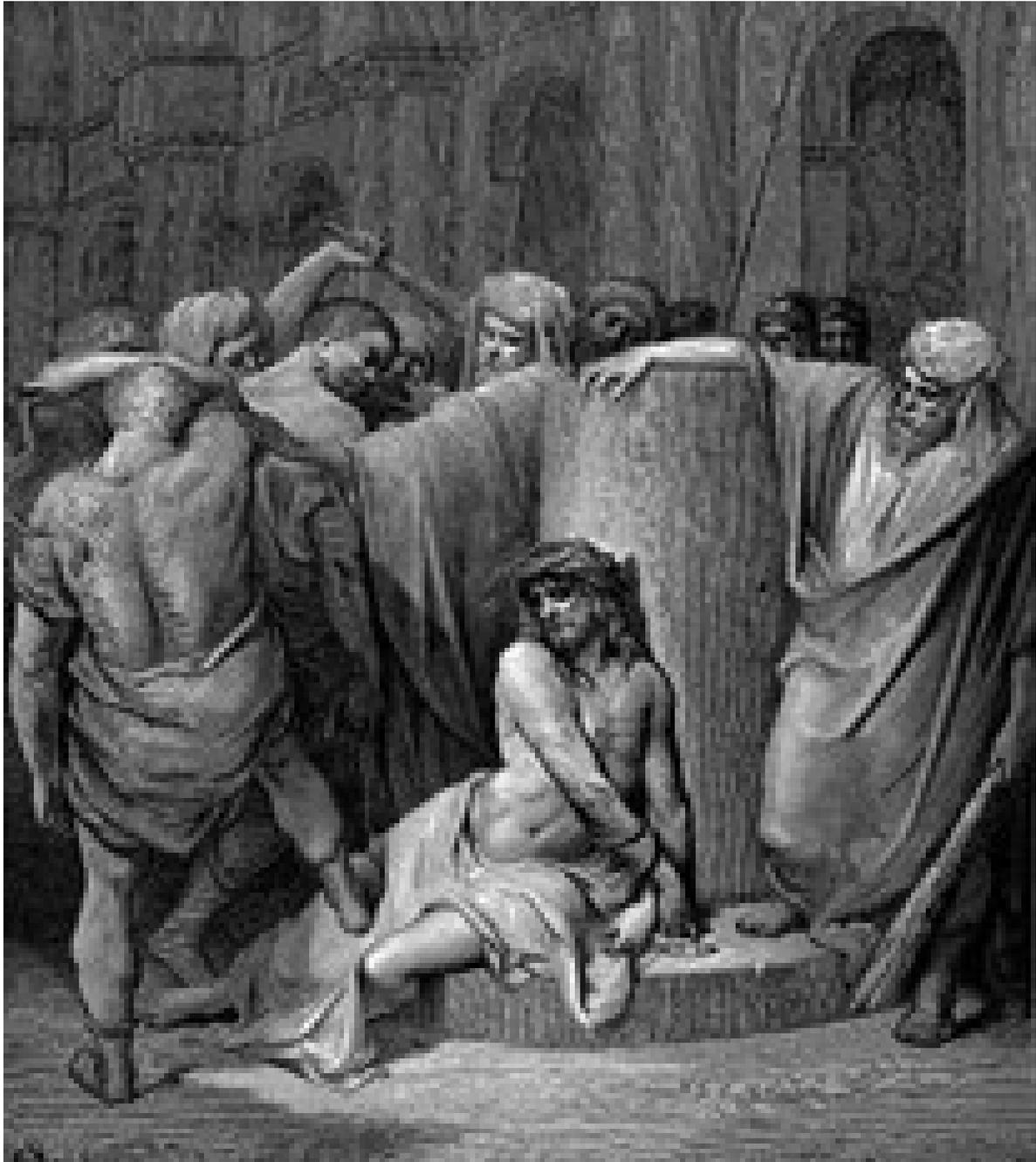
Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Be with us, Lord, as we walk the Way of your Cross and remember your sacrifice for all of us. Help us to grow as your devoted followers. You love us so much you gave yourself over to death so that we might experience life in your eternal kingdom, where you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen



Jesus is condemned to die

Station 1

Jesus is condemned to die

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

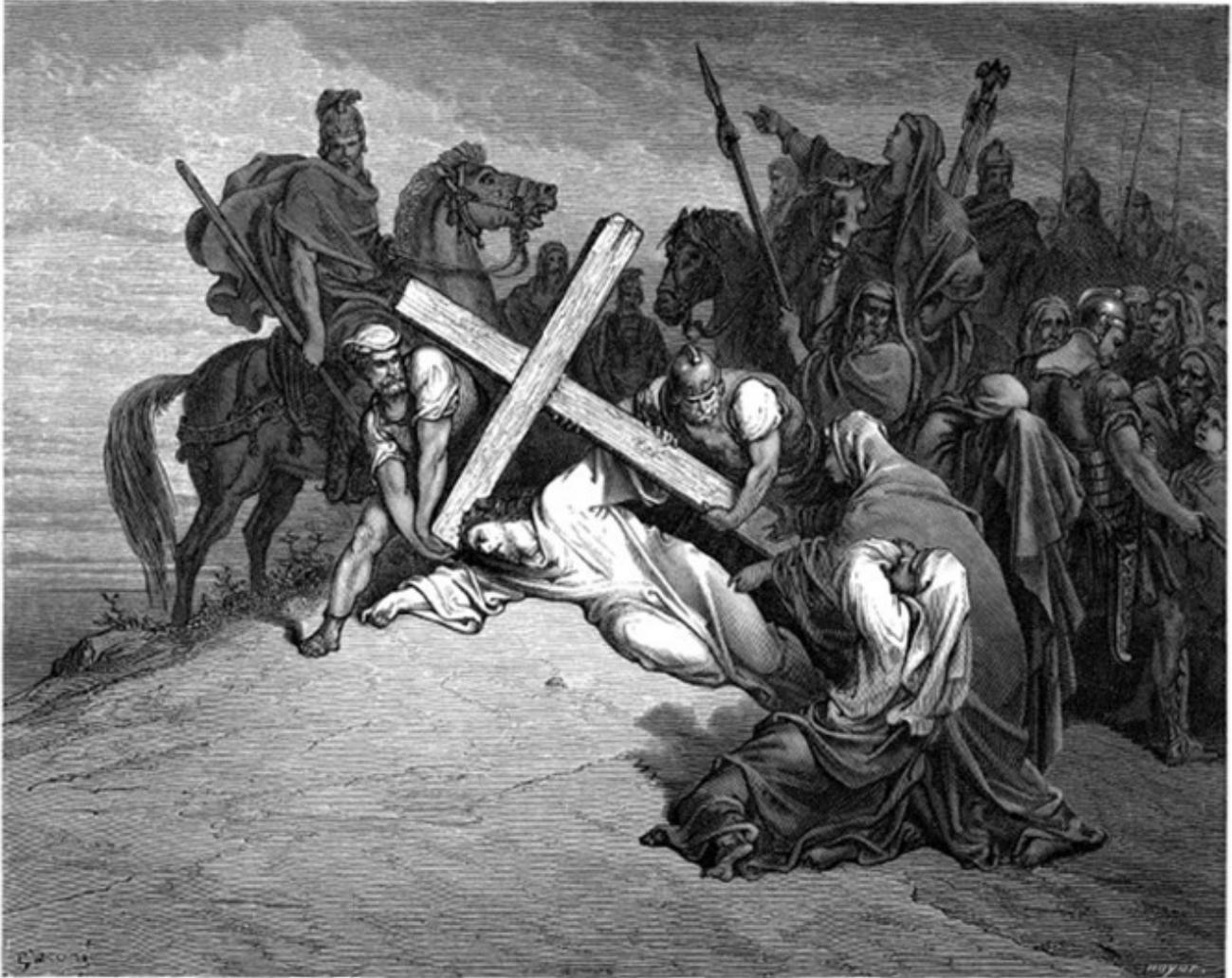
Scripture that tells the story: *It was a custom at the Feast to release a prisoner, anyone the people asked for. There was one prisoner called Barabbas, locked up with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the uprising against Rome. As the crowd came up and began to present its petition for him to release a prisoner, Pilate anticipated them: "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you?" Pilate knew by this time that it was through sheer spite that the high priests had turned Jesus over to him. But the high priests by then had worked up the crowd to ask for the release of Barabbas. Pilate came back, "So what do I do with this man you call King of the Jews?" They yelled, "Nail him to a cross!" Pilate objected, "But for what crime?" But they yelled all the louder, "Nail him to a cross!" Pilate gave the crowd what it wanted, set Barabbas free and turned Jesus over for whipping and crucifixion. (Mark 15:6-15)*

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you stand for us even when we deserve punishment. Forgive our sins, those known and those forgotten, so we may serve you and the people you created with love and compassion. In your name,

Response: Amen

All sing:

**Were you there when they condemned my Lord to die?
Were you there when they condemned my Lord to die?
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they condemned my Lord to die?**



Jesus carries the cross

Station 2

Jesus carries the cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *Pilate said, "I am to crucify your king?" The high priests answered, "We have no king except Caesar." Pilate caved in to their demand. He turned him over to be crucified. They took Jesus away. 17 Carrying his cross, Jesus went out to the place called Skull Hill (the name in Hebrew is Golgotha). (John 19:16-17)*

Prayer: Forgive us Lord, when we seek the power and influence of people rather than turning to you in humility and loving service. Help us always to seek justice for those wrongly accused and compassion for victims of violence. May we bear our crosses with faith and hope. In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

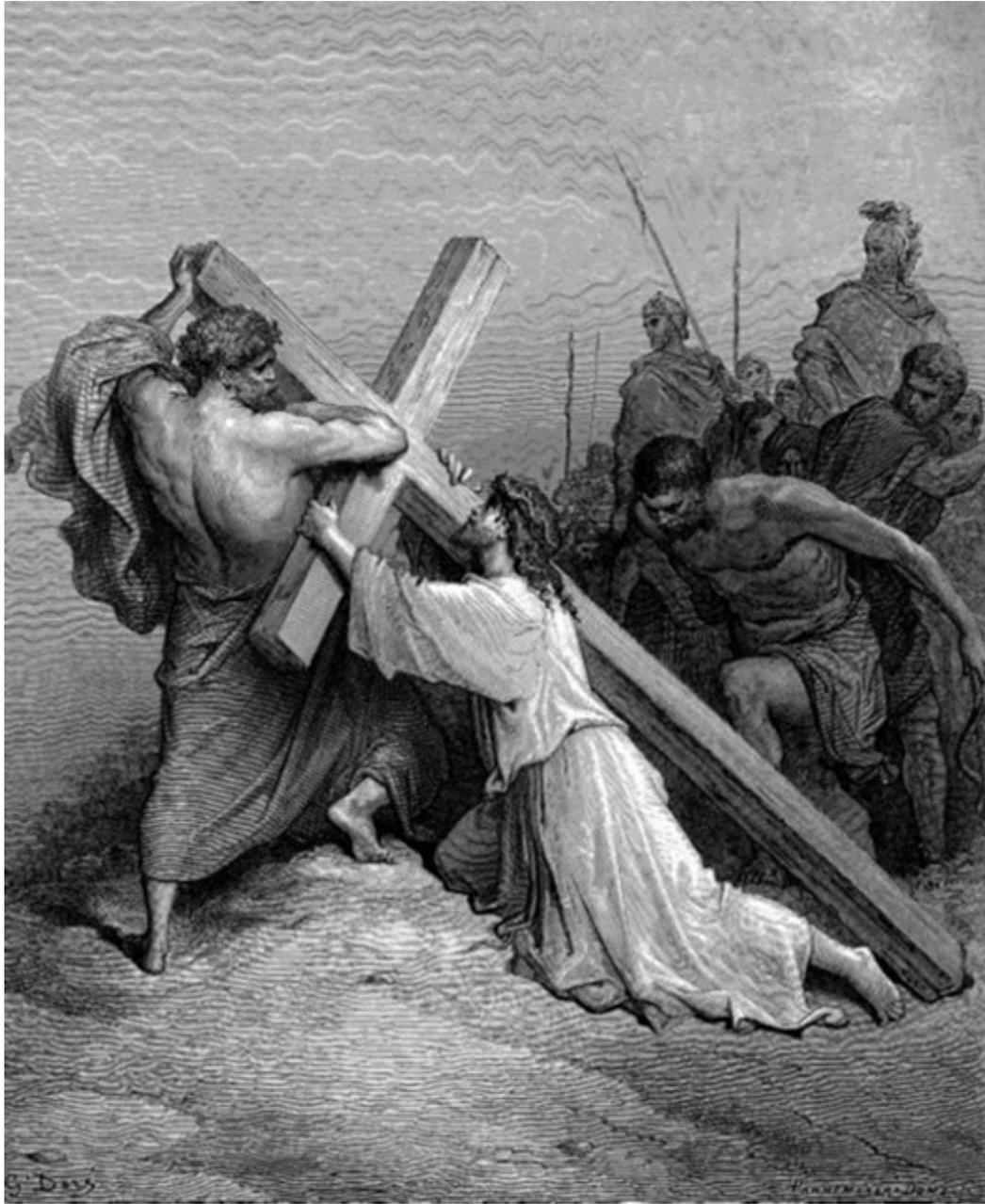
All sing:

Were you there when Jesus bore the cross?

Were you there when Jesus bore the cross?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when Jesus bore the cross?



**Simon helps Jesus
carry the cross**

Station 3

Simon helps Jesus carry the cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *There was a man walking by, coming from work, Simon from Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. They made him carry Jesus' cross. (Mark 15:21)*

Prayer: Compassionate God, When we see hurting people, give us the strength like Simon of Cyrene to lift up their burdens and offer compassion and kindness. Be with all who suffer and help us to be the feet and hands and heart of Jesus.

In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

All sing:

Were you there when Simon helped our Lord?

Were you there when Simon helped our Lord?

Oh sometime it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when Simon helped our Lord?



**Jesus meets the
daughters of Jerusalem**

Station 4

Jesus meets the daughters of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *A huge crowd of people followed, along with women weeping and carrying on. 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!' (Luke 23:27-30)*

Prayer: Holy One, Even as we cry for you, Lord, you care for us. Protect us in times of trial, and strengthen us when we feel defeated, until that day when you reign in peace forever and ever. In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

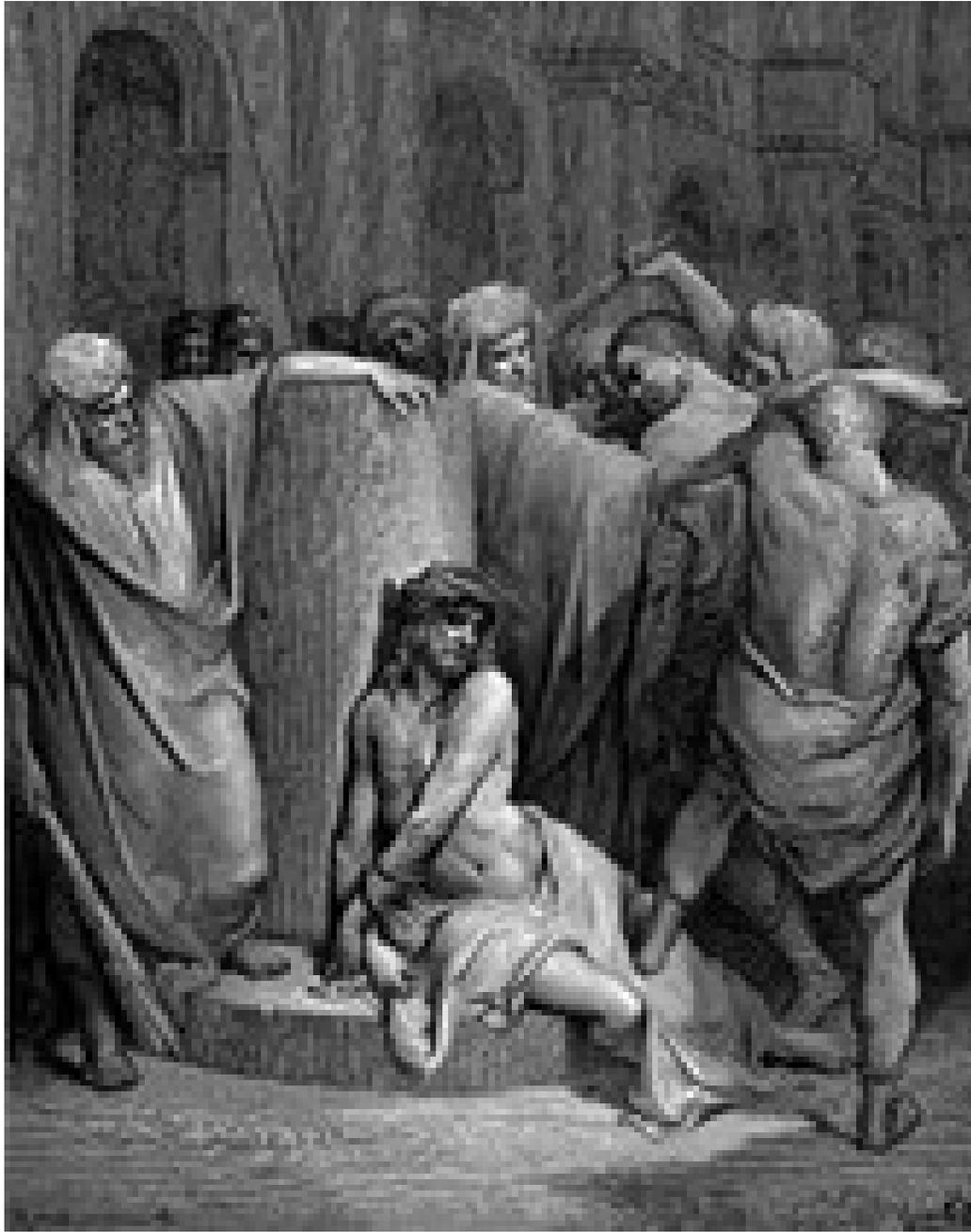
All sing:

Were you there when the women mourned for him?

Were you there when the women mourned for him?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when the women mourned for him?



**Jesus is stripped
of his robe**

Station 5

Jesus is stripped of his robe

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *When they crucified him, the Roman soldiers took his clothes and divided them up four ways, to each soldier a fourth. But his robe was seamless, a single piece of weaving, so they said to each other, "Let's not tear it up. Let's throw dice to see who gets it." This confirmed the Scripture that said, "They divided up my clothes among them and threw dice for my coat."*

(John 19:23-24)

Prayer: Dearest Lord Jesus, In the fulfillment of holy prophecy, you were stripped of your dignity in preparation for the ultimate sacrifice. Naked, you took on our shame and humiliation, so we can know your grace and mercy. In your name,

Response: Amen

All sing:

Were you there when they stripped him of his robe?

Were you there when they stripped him of his robe?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they stripped him of his robe?



**Jesus is nailed
to the cross**

Station 6

Jesus is nailed to the cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *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!" The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him, making a game of it. They toasted him with sour wine: "So you're King of the Jews! Save yourself!" Printed over him was a sign: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 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 23.33-43)

Prayer: Dear Jesus, You are our King! We worship and adore you. May your cross be a sign for the world of your invitation into the paradise of heaven. In your name,

Response: Amen

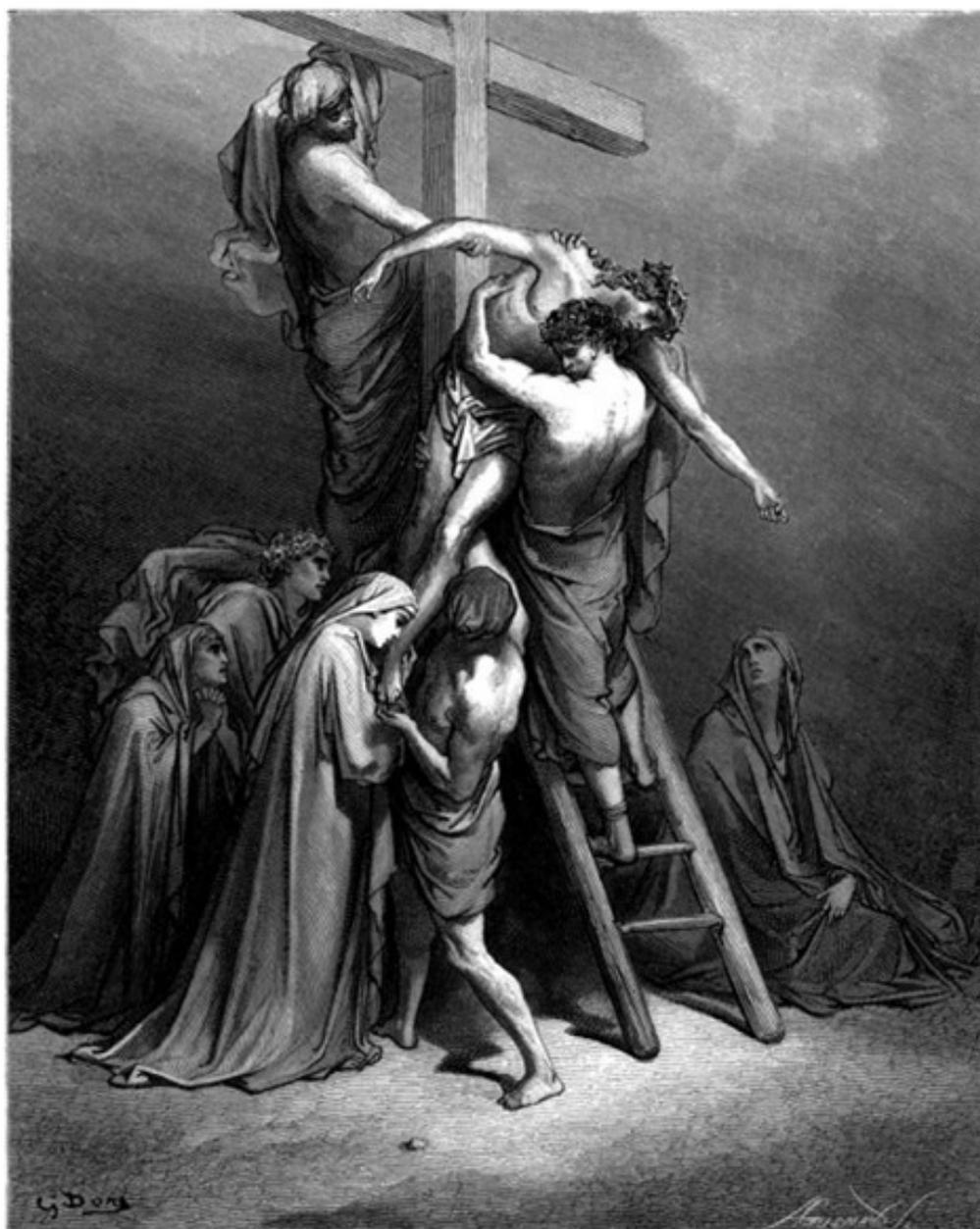
All sing:

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?



Jesus dies on the cross

Station 7

Jesus dies on the cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *Jesus, seeing that everything had been completed so that the Scripture record might also be complete, then said, "I'm thirsty." A jug of sour wine was standing by. Someone put a sponge soaked with the wine on a javelin and lifted it to his mouth. After he took the wine, Jesus said, "It's done . . . complete." Bowing his head, he offered up his spirit. (John 19:28-30)*

Prayer: God, our Father, Your Son gave everything to fulfill your will and show all humankind the depth of your love for your creation. His mission complete, he gave up his spirit to you, so that we might be able to experience that same spirit in the joy of his resurrection. In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

All sing:

Were you there when he died upon the cross?

Were you there when he died upon the cross?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when he died upon the cross?



Jesus is placed in the tomb

Station 8

Jesus is placed in the tomb

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *Late in the afternoon, since it was the Day of Preparation (that is, Sabbath eve), Joseph of Arimathea, a highly respected member of the Jewish Council, came. He was one who lived expectantly, on the lookout for the kingdom of God. Working up his courage, he went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate questioned whether he could be dead that soon and called for the captain to verify that he was really dead.*

Assured by the captain, he gave Joseph the corpse. Having already purchased a linen shroud, Joseph took him down, wrapped him in the shroud, placed him in a tomb that had been cut into the rock, and rolled a large stone across the opening. Mary Magdalene and Mary, mother of Jesus, watched the burial. (Mark 15:42-47)

Prayer: Merciful God, Help us live lives of compassion and love to those who are suffering. We thank you for the witness of Joseph, who cared tenderly for the broken body of Jesus. May we care for the Body of Christ, your holy church, and its mission to tell the good news of the life, death and resurrection of your Son. In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

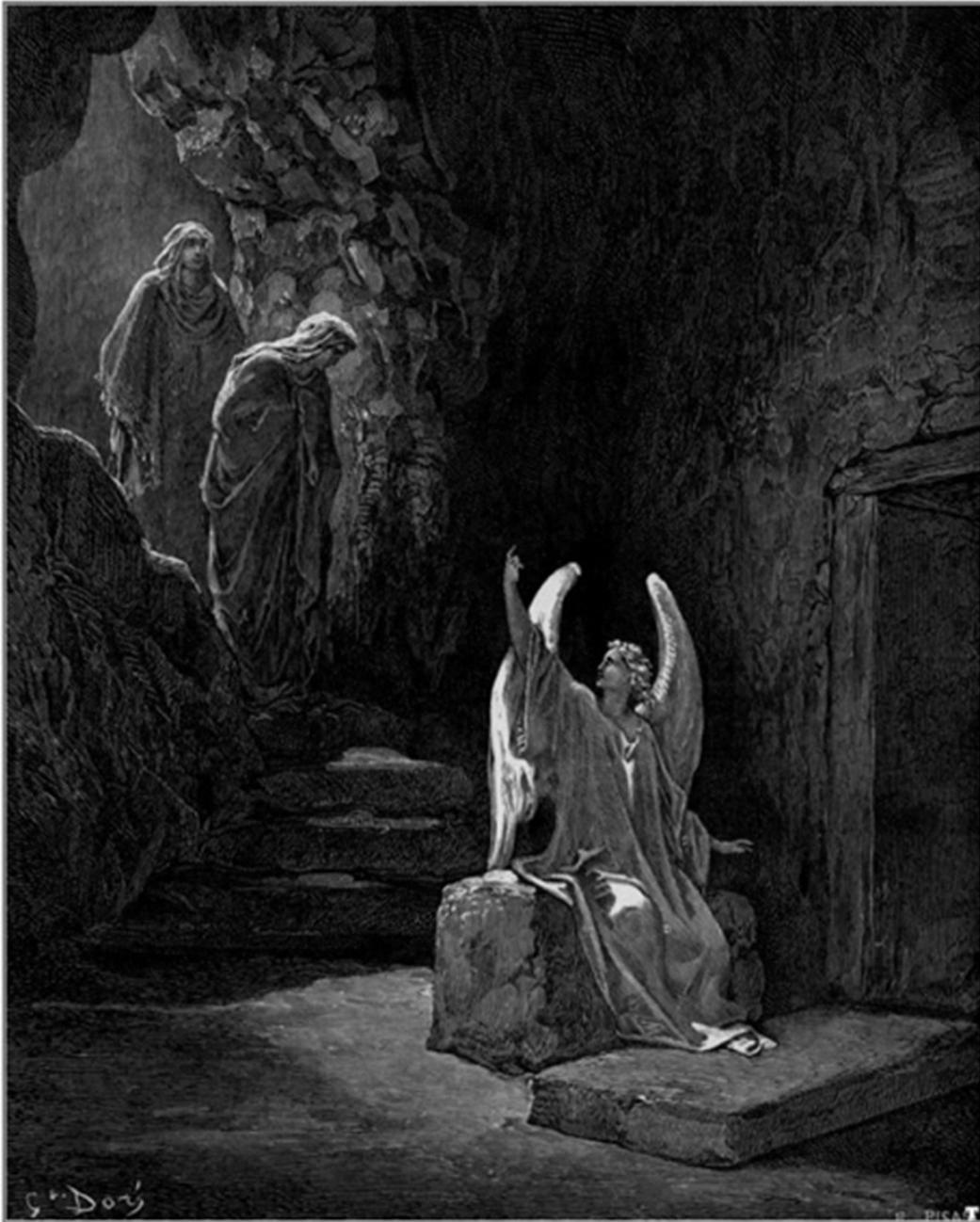
All sing:

Were you there when they placed him in the tomb?

Were you there when they placed him in the tomb?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they placed him in the tomb?



Jesus rises from the dead

Station 9

Jesus rises from the dead

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Response: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture that tells the story: *At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the Master Jesus. They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?" Then they remembered Jesus' words. They left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest. (Luke 24:1-9)*

Prayer: God of surprises, You speak to us in our darkest hours and give us your light. Death has no hold over you. Give us the wonder and delight of celebrating your victory and our salvation.

In Jesus' name,

Response: Amen

All sing:

Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

Conclusion

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Hear the prayers of your people, O God, who have walked by faith and not by sight. Help us live and love this way of the Cross. Bring us all to the day when we celebrate your resurrection.

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.
Amen

Readings: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)*
and *The Message* translation of the Bible.

Drawings: Gustave Dore
Anonymous (Station 4)

Prayers: Rev. Dr. Jack Horner

Pastors: Jack Horner, John Brock, Liz Frey

Guitar Accompaniment: Jack Horner, John Brock, Jeff Weaver

Live Sketching During Event: Artist Patty Marshall

Program and Publicity: Danelle Andrews, Stephanie Maurer



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