



STATIONS *of the* **CROSS**

What are the Stations of the Cross, and how should I engage with them?

The Stations of the Cross were developed into a devotion in Jerusalem in 1342, to help the faithful make a spiritual pilgrimage through the most notable scenes of Jesus Christ's sufferings and death.

As you embark on this journey, this booklet will serve as a devotional and provide commentary. Here, you will find the scriptures that inspired each station, prayers, and reflection questions to help you process and find application for the biblical scenes in your own life and spiritual walk.

We hope that these stations will lead you to a deeper understanding of what Jesus did for us on the cross. While certain moments may feel heavy, know that the true ending of this story is one of joy and triumph on Easter Sunday. Before you begin your journey, we invite you to read the following prayer:

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, you are God in human flesh. You are Emmanuel, God with us. Thus, you are God with me. You understand me. You stand with me in hard times.

I thank you for who you are, what you have done, and what you are doing in my life today. Forgive my sins, dear Lord, and renew your love in my heart. Help me live in unity with others and proclaim your saving power to the world.

Amen.



HIGHLAND PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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STATION 1

TRUSTING GOD'S WILL

Luke 22:39-46

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me, yet not my will but yours be done." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

Already, it is written that our Lord, Jesus, is in agony. He has not yet been betrayed or physically abused, but he suffers deeply in both body and soul, for he is carrying the weight of the world.

Gethsemane means "olive press"—where olive oil was pressed out of the olives. Pressed out, never crushed. Here, Jesus is seen experiencing the greatest pressing a human creature has ever known, as even his blood is pressed out of his body with his sweat that falls to the ground. Jesus knows the trials and tribulations that lie before him and desires for this cup to be taken from him. Though he pleads for God to take the cup away from him, Jesus submits himself to the will of God, and because the plea of Jesus goes unanswered, all of humanity is saved. And in turn, Jesus is not crushed, just pressed.

Remember the agony of Jesus when we find ourselves in moments or seasons of mental, emotional, or physical pressing; when the weight of the world seems to be pressing down on us. We can remember the plea of Jesus to have the cup taken away from him when we too come to God with the same request. And remember that because Jesus submitted himself to God's will, the cup of God's mercy overflows to us.

REFLECTION

In agony, Jesus asks God to take the "cup" of suffering from him, but only if it is in His perfect will. God sends an angel to strengthen Jesus as he faces his fate.

What is an area of your life where you may need to trust God's will? If you want, pray, "Not my will, Lord, but yours be done."

STATION 2

BETRAYAL

Mark 14:43-50

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." All of them deserted him and fled.

Swords and clubs are instruments of power, force, and coercion. They are what the chief priests, scribes, and elders wield to lay hold of Jesus. They are what Peter tries to use to defend Jesus. But for both Peter and the priests, it is in vain.

Even amid the physical roughness here, the most hurtful thing that is done is the betrayal by Judas. It cuts to the heart, even for Jesus who knew in advance what would be done. Fully human, Jesus knows and feels the hurt of having a friend and colleague stab him in the back, all with a smile and a kiss, all while his companions flee for cover.

God's kingdom cannot be established by the use of force and worldly power. Neither can it be stopped or undone by them. For God's reign is implemented not through coercion but through self-giving love. In love, God rules the hearts of His people through faith. We can remember this when people deceive and betray and use us for their own ends, even when they bring us to tears. Jesus has been there for us, and he is with you in your hurt to deliver you, to vindicate all who take refuge in him.

REFLECTION

Judas, a seemingly loyal disciple of Jesus, chooses to betray him, and Jesus is confronted with violence as a result.

Have you ever betrayed a friend or been betrayed by a friend? With God as your guide, how can you repair the pain the betrayal caused?

STATION 3

DEFEND YOURSELF

Mark 14:55-65

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am, and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'" Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

"Like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth." For Jesus had not come to defend himself against false accusations but to defend us.

Put under oath, Jesus does speak the truth of who he is, the Christ, the Son of the Creator, who will come again on the last day for judgment. But here in his first coming, Jesus allows himself to be placed under judgment, that there might be deliverance from the final judgment for all who take shelter under him.

In his ministry, Jesus used his spit to give sight to the blind, but here, at the end of his physical journey, he is spat upon by those who are blind to who he is: the true temple, where God's presence dwells in bodily form. Take heart in the courage of Jesus who remained unoffendable even against the greatest of offenses, and dared not to defend himself, even in the presence of the greatest lies. In life, we will be accused or offended, but remember that the people of God have eternal dwelling in God's beautiful and gracious kingdom.

REFLECTION

Jesus was silent as a sheep while falsely accused, but even when he told the truth, the verdict from his accusers was the same.

Have you ever been accused of something you didn't do? In this case or others, was there ever a moment in which defending yourself may have been fruitless?

Reflect on what it means to "let go and let God" in situations like these.

STATION 4

DENIAL

Luke 22:54-62

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Peter has three chances to confess that he knows Christ. Three times Peter does not. We, too, know that weakness of the flesh—when we deny Jesus with our words or behavior, seeking to avoid negative consequences to our reputation, our income, or our life.

Jesus knew this would happen and had told Peter, though Peter fiercely disagreed. When Peter's denial occurs, as the rooster crows, Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin. Turning to look at Peter, there in the courtyard, Jesus does not condemn Peter, but instead corrects and teaches Peter that the love Jesus had for him would remain despite Peter's denial. The same can be taught to us, today. The look Jesus gave Peter, and gives us, was not a look of anger, but of sorrowful compassion. Peter remembered the words of Jesus and wept, but he also realized that Jesus didn't reject him, even though he rejected Jesus. This, too, is true for us today. Jesus knows us and how we will stumble and falter, but he doesn't reject us; he doubles down and proclaims his love for us. The rooster's crow is not only a call to repentance but also a call to faith in Jesus, who looks on you with constant love.

REFLECTION

Three times, Peter denied knowing the man he followed for years. Say, "I don't know you," to a friend three times with their permission, or just say the words out loud.

How did that feel?

Have you ever rejected Jesus, as Peter did, out of fear or lack of courage—perhaps in your actions or heart rather than your words?

Embrace that forgiveness is available for you, just as it was for Peter.

STATION 5

JUDGMENT

Mark 15:2-15

Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival, he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

The name Barabbas means "son of the Father." But this Barabbas did not act like a child of God, but of the evil one. He was a murderer in the rebellion. And so Barabbas represents us. For all sin ultimately is rebellion against God. It is the attempted murder of God, to get him out of your way so that you can run things the way you want without any interference or consequences. This is what the chief priests were doing. They handed Jesus over because of envy—because he was a threat to their plans and their power. They were a more pious version of Barabbas, rebelling against God in the name of religion and good order, very literally seeking to murder God.

The Father allows them to succeed, and their success is their undoing. Evil is overcome by getting its way. The wicked fall into their own trap. Sin and death and the enemy are overcome by the crucifixion of Jesus. Justice is satisfied by this injustice. Christ takes our place in death so that we may be real Barabbases, real sons of the Father through him. The Savior is made to be sin so that we are made to be true children of God in Christ.

REFLECTION

The crowd sways Pilate, and a guilty man is set free, while Jesus is sent to be crucified. Pilate "passes the buck" by refusing to take a stand.

What are some ways people have judged you in your life? How have you judged others?

If you would like, pray that Jesus would give you the strength to stand for those judged unfairly.

STATION 6

BEHOLD THE MAN

John 19:1-5

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!"

Sin has dehumanized us, turning us in on ourselves rather than outward in love toward God and others.

"Behold the man!" Pilate said. Here is the One, fully divine, fully human. Not degraded and corrupted by his own sin. Here is the One who lays down his life for fallen creatures, like us, to raise us up as the children of God, as God's Church. Jesus willingly allowed himself to be treated inhumanely to rescue us, to restore our humanity and our dignity, and to give us a share in his life and his glory. By his wounds, we are healed and forgiven!

Behold the man, the One who wears a crown of thorns on his head to redeem us from the cursed ground out of which we were created. Behold the One, the Lamb of God, who is mocked, abused, and sacrificed in our place so that the sin of the world may be taken away.

This is Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Alpha and the Omega, Prince of Peace, The Way, The Truth, and The Life—our Good Shepherd. He reigns in mercy and righteous grace over those who believe in him.

REFLECTION

Jesus was inhumanely beaten and mocked. A crown of thorns was placed on the head of the King of Kings to hurt and mock him further. But Jesus would soon take his rightful place at the right hand of God.

Think back to a moment of great pain in your own life. Can you imagine Jesus meeting you in that pain as one who has suffered greatly?

Reflect on the contrast between this sinful world and the glory of the one to come.

STATION 7

THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 19:14-17

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

It is estimated that the cross Jesus carried weighed anywhere between 165 and 300 pounds, however, the symbolic weight that Jesus carried was much greater. As Jesus carried the cross he would ultimately be nailed to, he carried the weight of all of creation's sin. Jesus carried the weight of the world and the fate of humanity on his back.

However, the weight of the cross and the nails piercing through the skin of Jesus did not have the final say. Jesus bears his cross and allows himself to be crucified, to deliver us from the powers of darkness and bring us, as his own, into God's kingdom of light, where everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness abide. The cross, once heavy with sin, became the ultimate icon of redemption and salvation because with it, death was defeated. And even after the resurrection of Jesus, he continued to bear the marks of his crucifixion.

Christ Jesus interrupts our worldly suffering with the promise of eternal salvation. We no longer have to carry the weight of our world on our backs and feel our sin pressing against us. We now can take upon the yoke of Christ and learn from him. For his yoke is easy and his burden is light—here we will find rest for our souls.

REFLECTION

Reflect on what Jesus did for us, taking the weight of our sins onto him as a living sacrifice.

What kinds of burdens do you bear? These can be from work, school, home, societal pressures, worries, and/or insecurities.

Could you ask Jesus to help you carry them?

STATION 8

TAKING UP HIS CROSS

Mark 15:21

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

Jesus, having endured so much physical abuse, could not carry the cross any further. The lack of sleep, the loss of blood, and the weight of the world's sin cause him to fall beneath the burden of the cross.

Simon of Cyrene, a man who was in the city for the Passover feast, was compelled to provide aid to Jesus and help carry the cross. This act of grace on Simon of Cyrene's part towards Jesus, the stirring that occurred in his soul, perfectly illustrates the words of Jesus; "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

So it is also for us. In our redemption, we are chosen by God to both bear the cross and aid others in carrying theirs. On Ash Wednesday, we received the sign of the cross rubbed on our foreheads, a reminder of our finitude—from dust we were made and to dust we will return. But that cross not only resides on our foreheads but also in and on our hearts, marking us as ones redeemed by Christ the crucified.

As believers, we are given a cross to carry daily, and as members of God's kingdom, we submit ourselves to stirrings of our souls, just as Simon of Cyrene did, and act on them out of our faithfulness to the truth of Christ.

REFLECTION

We are called to "take up the cross" by representing Jesus through how we live our lives, but since Jesus bore the burden for our sins, we carry a much lighter load.

Sometimes, we can lighten someone else's load for a while by giving our strength and talents to make their burden easier, and sometimes, all we can give is our presence—a commitment to listening and caring.

Have you ever passed up an opportunity to help someone in need? How can you "take up the cross" in your own life by showing God's love to others?

STATION 9

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Luke 23:27-31

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely 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 this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

The faithful women mourn and lament what is happening to Jesus, their Lord and teacher. But Jesus tells the women not to weep for him, but rather to weep for themselves at what is coming, great tribulation for the faithful.

The women, the "Daughters of Jerusalem," are our ancestral prayer grandmothers and role models. They show us the power of prayer on behalf of ourselves, as well as the power of prayer as an intercessory message on behalf of others. We are called to pray for ourselves, to pray for others, and to allow others to pray for us.

Beautifully, Jesus and the women show us the power of humility, earnestness, and honesty when entering into a holy space of prayer.

REFLECTION

While the women lamented for Jesus in his darkest hour, he turned to them and requested that they instead pray for themselves and their children.

Is there anything happening in your community that hurts your heart?

Take a moment to pray for those involved, and think of a few ways you can serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in that situation or a similar one.

STATION 10

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM

Luke 23:33-34

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." And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

Our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, even for the very ones who crucified him. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Sin clouds our vision, disorienting our understanding of what truly has "value." The soldiers, blinded by their sin, cast lots for the garments of Jesus, placing his material possessions over the significance of who he is. Even still, Jesus petitioned God to forgive them.

The prayers of Jesus to our Creator God are always heard, and so we are always forgiven. Jesus took on the nakedness of humanity so that we may be covered with his garments of mercy. Before we could ever ask him for help or seek his forgiveness, he was already there to save and redeem us. A change of heart is not required in us for God to love us, but the power of the sacrifice of Jesus ultimately causes a shift of priority in our hearts and lives.

REFLECTION

The soldiers divided the garments Jesus was wearing amongst themselves. They valued his clothes but completely devalued him, yet he still says, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Have you ever pushed God aside for things of this world? How can you work toward a priority shift in your life?

STATION 11

THE GLORY TO COME

Luke 23:39-43

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 in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The mocking of Jesus was so furious that even the man to his left joined in. However, the man at the right hand of Jesus sees the truth of who he is, and in their final moments together, Jesus prays with the man as he pleads, "Jesus, remember me when You come into your kingdom."

Even in the darkest moment of the life and ministry of Jesus, another soul is saved.

How glad the repentant man to the right hand of Jesus must have felt when he received the blessed reply of Jesus, words that apply to all Christians: "Today, you will be with me in paradise." The two words, "with me," define for us what paradise is. It is to be with Christ. Where Christ is. It is to be restored to communion with God in a way that is even closer and deeper than what Adam and Eve knew in the garden.

To be in Christ's merciful presence is to have the fullness of life, joy, and peace. Look to Christ in repentance; trust in him. His steadfast love endures forever. As the psalmist says, "At your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

REFLECTION

Even amidst great darkness, there is hope. Hanging on the cross, Jesus promises that the condemned man beside him will be in paradise.

**Reflect on the beauty of life, both in this world and the one to come.
How can you honor this gift from God with your words and actions?**

STATION 12

PREPARATION

John 19:25-27

And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near 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 beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

When we suffer, we tend to turn inward on ourselves, to meditate on our pain. It can be difficult to get outside of ourselves and focus on others. But not our Lord Jesus. Behold his love! In his final hours, he is thinking not of himself but is making sure that his mother is cared for properly, placing her in the care of John. Jesus spends some of his very last moments in his earthly life preparing his mother and John for their coming roles.

Our Lord cares for us from the cross. In moments of vulnerability or discomfort, it is natural to want to protect oneself, but in those moments, God's direction and preparation can be heard. And when we feel lost or overwhelmed, Jesus tethers us and directs us, preparing us for what is to come.

What we are being prepared for may not have been what we would have imagined for ourselves, but it is a better path because it is the path the Lord has set in front of us. We can boldly take the first step, or the next step, in that direction, knowing that our God is with us, strengthening us and helping us.

REFLECTION

Even at the cross, Jesus prepared others, making arrangements for those he loved.

What do you feel that God is preparing you for?

Pray, "Jesus, as I go through the last two stations, silence all voices within my mind but your own. Help me seek and follow your guidance and will."

STATION 13

REDEEMED

Luke 23:44-46

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

The final words of Jesus are confident words of faith and trust. Jesus speaks from Psalm 31 saying, "In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!...Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul, and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place."

The darkness that covered the land at midday was a global representation of the darkness of judgment that Jesus was enduring. Yet, here Jesus expresses assurance in God's love and faithfulness. He breathes his last breath, certain that the Creator God will deliver him and raise him up again. At this moment of his final judgment and subsequent death, Jesus entrusts his spirit to his Creator.

Perhaps we, too, can entrust our spirits to our Creator and take the empowerment found in the safety of our Lord's steadfast love as a bridge toward forgiveness of those who have judged us. Our lives, even now, are held safely in God's hands. As the redeemed, we live in Christ. When we are experiencing affliction in our lives, we are also experiencing moments to pray these words of Jesus with peaceful trust and to move towards a place of forgiveness for those who have afflicted us.

REFLECTION

In Station 2, you reflected on a time you betrayed someone, or someone betrayed you. By dying for our sins, Jesus has given us a path to forgiveness.

Is there anyone you could open your heart to forgive (even if that person is yourself)? Say their name, and remember that person when you pray the final prayer of this booklet.

STATION 14

ROCK OF OUR SALVATION

Mark 15:42-47

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead, and summoning the centurion he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth and, taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where the body was laid.

Joseph of Arimathea was a member of the Sanhedrin. The very group that had condemned Jesus to death asks for the body of Jesus, so that Jesus might be given an honorable burial and not be left for the vultures.

It may be that we identify with Joseph, feeling outnumbered in our lives when it comes to the things of Jesus, and sometimes remaining silent for lack of courage. Let us then stand with Joseph now and take courage. Let us ask for the body of Jesus, seeking to participate in the life of Christ through our worship every week, as the body of Christ, that we may honor his Word and be honored by the gifts that he gives to us in his Last Supper.

Jesus is buried in a new tomb made out of rock. For he has come to be the Rock of our salvation by conquering the grave, bringing new life out of death. And so we say with the psalmist, "On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God."

REFLECTION

Jesus was placed in a tomb after his death, but it could not hold him. Three days later, something miraculous happened.

We invite you to reflect on what you've read in this booklet about the journey of Jesus to the cross, and look forward to honoring his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Thank you for going on this journey with us!

PRAYER

Jesus, I thank you for who you are, what you have done, and what you are doing in my life today. Forgive my sins, dear Lord, and renew your love in my heart. Help me live in unity with others and proclaim your saving power to the world.

Amen.