

# CANTERBURY'S WAY OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy**  
Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen**



## Introduction - Convenor Canterbury Council of Churches

We gather here to walk the way of the cross in union with our Saviour Jesus Christ. We follow the story of his passion as it is related to us in the Gospels. We retrace the steps of the Son of Man as he is betrayed and put on trial, condemned and put to death. We remember his words:  
'If any want to become my followers,  
let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me'

Let us remember also the many forms of the cross carried by the poor, the oppressed and the sick in union with Christ.

*silent prayer*

## Prayer

God of compassion, look upon your people for whose sake your Son Jesus Christ freely chose to undergo the torments of the cross; who is alive, in one glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

## Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me  
most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands,  
His feet, Sorrow and love flow  
mingled down!

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

## 1. First Station - St Dunstan's Anglican Church

*The first station on the way of the cross  
– Gethsemane, where Jesus prays:*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Matthew 26:36-44

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." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me

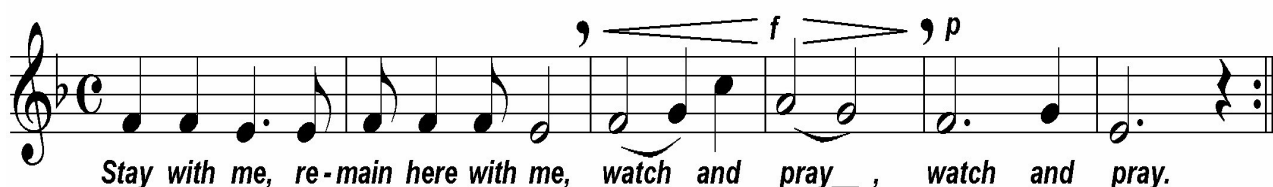
one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

In a garden, O God, we took our own way and lost friendship; now, in a garden, one who is our flesh and blood has pledged himself to take your way, even unto death. Teach us how to be faithful that we may truly be your children. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song “Stay with me, remain here with me” *As we walk*



## 2. Second Station - St Dunstan's Anglican Church

*The second station on the way of the cross  
– Gethsemane, where Jesus is betrayed.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Matthew 26:45-50

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.” While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings,

Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

God of truth, forgive us when we betray your trust and the trust of others. Lead us to ways of sincerity that our deeds may prove our words and our lives be lived with integrity as disciples of Jesus Christ.

We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song “Stay with me, remain here with me” As we walk



### 3. Third Station – St Paul’s Anglican Church

*The third station on the way of the cross  
– the Sanhedrin where Jesus is put to trial*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free

**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Mark 14:55-64

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.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

God, whose Son, though innocent, was tried as guilty and found to deserve death; let all who are unjustly accused be given the words to answer injustice with the power of love as followers of Jesus Christ. We ask this in his name.

**Amen**

Song “Stay with me, remain here with me” - *As we walk*



## 4. Fourth Station – St Paul’s Anglican Church

*The fourth station on the way of the cross  
– where Peter denies Jesus*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free

**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Luke 22:50-62

Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, “Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!” 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 servant-girl, 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





into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

God of glory, you did not hide your Christ from beatings and ridicule, steady your people and given them patience when they are called to suffer injustice because they are Christ's disciples. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song: "Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten' *As we walk*



## 7. Seventh Station - East Camberwell Baptist

*The seventh station on the way of the cross  
– where Jesus takes up the cross.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

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 the emperor." 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.

*silence*



## Prayer

God, your Christ chose to bear the cross to expel from our midst the power of the ancient enemy, by the power of that same cross, let the adversary be driven out in us, that we may live in the light of Christ's resurrection. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song 'O Lord, hear my prayer' As we walk

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and common time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It features a repeat sign followed by a melody of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. When I call answer me. O' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests. The lyrics 'Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O' are written below. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## 8. Eighth Station - East Camberwell Baptist

*The eighth station on the way of the cross  
– where Simon of Cyrene carries the cross*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Mark 15:20-21

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. 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.

*silence*

## Prayer

Sustain us, O God. Let us not grow weary as we follow Christ on the way of the cross but support us and keep us faithful so that for us his burden may be light and his yoke easy since he carries it with us. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

## 9. Ninth Station - St Dominic's Catholic Church

*The ninth station on the way of the cross  
– where Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free

**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

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?”

*silence*

### Prayer

God our Father, let this contemplation of Christ's passion make us compassionate to all who suffer, so that in care and concern we may offer you worship that is genuine, practicing a faith that is true as disciples of Jesus. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song 'O Lord, hear my prayer'

*As we walk*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the notes.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. When I call answer me. O

Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O

## 10. Tenth Station - St Dominic's Catholic Church

*The tenth station on the way of the cross  
– Golgotha, where Jesus is crucified*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

Matthew 27:33-37

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

*silence*

### Prayer

God, who in the crucifixion of your Christ reached out your arms to embrace all creation; let us not refuse the love which creates and sustains us. May we love in care of our neighbour’s need, according to Christ’s command. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song: ‘O Lord, hear my prayer’ *As we walk*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains a repeat sign followed by the melody. The lyrics under the first staff are: "O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. When I call answer me. O". The second staff continues the melody. The lyrics under the second staff are: "Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O". The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and a final cadence.

## 11 Eleventh Station—Canterbury Uniting Church (Balwyn Road)

*The eleventh station on the way of the cross  
– where Jesus promises Paradise to the Thief.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

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

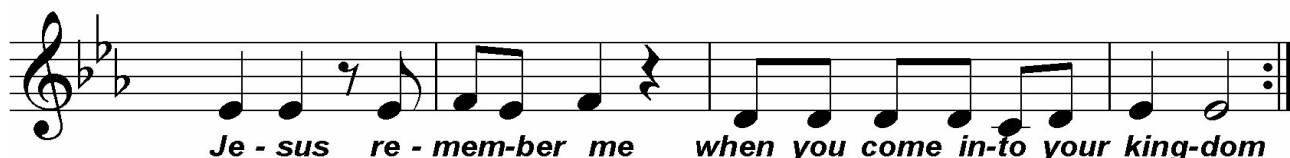
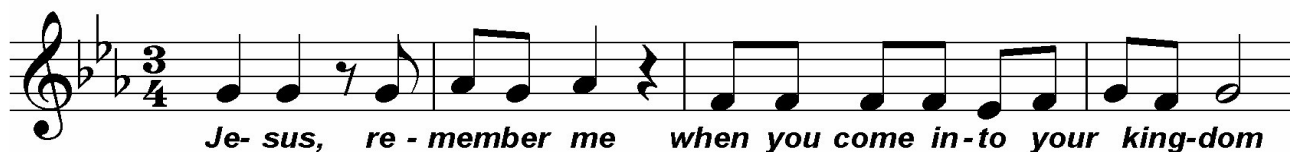
*silence*

### Prayer

Remember us, O God, when we hang condemned and dying by our own and others' judgement. May we know the freedom of your grace and so find ourselves abiding in paradise with your beloved Son. We ask this in his name.

**Amen**

Song 'Jesus, remember me..' *As we walk*



## 12 Twelfth Station - Highfield Road Uniting Church

*The twelfth station on the way of the cross  
- where Mary and John stand beneath the cross.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free

**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

## John 19:25-27

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.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

God and Father of all, as Mary and John were given into each other's care as mother and son let the passion of Christ move us to care for those who are orphaned and widowed that we may truly be the brothers and sisters of your Son, Jesus Christ. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song 'Jesus, remember me.'

*As we walk*

Je - sus, re - member me when you come in-to your king-dom

Je - sus re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king-dom

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff is for the vocal line, and the second staff is for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## 13 Thirteenth Station - Highfield Road Uniting Church

*The thirteenth station on the way of the cross  
– where Jesus dies on the cross.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free  
**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

John 19:28-30

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*silence*

### **Prayer**

Gracious God, whose Son by dying accomplished the work for which he gave himself, pour out on us the Spirit that is released by his death, that we may have eternal life in him. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Song: 'Jesus, remember me..' As we walk

Je - sus, re - member me when you come in-to your king-dom

Je - sus re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king-dom

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, G minor. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

#### 14. Fourteenth Station – St Barnabas Anglican Church, Balwyn

*The fourteen station on the way of the cross  
– the tomb where Jesus is laid.*

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free

**You are the Saviour of the world**

*silence*

John 19:38-42

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

*silence*

**Prayer**

God, our life, from whose love neither death nor the grave can separate us, give us the patience to abide in Him and the courage to encounter darkness,

knowing that in the resurrection of Jesus there is the dawn of a new and unending day. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

## **Hymn: Were you there?**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
O 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?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when he rose from out the tomb?  
Were you there when he rose from out the tomb?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;  
were you there when they crucified my Lord?

African-American spiritual melody  
*arr.* Francis Brotherton Westbrook  
1903-75

Words of Dismissal - St Barnabas Anglican Church, Balwyn

Our walk does not conclude with a blessing, for it is part of a greater journey that leads from the cross to the tomb and beyond the day of mourning to the dawn of God's new day. There, on the day of resurrection, we hear and know God's blessing upon all creation as we join in the angels' song of praise.

### **Prayer**

Gracious God, hear your people's prayer, that having walked with Christ the way of the cross we may walk always with him in the paths of the gospel. We ask this in his name. **Amen**

Let us bless the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **HOT CROSS BUNS**

Hot cross buns are traditionally eaten on Good Friday. Some say that the origin of Hot Cross Buns dates back to the 12th century, when a monk was said to have placed the sign of the cross on the buns, to honour Good Friday, a Christian holiday also known as the Day of the Cross. Supposedly, this pastry was the only thing permitted to enter the mouths of the faithful on this holy day.

Today we have gathered from our home congregations to walk together as one people of faith, yet many of us are strangers to each other. You are invited to come and receive a hot-cross bun break it in two, and share it with someone you do not know. In this practical way we begin to discover the community Jesus brought us on the cross.

### Acknowledgements

Music acknowledgements:

- ❖ Nothing can trouble – St Theresa of Avila, Taizé Community
- ❖ Jesus, remember me - Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community
- ❖ Stay with me, remain here with me - Taizé Community
- ❖ Lord hear my prayer – Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community

Scripture text – New Revised Standard Version

Crucifixion woodcut: Steve Erspamer SM, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, IL.

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