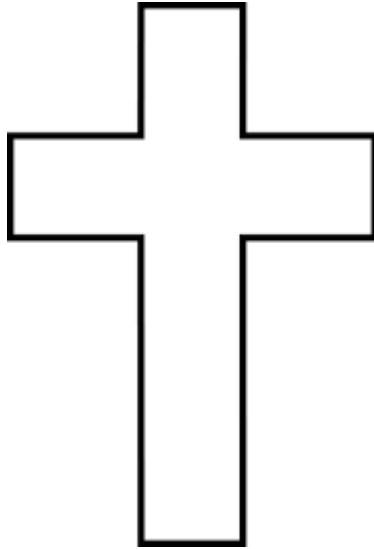


The Journey to the Cross



Good Friday Service

The Anglican Cathedral of
St. John the Baptist

St. John's, NL

April 2, 2021

Instructions and Opening Hymn

There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin,
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

Opening Prayer:

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

In whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, take us along that holy way you once took to your death. Take our minds, our memories, and, above all, our reluctant hearts, and let us see what once you did for love of us and all the world. Amen.

Palm Sunday

Meditation

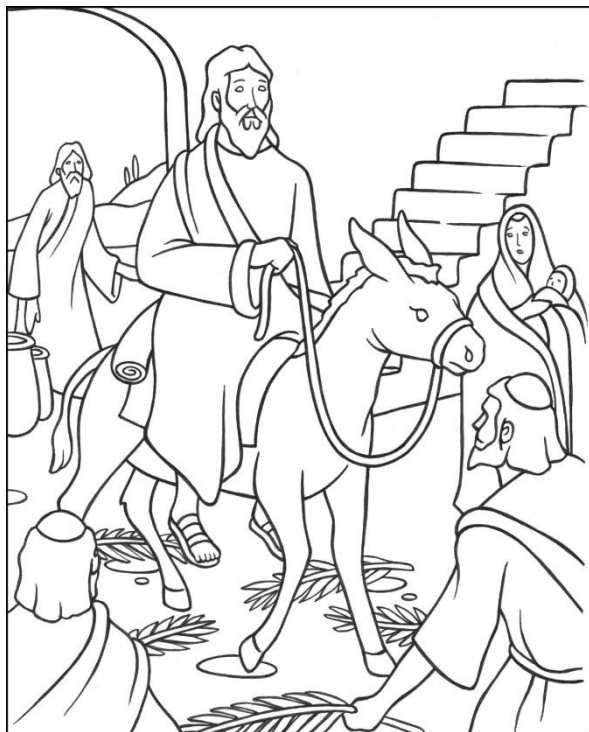
It was a day of celebration.

Jesus entered Jerusalem like a king.

Palm branches were spread before him and waved in the air while he rode a donkey.

The people welcomed Jesus.

The Pharisees started to make plans to arrest Jesus.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, you started that week in celebration with your friends, but soon you would be alone. As we go through life, we often have days when everyone is our friend, and other days when there is nobody with us. Help us to remember that you shared the same feelings, and that you will always be there when we feel alone.

Almighty Father, bless us and be with us through the celebrations of life, and through the times when we are alone. Help us to remember that Jesus walks with us every day, in all that we do. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Refrain to be sung between the Stations:

***Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom;
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.***

The Last Supper

Meditation

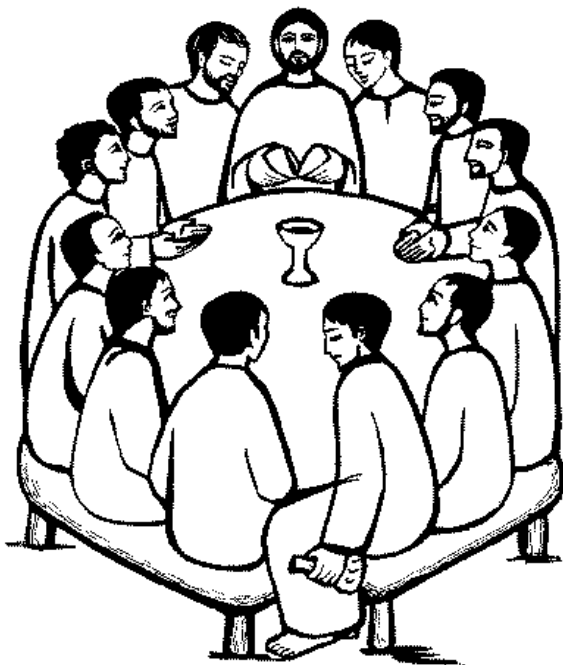
On Thursday night,
Jesus gathered
with his disciples.

Jesus gave thanks
to God.

Jesus broke and
shared the bread.

Jesus shared the
wine.

Jesus washed the
feet of his friends.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, you remind us that you are with us whenever we share a meal with friends. Sometimes we are not as thankful as we could be. Sometimes we don't appreciate our friends around us. Sometimes we don't appreciate the food we have. Help us to be more thankful.

Almighty Father, bless us when we gather together with our friends and family. Bless us as we gather to eat. Help us to remember to give thanks to you for all that you have given us, and forgive us when we forget. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Jesus is Condemned to Death

After supper, Jesus and his friends went to the garden. While they were there, some soldiers came. Judas had been one of Jesus' friends but he agreed to be paid a bag of silver to point Jesus out to the men who hated him. Jesus was arrested and taken to the governor for a trial.

Meditation

The people wanted to crucify Jesus.

Pontius Pilate did not want to crucify Him.

He tried everything he could think of to change the crowd's mind but nothing worked.

They kept shouting out for him to be killed.

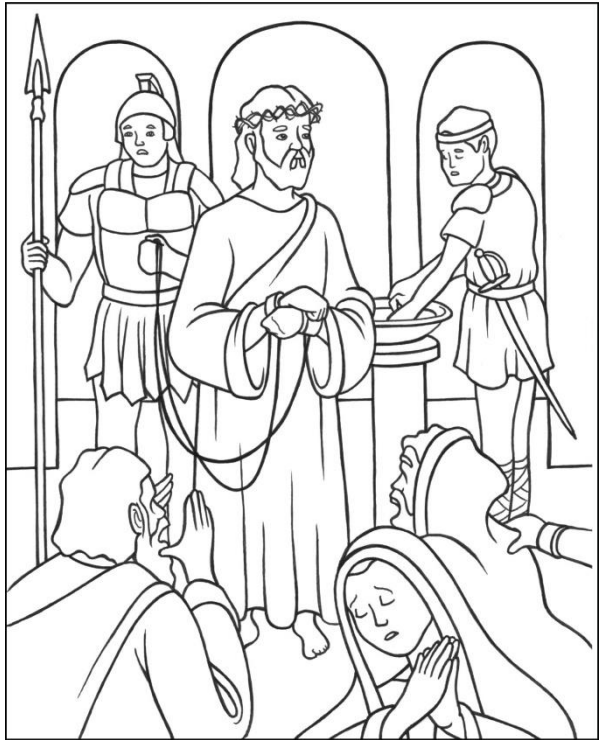
He washed his hands in front of the crowd saying, "This is a righteous man."

He gave Jesus to the soldiers to be crucified.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, you stood all alone before Pilate. Nobody spoke up for you. Nobody defended you. Sometimes we feel alone. Sometimes we feel afraid. Sometimes we feel like we are treated unfairly. Help us pray for those who have hurt us.

Almighty Father, many times people don't seem to understand us. Sometimes they are unfair. You accept us when we make mistakes. Help us to accept others when they make mistakes. Help us to forgive as Jesus did. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Jesus Bears His Cross

Meditation

Jesus was alone.

Jesus had done only good things in life.

Now he had to be put to death.

The procession was ready.

The gates were opened.

The soldiers led the way.

Jesus followed, carrying his cross.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, you carried your cross. You knew it wouldn't be easy, but you carried it just the same. Sometimes we get upset with the troubles that we have. Sometimes we get upset when people ask us to do things for them. We don't want to carry our cross. Give us the courage to carry our cross as you did.

Almighty Father, Jesus carried his cross without complaint. When we are tempted to complain, help us to remember Jesus and the cross he carried for us. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus is Helped by Simon

Meditation

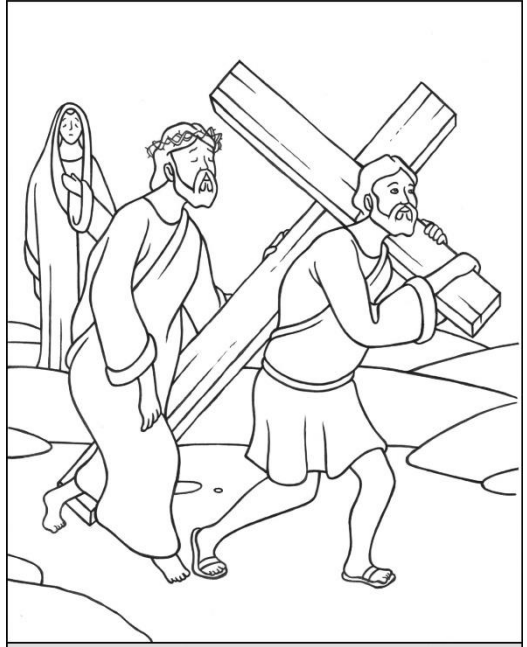
The soldiers saw that Jesus was feeling weak. They were afraid that he might not make it to the place where he was to be crucified.

The soldiers see Simon of Cyrene.

A soldier pushes Simon toward Jesus telling him to carry the cross.

Simon saw that Jesus was bruised and bleeding and quickly picked up the cross. He carried it for Jesus.

They moved on with Jesus following Simon.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, sometimes we pretend not to hear when our parents call us. We leave when we know others could use our help. You gave help to everyone. When you needed help, you accepted it. Help us to give and accept help.

Almighty Father, help us to be a friend to those who don't have many friends. Help us to help the needy. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus Speaks to the Women

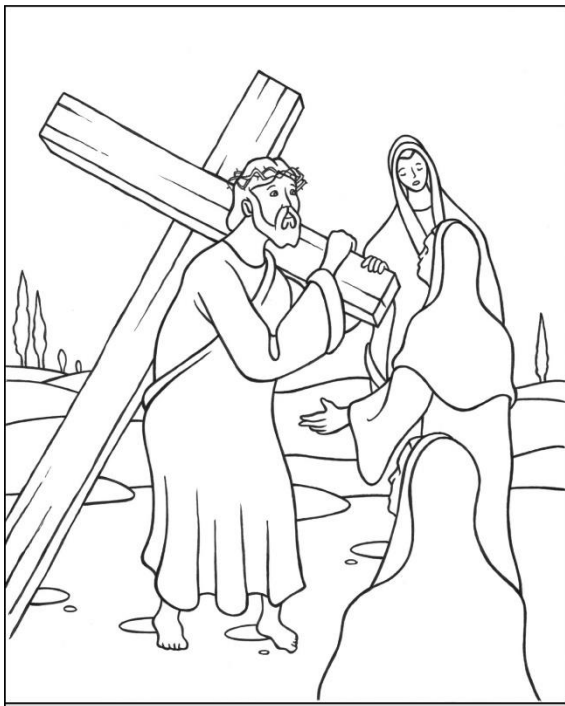
Meditation

Jesus could hear the crying of the women in the crowd.

He knew they were sad.

He stopped and talked to them.

Even at this terrible time, Jesus was not thinking of himself, he was thinking of all of us.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, you stopped to help those in need. We get selfish at times and think only of ourselves. Help us to reach out to others as you did. Help us to see the needs of others and put their needs above ours.

Almighty Father, help us to not be mean or selfish. Help us to see the needs others have even when we have problems of our own. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus' Clothes are Taken Away

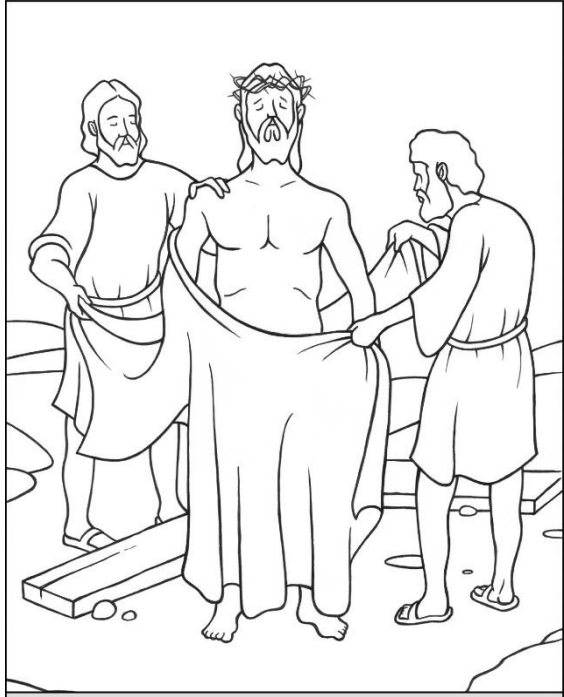
Meditation

Jesus arrives at the Place of the Skull.

The soldiers remove his clothes, tossing them in a heap.

The soldiers don't know what to do with his clothes.

They decide to throw dice to gamble for them.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, you set an example of truth, humility and love. Help us to set a good example for others to follow.

Almighty Father, help us to always be respectful and follow the examples of Jesus. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus is Nailed to The Cross

Meditation

The soldiers grab Jesus and lie him face up on the cross stretching out his arms.

They hold his wrist and hand to the wood.

They drive the nail with a hammer.

They do the same with the other arm.

Raising his knees so that his feet would lie flat, they hammer another nail.



It was done. Jesus was nailed to the cross.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, sometimes we say or do hurtful things to others. You stretched your arms of love on the cross. Help us to bring your love to others and cause them no hurt.

Almighty Father, help us to follow your Son and share his love in this world. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus Asks John to Care for His Mother

Meditation

As Pilate had ordered, a soldier put a notice above Jesus' head, It said, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews".

The cross was raised into place

Jesus' mother, Mary, and John who was one of Jesus' friends, stayed at the foot of the cross and prayed.

Jesus looked down and said to his mother "Dear woman, here is your son" and to John, "Here your mother."

Even at this terrible time, Jesus was taking care of his mother.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, even in your darkest time, you cared for your friends and family. Help us to remember the people closest to us in our lives, showing our love and care for them, no matter how difficult our own lives may seem.

Almighty Father, you ask us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Remind us to also love and care for our family and friends. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Meditation

The sky was dark.

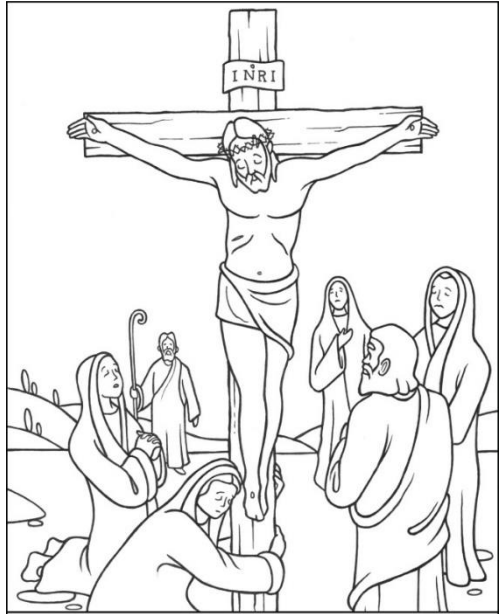
Jesus said: "I am thirsty". A soldier offered him wine mixed with vinegar.

The two thieves that were crucified beside him, talked to him. Looking at one of them, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

Jesus said, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Then he said "Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit."

A few moments later he said, "It is finished."

Jesus died on the cross at Calvary.



At that instant, the earth shook, rocks split, the curtain in the temple ripped from top to bottom.

The centurion guarding Jesus saw the earth quake and said: "Surely he was the Son of God".

A soldier pierced the side of Jesus with his spear, to make sure that he was dead.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, death is hard for us to understand. Remind us always that faith will carry us through our losses.

Almighty Father, help us to understand Jesus' death. Help us to understand the love Jesus has for us. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

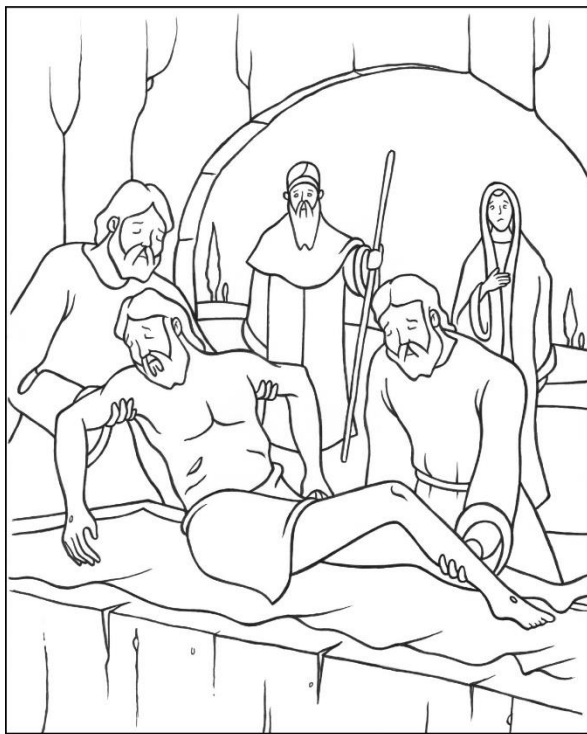
Meditation

People were following Jewish rules and returning to their homes for the Sabbath.

John, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and Mary, went from Calvary to Jesus' burial tomb.

Joseph and John carried Jesus into the tomb.

They laid him on the rock bench in the burial chamber.



The men moved a big boulder in front of the entrance to block it.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us to carry on your work.

Almighty Father, thank you for sending Jesus. Help us to be like Jesus. Help us to share our life and love more fully. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is not the end of the story.

Three days later, Jesus' friends found out the miracle that had happened!

Do you know what happened on Easter Day?!

Closing Prayer:

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 them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the power of sin and death, and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

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 Cross 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 an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.