

# S<sup>T</sup>. JAMES'

## Stations of the Cross



**Good Friday**  
**18<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**9:00am**

As Sydney's oldest church, St James' is a place of soul-stirring worship, challenging preaching and fine music. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion.

We also acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship  
—the Gadigal of the Eora Nation.

*Those taking part in today's service*

**Officiant**

The Rev'd John Stewart  
*Associate Rector*

**Readers**

Leon Fitzgerald and Janet Donald

**St James' Singers**

**Conductor**

Marko Sever

**The Altar Servers' Guild of St James' Church**

**The St James' Sidespersons Team**

Peter Blunden  
*Head Sidesperson*

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# Stations of the Cross

From the earliest days of the church, pilgrims to Jerusalem have followed the path Jesus trod from the house of Pontius Pilate, where he was condemned, to Calvary's Cross and the Sepulchre. In the Middle Ages those who were unable to travel to the Holy Land began to retrace the journey in their own church, where they often set up pictures of the incidents on that journey to help their devotion. Each picture became a 'station' where they would stop to meditate and to pray. Today the Stations of the Cross are generally used in Lent, and on Fridays throughout the year.

In this book, the paintings depicting the Stations of the Cross are those used in Christ Church St Laurence, Sydney. The readings are by the 14th century mystic, St Julian of Norwich, from her book *The Revelations of Divine Love*. These are followed by a prayer. Each Station begins and ends with the traditional acclamations. It is the custom to kneel briefly at "We adore you O Christ..."

The Stations can be used individually or by a group. The devotion can also be used as an intercession, remembering various people and causes at each Station.

## Opening Devotions

*The people stand as the server, choir, and officiant enter.*

Officiant     ✠ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All            Amen.**

Officiant     Lord, have mercy.

**All            Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant     Lord, have mercy.

**All            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.**

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

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

Officiant     Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All            Amen.**

*The people remain standing as the procession makes its way to the first station.*



## I. Jesus is brought before Pilate

*Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'*

John 18.36-37



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

All              **Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## Luke 23.13-24

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'

Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.' But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted.

## Julian Reading

All that our Lord does is rightful, and all that he allows is praiseworthy. And in these two, both good and evil are included. I do not say that evil is praiseworthy, but that our Lord's allowing it is praiseworthy... And understanding all this, I thought it was impossible that all manner of thing should be well, as our Lord showed me. And I had no other answer from our Lord except this: 'What is impossible for you is not impossible for me. I shall keep my word in all things, and I shall make all things well.'

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who accepted a mockery of human justice without resentment, make us willing to bear injustice and to become prisoners for your sake.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

At the Cross her station keeping,  
Stood the mournful Mother weeping,  
Close to Jesus at the last.

## II. Jesus takes up his Cross

*Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.*

Isaiah 53.4



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                      you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## John 19.1-6, 17

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, 'Here is the man!' When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.' and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

## Julian Reading

I saw the body bleeding freely from the wounds made by the scourging. The fair skin was driven deep into the tender flesh by the harsh striking all over the sweet body... And then it came into my mind that God has made many waters in earth for our use and our comfort, because of his dear love for us. But yet it pleases him better that we should simply and humbly take his blessed blood to wash away our sins... And after this, before God spoke any word, he allowed me to look on him for a while. Then he formed these words in my soul: "By this is the fiend overcome."

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who bore the Cross made heavy by our sins, help us to carry the cross you have chosen for us and let us always see your footsteps before us on the road.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

Through her soul, of joy bereaved,  
Bowed with anguish, deeply grieved,  
Now at length the sword hath passed.

### III. Jesus falls a first time

*But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.*

Isaiah 53.5



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

All              Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.

*The people sit.*

## Hebrews 4.14-15

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

### Julian Reading

And I saw it is his will that we know that he does not take the fall of any one of those who shall be saved any harder than he took the fall of Adam. And we know that he loved Adam endlessly, and looked after him safely in his need – and that now he has blessedly restored him in high unimaginable joys... And so now we have matter for mourning, because our sin is the cause of Christ's pain. And now we have lasting cause to rejoice, because endless love made him suffer.

*The people stand.*

### Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who fell beneath the weight of the Cross, open our eyes to the pain and injury our sins inflict, so we may come to hate sin as you hate it and love truth as you love it. Bring us repentance. Turn our bitterness to hope.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

**O, that blessed one, grief-laden,  
Blessed Mother, blessed Maiden,  
Mother of the all holy One.**

#### **IV. Jesus meets his mother**

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death*

Philippians 3.10



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                     you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## Luke 2.34-35

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

## Julian Reading

Here I saw part of the compassion of our Lady, Saint Mary, for she and Christ were so joined in love that the greatness of her love caused the greatness of her grief. And so, in this, I saw the instinctive love, led on by grace, that all creation has for him... Our Lord showed me Our Lady, St Mary, to teach us this: that it was the wisdom and truth in her, where she beheld her Maker, that enabled her to know him as so great, so holy – and so mighty, and so good.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who grew up in a family and who gave us your Mother to be our mother too, we ask you to become part of our families and of your family the church, and to transform them by your love. Make us truly your children.

**All:            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

**All:            Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the saviour of the world.**

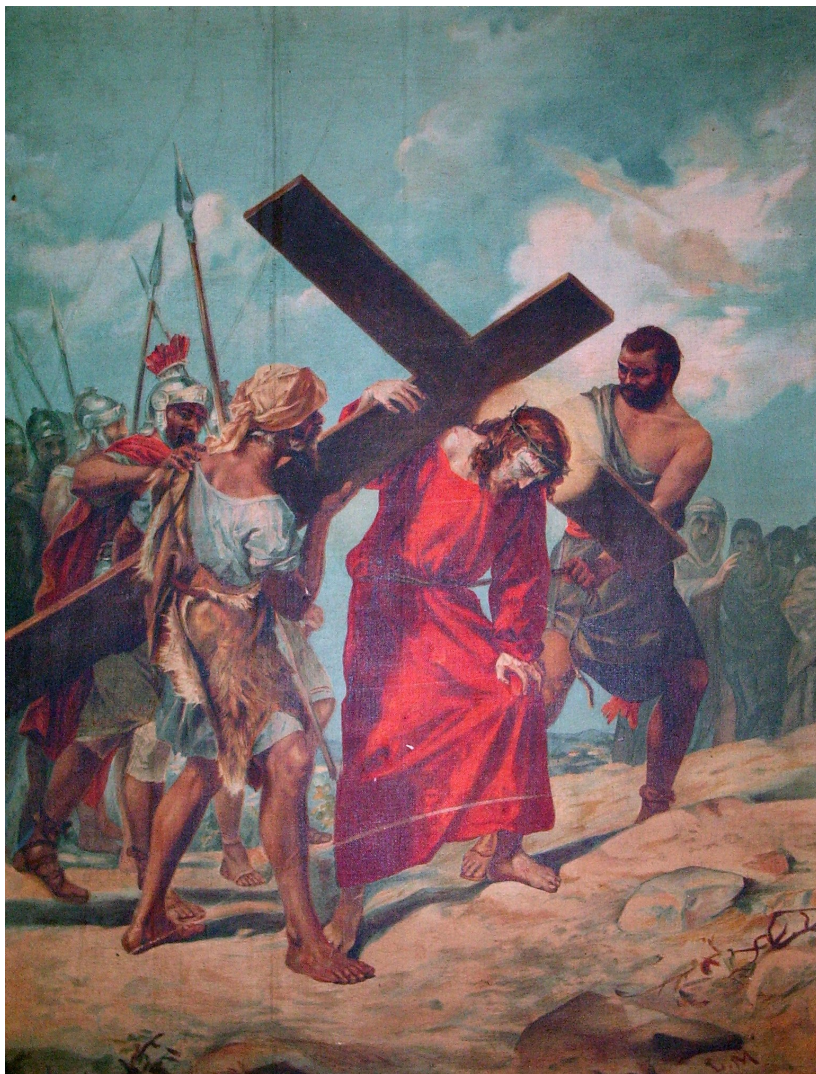
*The people sing*

O that silent, ceaseless mourning,  
O those dim eyes, never turning  
From that wondrous, suffering Son.

## V. Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross

*He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.*

Mark 8.34



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

All              Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.

*The people sit.*



## Luke 2.26

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.

## Julian Reading

And I was filled full of compassion for all my fellow-Christians – those much, much-loved people who shall be saved. For God's servants, holy church, shall be shaken in sorrow and anguish and tribulation in this world, as a cloth is shaken in the wind... If I look at myself alone, I am nothing. But when I think of myself and all my fellow-Christians joined together in love, I have hope. For in this joining lies the life of all who shall be saved... And so he looks on us with love, and wants to make us his partner in good deeds.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant     Lord, who accepted the help of an unwilling stranger to carry your Cross, make use of us even when we have become strangers to you through sin.

**All            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant     Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**Who on Christ's dear Mother gazing,  
In her trouble so amazing,  
Born of woman, would not weep?**

## **VI. Veronica wipes Jesus' face**

*For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

*2 Corinthians 4.6*



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## Isaiah 53.2-3

For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces; he was despised, and we held him of no account.

## Julian Reading

It made me think of the holy handkerchief in Rome which he has imprinted with his own blessed face when he was in great suffering, embracing death at his own will... Many people marvel at the sadness and thinness of the likeness – when they know that he who marked it with his blessed face is the glory of heaven, flower of earth and fruit of the virgin's womb. Then how should this image be so discoloured and so far from fair?... The meaning is this – it was the token and likeness of our dark cloak of foul black deeds that hid our beautiful, bright, blessed Lord. But I dare to say full surely, and we should believe it, that there never was so fair a man as he, until his brightness was clouded by toil and sorrow, suffering and dying.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who printed the image of your face on a white linen cloth, print your image in our hearts so we carry it always within us.

**All:            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

**Who on Christ's dear Mother thinking,  
Such a cup of sorrow drinking,  
Would not share her sorrow deep?**

## **VII. Jesus falls a second time**

*He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.*



Isaiah 53.3,5

*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## Matthew 16.24-25

Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

## Julian Reading

When Adam fell, God’s son fell. For the holy joining that was made in heaven means that God’s son could not be separated from Adam, and by Adam I mean all men. Adam fell from life to death in the pit of this miserable world, and after that he fell into hell...God’s son fell with Adam, into the depths of the virgin’s womb – who was Adam’s fairest daughter. And he did it to take away Adam’s blame, both in heaven and on earth  
– and with great power he fetched him back from hell.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant     Lord, who fell beneath the weight of the Cross, open our eyes to the pain and injury our sins inflict, so we may come to hate sin as you hate it and love truth as you love it. Turn our bitterness to hope.

**All            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant     Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**For his people's sins, in anguish,  
There she saw the victim languish,  
Bleed in torments, bleed and die.**

## **VIII. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem**

*But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.'*

Luke 23.28



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                     you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*



## 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?’

## Julian Reading

Here our courteous Lord showed the weeping and wailing of the soul, meaning this: “I know full well that you want to live gladly and merrily because of my love, bearing all the penance that may come to you. But, since you cannot live without sin, you have to suffer – for my love – all the sorrow, all the trouble, all the unhappiness that comes upon you. And this is so. But do not be too downcast by the sin that overcomes you against your will.”...And here I understood that our Lord looks on his servant with pity, not with blame.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who told the women “Weep for yourselves and for your children”, comfort our grief and accept the tears we weep for you as tokens of our love and signs of our repentance.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**Saw the Lord's anointed taken;  
Saw her Child in death forsaken,  
Heard his last expiring cry.**

## **IX. Jesus falls a third time**

*He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.*



Isaiah 53.3

*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                     you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## **John 12.23-26**

Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

## **Julian Reading**

If there is a lover of God anywhere on earth who is always kept safe from falling, I know nothing of it – for it was not shown me. But this was shown – that in falling and rising again we are always held close in one love... For our courteous Lord does not want his servants to fall into despair even when we fall into sin. For our falling does not stop him loving us.

*The people stand.*

## **Prayers**

Officiant      Lord, who fell beneath the weight of the Cross, open our eyes to the pain and injury our sins inflict, so we may come to hate sin as you hate it and love truth as you love it. Turn our bitterness to hope.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**In the Passion of my Maker,  
Be my sinful soul partaker,  
May I bear with her my part.**



## X. Jesus is stripped of his clothes

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2.5-11



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

All              **Because by your Holy Cross  
you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## John 19.23-24

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.'

## Julian Reading

In this stark word 'sin' our Lord brought to my mind all things in general that are not good – and the shame, the despising and the utter stripping he accepted for us in this life – and his dying. He also brought to mind all the bodily and spiritual pains and passions of his creatures... For we are all stripped in part – and shall be – while we follow our master Jesus, until we are made pure... And at this time our Lord showed me a part of his homely loving. I saw that he is everything that is good and comforting to us. He is our clothing. In his love he wraps us and holds us. He enfolds us in love and he will never let us go.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant      Lord, who was stripped of every last possession, strip our hearts of all the things we cling to that come between our lives and your love. Lay us bare to your calling.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

**Of his Passion bear the token,  
In a spirit bowed and broken  
Bear his death within my heart.**

## **XI. Jesus is nailed to the Cross**

*No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'*



John 10.18

*The people kneel.*

Officiant     We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All            Because by your Holy Cross  
                  you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## 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.

## Julian Reading

Here I saw a great communion between Christ and ourselves, for when he was in pain, we were in pain. All creation capable of feeling pain suffered with him... The blessed body hung alone there for a long time, and the nails wrenched it as the weight of the body pulled against it. For I understood that, because of the softness of the tender hands and feet, the huge, hard, hurtful nails pulled the wounds wide open. And the body sagged with the weight of its long hanging... And though the pain of it was sharp and bitter, it was also long drawn out... This Showing of Christ's pain filled me full of pain, for though I knew well he suffered only once, yet it was his will to show it to me, and fill my mind with it, as I had often asked before.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant     Lord, who let the nails be hammered home when angels could have saved you, help us to understand the wonder of your love that did not grudge the price of our redemption, but joyfully accepted suffering for our sake.

**All            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant     Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



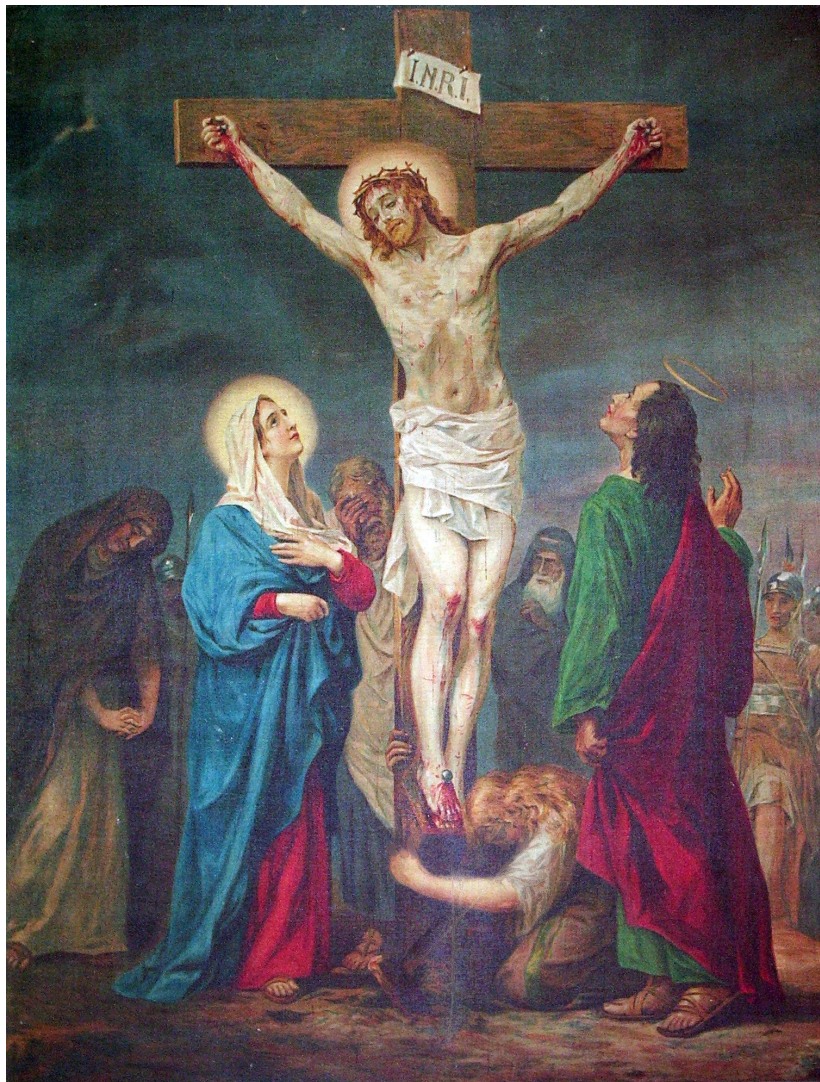
*The people sing*

May his wounds both wound and heal me,  
He enkindle, cleanse, anneal me,  
Be his Cross my hope and stay.

## XII. Jesus dies on the Cross

*And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.*

John 12.32



*The people kneel.*

Officiant     We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All**            **Because by your Holy Cross**  
**you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## **Luke 23.44-46, 49**

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 with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

### **Julian Reading**

I looked for the moment of his death with all my strength and thought to have seen him quite lifeless, but I did not see him so. And just as the same moment, it seemed, that I thought that life could last no longer and the sight of his end must be shown, suddenly, as I looked on that same cross, his expression changed to joy... This change in his blessed mood changed mine, and I was as glad and merry as can be. Then our Lord brought this gladly into my mind: "Where is any part of your pain and grief now?" And I was overjoyed... And the reason why he suffers is that it is his will, in his goodness, to make us heirs with him of his joy. And, in exchange for this little pain that we suffer here, we shall have a high endless knowledge of God, which we could never have had without it.

*The people stand.*

### **Prayers**

Officiant      Lord, who died on the cross and rescued the souls you had been sent to save, join us fast to you in your death so we may be joined with you in your kingdom. Teach us that nothing in life or death can separate us from you.

**All              Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant      Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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



*The people sing*

**May he, when the mountains quiver,  
From that flame which burns for ever  
Shield me on the judgement day.**

### **XIII. Jesus is taken down from the Cross**

*When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth?*

Ephesians 4.9



*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                     you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*

## 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 the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

## Julian Reading

The firmament, the very earth itself, began to lose their nature with sorrow at the time of Christ's dying. For it is part of their nature to know and acknowledge him from whom their virtue springs as their God. So when his strength left him, their strength left them too, in sympathy, as far as it could, in grief at his pain. And all men in general – that is to say, even those who did not know him – had to bear the loss of every kind of comfort, except the deep, quiet keeping of God... And so was our Lord Jesus made nothing for us, and we are all made nothing with him – and shall be nothing until we come to his bliss.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant     Lord, whose friends knew the death of hope when you lay lifeless in their arms, bring us hope when all seems hopeless and faith when we have lost our way, and do not forsake us, when we forsake you.

**All            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant     Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**Jesu, may thy Cross defend me,  
And thy saving death befriend me,  
Cherished by thy deathless grace.**

#### **XIV. Jesus is laid in the tomb**

*Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*



Romans 6.4

*The people kneel.*

Officiant      We adore you O Christ and we bless you.

**All              Because by your Holy Cross  
                     you have redeemed the world.**

*The people sit.*



## Matthew 27.62-66

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, ‘Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, “After three days I will rise again.” Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, “He has been raised from the dead”, and the last deception would be worse than the first.’ Pilate said to them, ‘You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.’ So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

## Julian Reading

His body was in the grave until Easter morning and from that time he never lay down again. For then the moaning and groaning was rightly at an end. And our mortal flesh that God’s son took upon him, which was Adam’s old shirt – narrow threadbare and short – was then made beautiful by our Saviour... And so now we have matter for mourning, because our sin is the cause of Christ’s pain. And we have lasting cause to rejoice, because of the endless love that made him suffer.

*The people stand.*

## Prayers

Officiant     Lord, whose home is heaven yet whose body lay in a stranger’s grave, help us to know that there is no place so mean that you will not enter it, and no place so dark that you will not fill it with your light. Grant us your peace.

**All            Hear us and heal us, O Lord.**

Officiant     Let us proclaim the mystery of our redemption.

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

*The people sing*

**When to dust my dust returneth,  
Grant a soul that to thee yearneth  
In thy Paradise a place.**

### **Concluding prayers before the Altar**

*The people kneel.*

Officiant     Lord, have mercy.

**All             Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant     Lord, have mercy.

**All             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.**

Officiant     Almighty God,  
                  look with mercy on this your family,  
                  for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed  
                  and to be given into the hands of sinners  
                  and to suffer death upon the cross;  
                  who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
                  one God for ever and ever.

**All             Amen.**

Officiant     Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
receive our prayers and supplications,  
which we offer before you for all people in your holy church,  
that all its members,  
in their vocation and ministry,  
may truly and godly serve you;  
through our lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

**All                Amen.**

Officiant     O merciful God,  
you have made all people  
and you hate nothing that you have made,  
nor desire the death of sinners,  
but rather that they should turn and live:  
have mercy on all who have not known you,  
or who deny the faith of Christ crucified;  
take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart,  
and contempt of your word;  
and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to your fold,  
that we may be made one flock under one shepherd,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.

**All                Amen.**

Officiant     May the cross of the Son of God,  
who is mightier than all the hosts of Satan,  
and more glorious than all the angels of heaven,  
abide with you in your going out and your coming in.  
By day and by night, at morning and at evening, at all times and  
in all places, may it protect and defend you.  
From the wrath of evil people, from the assaults of evil spirits,  
from foes visible and invisible, from the snares of the devil,  
from all low passions that beguile the soul and body,  
may it guard, protect, and deliver you.

**All                Amen.**



*Please remain kneeling or seated while the choir sing*

## **Choir Motet**

*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

*For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.*

Words: John 3.16-17

Music: John Stainer (1840–1901), from *The Crucifixion*

*The people stand.*

## **Dismissal**

Officiant      May our Lord Jesus Christ bless us,  
                         who for us was scourged, laden with his Cross, and crucified.

**All              Amen.**

*The servers, choir, and officiant leave in silence.*

## **The Julian Readings**

The modern text of *The Revelations of Divine Love* by Julian of Norwich is from *All Shall Be Well* by Shiela Upjohn DLT 1992. Page references refer to this edition:

- I Ch.35: p.59; Ch 33: p.54
- II Ch.12: p.19 & 20
- III Ch.12: p.19 & 20
- IV Ch.18: p.29; Ch.7: p.7
- V Ch.28: p.46; Ch.9: p.10; Ch.43: p.82
- VI Ch.10: p.14 & 15
- VII Ch.51: p.107
- VIII Ch.82: p.185; Ch.86: p.191
- IX Ch.82: p.186; Ch.39: p.69
- X Ch.27: p.44; Ch.5: p.4
- XI Ch.18: p.29; Ch.17: p.27 & 28; Ch.16: p.26
- XII Ch.21: p.33, 34 & 35
- XIII Ch.18: p.29; Ch.52: p.113
- XIV Ch.51: p.109 & 110; Ch.52: p.112

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