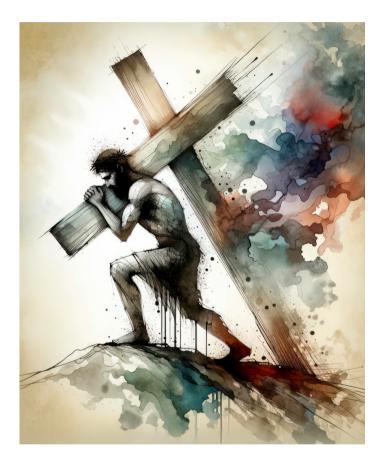
Stations of the Cross

HOLY WEEK 2024



This is a series of reflections based on the experiences of Christ during His final hours and leading up to the crucifixion on Calvary on Good Friday. There is a long history of using these stations as a means of devotion. This experience is meant to help us engage in Christ's journey and sacrifice.

ERIE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

STATION ONE: Pilate Condemns Jesus to Die



READ - MATTHEW 27:11-14, 24, 26B Jesus stands silent in the face of His accusers

REFLECTION

Jesus, I see in Your silence the quiet strength that reveals a peace and a resolve. O Lord, help me deal with the unfairness of life without becoming critical of others. Help me to be sensitive to the pain and feelings of others. Give me the courage to do what is right without being swayed by the demands of others.

STATION TWO: Jesus Accepts His Cross



READ - MATTHEW 27:27-31, JOHN 19:17 Jesus takes on the pain, humiliation, and disgrace that belongs to us.

REFLECTION

You accepted Your cross without self-pity. O Lord, forgive me for forgetting that in my weakness, I must learn to trust You more. And that in that trust, my weakness becomes Your strength. Forgive my attitudes of self-pity that make me more repulsive than loving. I do not ask for any cross to bear. But when those crosses come, and I know they must, give me the strength to bear them as one who follows Your example.

STATION THREE: Simon Helps Carry the Cross



READ - MARK 15:21; MATTHEW 16:24-26 Simon models the path of discipleship

REFLECTION

O Lord, forgive me for becoming so preoccupied with myself that I have become deaf and blind to the grief and suffering of those around me. Forgive me for my indifference. Constantly remind me that I cannot love You without loving others as well. Help me always remember that to be a follower of Yours means that I share in the burden of others. Lord, show me someone whose cross I may help carry.

STATION FOUR: Jesus Speaks to the Women



READ - LUKE 23:27-31 A caution against a lack of true repentance

REFLECTION

O Lord, forgive my unwillingness to repent, to confess all that I am before You. Help me go beyond the repentance mouthed in words of false piety, to sweep away all the facades of who I try so hard to be before others, and recall who I really am inside. Help me once again stand before God with a bare and open heart. Help me not just to repent in words, but to put that repentance into action in everything I am and do. O Lord, give me the gift of tears to weep for my own failures, for my sins, for the pain I bring to others, and to live the fruits of repentance.

STATION FIVE: Jesus is Stripped of His Garments



READ - JOHN 19:23-24 When we fail to honor

REFLECTION

Would I have done anything differently, if I were there? Forgive me for the times when I selfishly grasped after something good that came from You, and tried to use it only to satisfy my own purposes. Forgive me for the times when I have stripped You and others of the honor and dignity due to You, because my actions and words brought dishonor and confusion to Your good Name.

STATION SIX: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross



READ - MARK 15:23-32 The impact of the cross

REFLECTION

Lord, do not let me take for granted what happened to You on the cross. Do not let me forget that it really happened, in a real place, at a real time. It was there that You, the Lord of Glory, suffered and died for the sins of the world....for my own sins. I yearn to experience the truth of Your death, Jesus, more profoundly. Gracious Lord, how can I ever thank You for dying on the cross for me? I confess that I take Your death for granted, forgetting what You did for me and neglecting its significance. Forgive me, Lord. May the reality of Your sacrifice press itself upon my mind and flood my heart.

STATION SEVEN: Jesus Cares for His Mother



READ - JOHN 19:25-27 The mystery of love

REFLECTION

When I think of Your mother, Lord, I remember that You weren't only the Son of God bearing the sins of the world. You were also the son of Mary, the son whom she loved. Mary gives us a touching reminder of Your humanity, Lord. Because You were truly human, because You truly suffered, You indeed bore the sins of the world, and mine as well. All praise be to You, Lord Jesus! Amen.

STATION EIGHT: Jesus Dies on the Cross



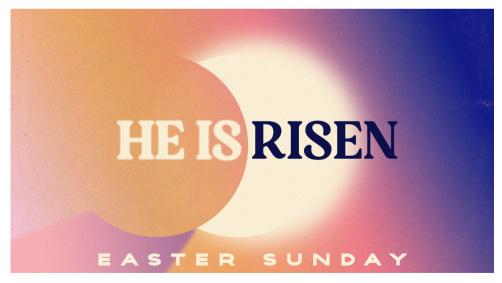
READ - MATTHEW 27:45-54 The power of the cross

REFLECTION

Merciful Lord, thank You for being The Righteous One. Thank You for Your perfect life and Your sacrificial death. Thank You for taking my sin upon Yourself, and giving me Your righteousness in return. Like the centurion, I look upon Your cross today with wonder. But I'm not only struck by Your complete innocence, I'm astounded by Your willingness to suffer and die for me, the Righteous One for the unrighteous. All praise be to You, glorious, gracious, giving Lord! We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. By Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world!



Join us in worshipping the King of Kings this Easter season by coming to our Good Friday service and Easter Sunday service!



10 am March 31st Erie Christian Fellowship Church 5900 Sterrettania Road Fairview, PA