

Prayer Stations

Luke's telling of the Passion Story

SETUP NOTES

Around the space there will be 12 clearly identified Prayer Stations. These will predominantly be set out on top of tables. On each will be everything the participant needs to carry out any actions asked of them.

Each participant will be given a booklet to lead them around the space.

At the start there should be a waiting area with refreshments and participants sent through in no more than threes or fours to ease the flow through the stations.

Participants will return to this point after passing through the stations.

At the end of this overview there will be a list of the resources and suggested prayers of confession for Station 8.

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Station 1 *Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem*

READING Luke 19:29-40

SET UP A1 sheet of paper with two lines to represent the road into Jerusalem, pens and small pieces of card.

ACT Take a piece of card and write or draw something that represents what you need to lay before God. Place it face down on the road. *(They will not be read.)*

Station 2 *Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem*

READING Luke 19:41-44

SET UP Small stones around the edge

ACT Take a stone, hold it, and when you're ready place it in the middle of the table and a pile will build as prayers for peace are added.

Station 3 *Jesus Cleanses the Temple*

READING Luke 19:45-46

SET UP None

ACT Reflect on these words as you look around the worship space.

Station 4 *The Plot to Kill Jesus*

READING Luke 22:1-6

SET UP Single layer of coins with edges touching

ACT Take a coin that is surrounded by other coins and move it to the edge of the layer.

Station 5 *Preparation of Passover and Lord's Supper*

READING Luke 22:8, 10-12, 14-20

SET UP Loaf of bread

ACT Reflect on these words and then break off a piece of bread and eat it.

Station 6 *Dispute about Greatness & Predicting Denial*

READING Luke 22:24-27, 31-34

SET UP Dictionary, Atlas, Quotations, theology books

ACT Choose one of the books and look up something you know, or something you don't. Where you surprised? Think about your gifts and those of your family and friends. Give thanks for them.

Station 7 *Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives*

READING Luke 22:39-46

SET UP Cup of wine or communion glasses and cards with Lord's prayer on. (see Resources) Make clear whether alcoholic or not.

ACT Say the Lord's Prayer to yourself and then take a drink from the cup.

Station 8 *Betrayal, Arrest, and Denial*

READING Luke 22:47-48, 52-62

SET UP Central candle, tea lights around edge and cards with prayers of confession on them. (see Resources)

ACT Take one of the cards and say the prayer to yourself.
When you are ready light a tea light from the central candle.

Station 9 *Jesus before the Council, Pilate and Herod*

READING Luke 22:66-70; Luke 23:1-9

SET UP Blank sheet of paper and coloured pens.

ACT Write the word or words that stood out to you on the sheet – group them together and use different colours. For instance if your word is 'Messiah', and someone else has already written it, write it again nearby in a different colour.

Station 10 *Jesus Sentenced to Death and Crucified*

READING Luke 23:13-14, 18-25, 28, 33-35, 38-43

SET UP Pile of nails

ACT Pick up a nail from the pile and take it with you.

Station 11 *The Death and Burial of Jesus*

READING Luke 23:44-53

SET UP Bowl, boxes of matches and scented oil

ACT Strike a match, place it in the bowl and watch it burn.

When you are ready place a finger in one of the bowls of scented oil, make a sign of the cross on the back of your other hand, and say aloud or to yourself:

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Station 12 *The Resurrection and the Walk to Emmaus*

READING Luke 24:1-20, 25-35

SET UP None

ACT Now read all or part of it a number of times, this time slowly, meditating and reflecting upon the words and the meaning behind them.

When you are ready say aloud or to yourself the prayer and quietly leave the worship space.

Resources

A1 sheet of paper x2
Books (Dictionary, Atlas, Quotations, theology books)
Bowl
Bread loaf
Card
Coins (1p, 2p, 5p)
Large candle
Lord's prayer cards (see below)
Matches
Nails
Pens (biro)
Pens (coloured)
Prayers of confession cards (see below)
Scented oil
Signs (numbers for stations 1-2, 4-11)
Signs (alcoholic / non-alcoholic for station 7)
Stones
Tea lights
Wine (cup or communion glasses)

Lord's 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 those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayers of confession (suggestions from initial search on the internet)

O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom. *The Book of Common Worship, 1946*

Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom. *The Book of Common Worship, 1946*

Dear Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before you and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask your forgiveness and we also ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with. Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth. *The Book of Common Worship, 1946*

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is nothing good in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto men in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His name. **Amen** *The Book of Common Worship, 1946*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. **Amen.** *PCUSA Book of Common Worship*

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear

Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103.8,10-12

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen. *Episcopal Book of Common Prayer*

Almighty God, since thou delayest with so much forbearance the punishments which we have deserved and daily draw on ourselves, grant that we may not indulge ourselves but carefully consider how often and in how many different ways we have provoked thy wrath against us. May we learn humbly to present ourselves to thee for pardon, and with true repentance implore thy mercy. With all our heart we desire to submit ourselves to thee, whether thou chastisest us, or according to thine infinite goodness, forgivest us. Let our condition be ever blessed, not by flattering ourselves in our apathy, but by finding thee to be our kind and bountiful Father, reconciled to us in thine only-begotten Son. Amen. *Calvin, taken from Prayers of the Reformer*

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. *Book of Common Worship*

Almighty Father; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ. Amen. *Baker's Worship Handbook*

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. www.ourcatholicfaith.org

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. www.ourcatholicfaith.org

O my God, I am sorry for my sins because I have offended you. I know I should love you above all things. Help me to do penance, to do better, and to avoid anything that might lead me to sin. Amen. www.ourcatholicfaith.org

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbours as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. We deserve your condemnation. Father, forgive us. Help us to love you and our neighbours, and to live for your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** www.sundayservices.anglican.asn.au

Heavenly Father, we praise you for adopting us as your children and making us heirs of eternal life in your Son Jesus Christ, who has freed us from our sins by his blood. Yet we still fail to love you with all our heart, or serve you as we ought. Pardon our offences, we pray, and make us

clean, that we may continue as members of Christ, in whom alone is salvation. **Amen.**

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Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way and broken your laws. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us, forgive us, cleanse us and change us. By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you, and to please you more and more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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O Lord our God, you know us better than we know ourselves. As we come before you now, believers and doubters alike, we all share a deep need, for we are all lost without your grace. Search us, O God, and know our hearts, test us and know our troubled thoughts. Give us true repentance. Forgive us all our wrongs. Transform us by your Spirit to live for you each day, to learn to serve each other and, through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, to come at last to heaven. **Amen.**

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Our heavenly Father thank you that you love us and care for us all the time. We know that this week we have not always lived the way you tell us. We have done wrong things and not done all the good things we should have done. Only you can save us, so please forgive us and help us to live as your friends. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

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