

Places of the Passion

Ash Wednesday: The City of Jerusalem

Order of Service

See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes. Matthew 20:18

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

C **To see the depths of his love.**

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

C **We walk with Jesus to the City of Jerusalem.**

P Because Passover is coming.

C **And the Son of Man will be crucified.**

P Faithful Lord, with me abide.

C I shall follow where you guide!

Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.

Let us also live with Jesus, he has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken, Jesus, you are now our head.
We are your own living members; where you live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly, living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Magnificent and merciful Father, because I walk into dark and
dangerous places, hear me as I confess my sins.

**C My feet take me to places of compromise and sinful
ambition.**

P My heart lingers in places of lust and lies.

C My words take me to places of anger, rage and hatred.

P My ears delight in going to places of gossip, deceit and
ridicule.

C My mind takes me to places of selfishness and pride.

P My eyes lead me to places of envy and greed.

C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

*(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great,
Christ's love is greater.)*

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C I shall follow where you guide!

Imposition of Ashes

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Sermon

Old Testament Reading ... Exodus 12:1–13

Epistle Readings ... 1 Corinthians 5:6–8

Gospel Reading ... Matthew 26:1–5

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was he for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

He who his saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav’nly bread he makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love you bless us now.

Sermon

Offering

Prayers

P Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father's bidding. And so we pray. Jesus, you will finally deliver us from every storm so we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to you.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver us from pride and arrogance, lest we fail to acknowledge our sins and confess them.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver the world from the enemies of peace and from injustice and give us good and faithful leaders to protect the unborn and promote virtue.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver the erring from their darkness, the doubting from their uncertainty, and the wandering from their ways, and return them to you.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver us from the terror of death and the grave.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver us from selfish desire, from the tyranny of things, and from the wasteful use of the resources you have entrusted to our care.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Deliver us from ingratitude for all your mercies and restore our hearts to hope and joy.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Jesus, deliver us and bring us to the table of your body and blood.

C Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to Jerusalem, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C Let us ever walk with Jesus!

O Christ, you walked the road our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r and fought our ancient foe.

No bread of earth alone can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek your living Word, the food your grace imparts.

No blinding sign we ask, no wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone in your unswerving love.

When lures of easy gain with promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek your kingdom first; our wills with Yours align.

O Christ, you walked the road our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour to fight our ancient foe.