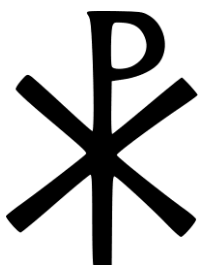


# The Scriptural Way of the Cross



## The Scriptural Way of the Cross

Scripture is taken from *The Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version*, [www.wartburgproject.org](http://www.wartburgproject.org).

Prayers are written for *A Collection of Prayers*, [www.acollectionofprayers.com](http://www.acollectionofprayers.com), © 2021 Paul C. Stratman

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### Instructions for Printing

In Adobe Acrobat, click on “File,” and then “Print.”

Near the middle of the print menu, under “Page Sizing & Handling,” select “Booklet.” Right beneath the “Booklet” button, make sure “Booklet subset” is “Both sides.”

Make sure your printer is loaded with 8.5” x 11” paper. Click “Print,” and if needed, follow your printer’s instructions for printing on both sides.

# The Scriptural Way of the Cross

The Scriptural Way of the Cross or Scriptural Stations of the Cross is a modern version of the ancient Christian devotion called the Stations of the Cross. The versicle and response, “We adore you, O Christ,…” is from the traditional devotions for the Stations of the Cross. The prayers that follow each scriptural devotion are newly written for A Collection of Prayers, based on the traditional response for after each devotion, “Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.” All art is by James Tissot.

# First station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane. He told his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and he began to be sorrowful and distressed. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death. Stay here, and keep watch with me." He went a little farther, fell on his face, and prayed. He said, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." He came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "So, were you not able to stay awake with me for one hour? Watch and pray, so that you do not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." *Matthew 26:36-41*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Keep our spirits willing,

and strengthen us when our flesh is weak;

you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Second station: Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Just then, while *Jesus* was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. A crowd was with him, armed with swords and clubs. They were from the chief priests, the experts in the law, and the elders. Now his betrayer had given them a signal, saying, “The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him and lead him away under guard.” He went right to Jesus and said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him. They laid hands on him and arrested him. *Mark 14:43–46*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
even when we must go where we do not want to go;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

# Third station: Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin





We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both the chief priests and experts in the law. They brought him into their Sanhedrin and said, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer me or release me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." They all said, "Are you then the Son of God?" He said to them, "I am what you are saying." Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!" *Luke 22: 66-71*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
that we always confess you as Christ our Lord,  
Son of Man and Son of God;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Fourth station: Jesus is denied by Peter



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came to him and said, “You were also with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, “I don’t know what you’re talking about.” When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, “I do not know the man.” After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, “Surely you are also one of them because even your accent gives you away.” Then he began to curse and to swear, “I do not know the man!” Just then the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly. *Matthew 26: 69-75*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
that we always remember the words you have spoken,  
repent of our sins,  
and cling to you;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Fifth station: Jesus is judged by Pontius Pilate



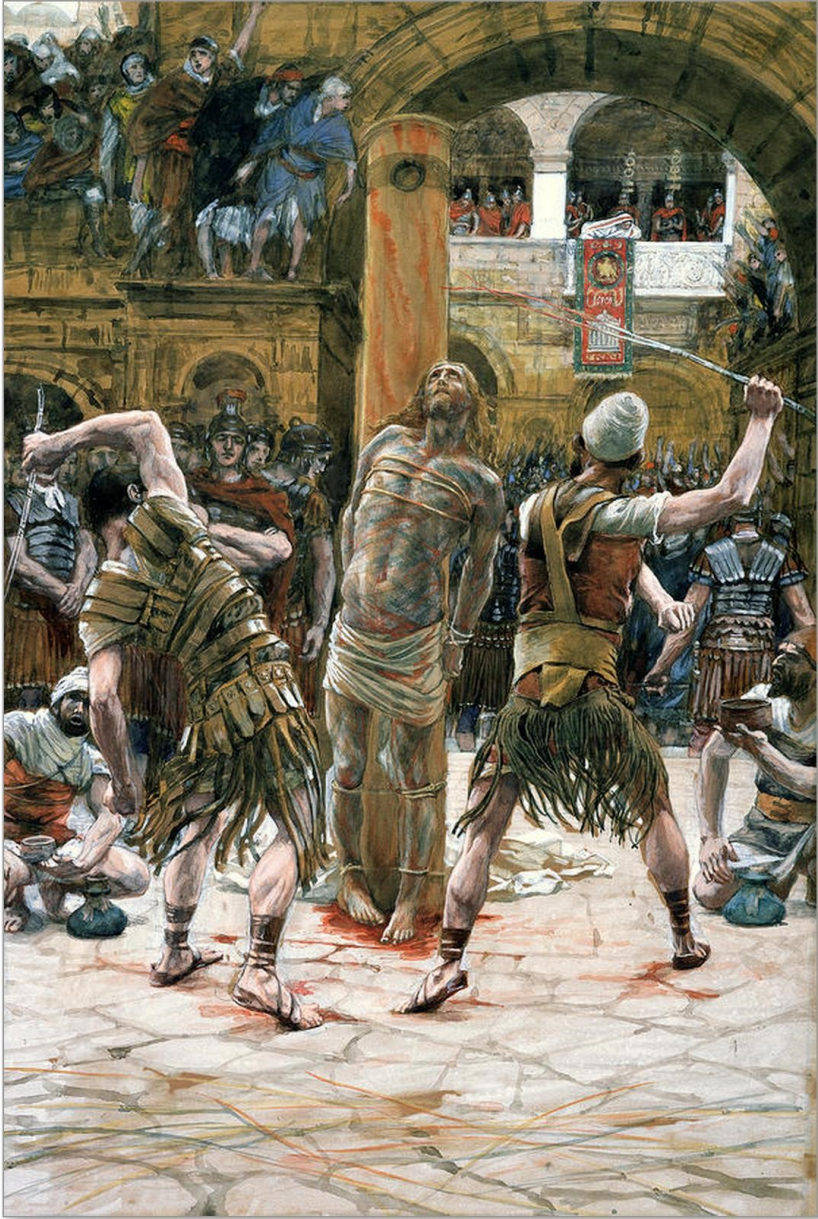
We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, along with the elders, the experts in the law, and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “It is as you say.” The chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate questioned him again, “Are you not going to answer anything? See how many charges they are bringing against you!” But Jesus still did not answer anything, so Pilate was amazed. Since he wanted to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. After he had Jesus flogged, he handed him over to be crucified. *Mark 15:1-5, 15*

Lord Jesus, we cannot always follow in your steps,  
for you went to the depths of suffering alone,  
so that like Barabbas, we would be set free;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sixth station: Jesus is scourged at the pillar and crowned with thorns**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers also twisted together a crown of thorns and placed it on his head. Then they threw a purple robe around him. They kept coming to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they kept hitting him in the face. *John 19:1-3*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Rule in our hearts,

as our good and gracious King;

you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Seventh station: Jesus bears the cross





We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When the chief priests and guards saw him, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify!” Pilate told them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him.” They shouted, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Should I crucify your king?” “We have no king but Caesar!” the chief priests answered. So then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus away. Carrying his own cross, he went out to what is called the Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. *John 19: 6, 15-17*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

We have no king but you;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Eighth station: Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

A certain man, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), was passing by on his way in from the country. They forced him to carry Jesus' cross. *Mark 15:21*

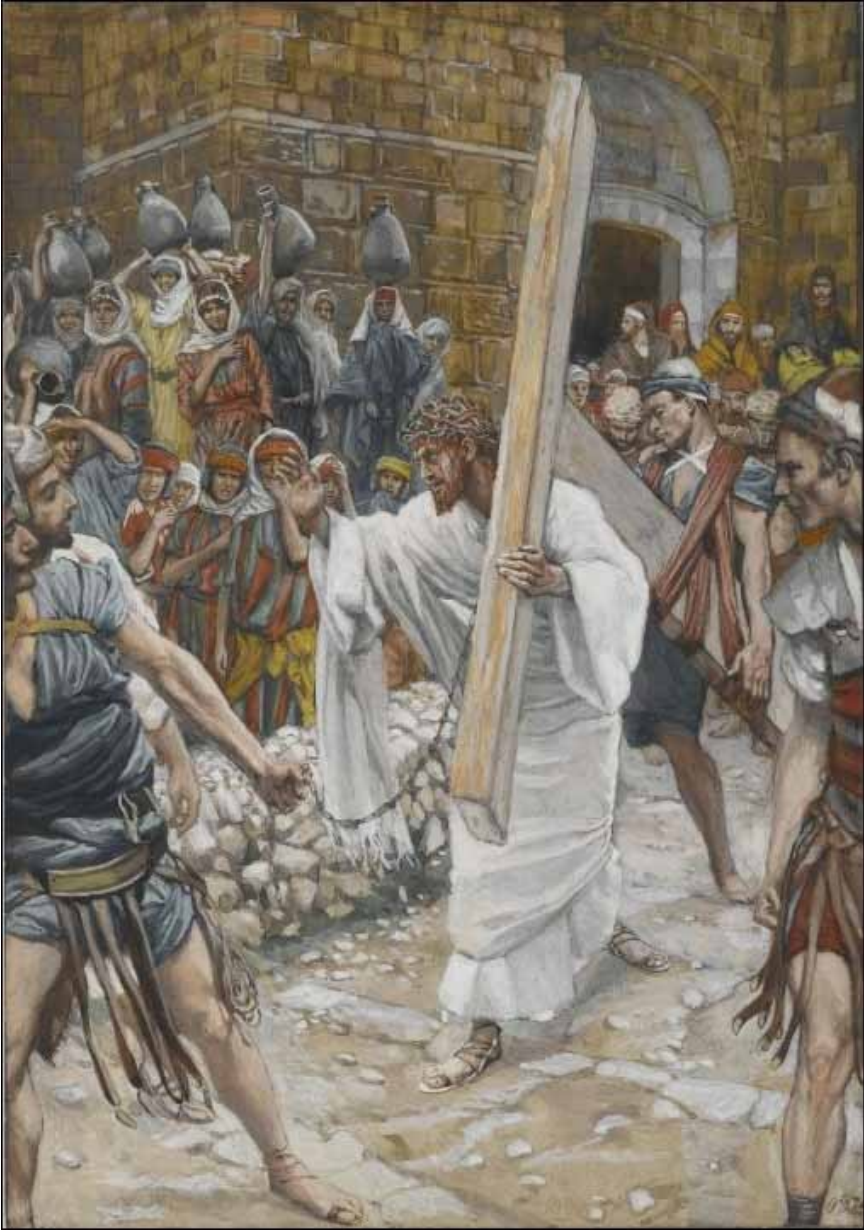
Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Help us bear our crosses,

for you bore the heaviest cross for us;

you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

# Ninth station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

A large crowd of people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him. Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Be sure of this: The days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never gave birth, 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 these things to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?” *Luke 23:27-31*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Dry our tears,  
until that day

when you wipe away every tear from our eyes;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

# Tenth station: Jesus is crucified



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified him there with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” They cast lots to divide his garments among them. *Luke 23:33-34*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
that we forgive those who have sinned against us,  
because you have freely forgiven us;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Eleventh station: Jesus promises Paradise to the repentant thief**





We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise." *Luke 23:39-43*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
that by your grace  
we, too, may join you in your kingdom of Paradise  
when our last hour comes;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Twelfth station: Jesus speaks to his mother and the Beloved Disciple**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Jesus' mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother!" And from that time this disciple took her into his own home. *John 19:25-27*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Give us the blessed comfort of friends and family,  
and always keep us near you;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Thirteenth station: Jesus dies on the cross**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun was darkened. Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” When he had said this, he breathed his last. *Luke 23:44-46*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
for by your innocent suffering and death,  
you have opened up the way to the Father for us;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Fourteenth station: Jesus is placed in the tomb**



We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb that he had cut in the rock. He rolled a large stone over the tomb's entrance and left. *Matthew 27:57-60*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps,  
for you have gone where we must all go,  
to death and the grave,  
all so you could rise again;  
you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Fifteenth Station: Jesus rises from the dead**





We adore you, O + Christ, and we praise you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.’ See, I have told you!” They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” They approached, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers that they should go to Galilee, and there they will see me.” *Matthew 28:1-10*

Lord Jesus, help us follow in your steps.

Raise us up on the Last Day,

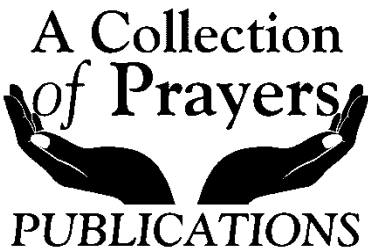
that we may follow you from death to life;

you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**



# A Collection of Prayers

*A Collection of Prayers* is an ongoing project of Paul C. Stratman, a Lutheran pastor. The collection has nearly 1,500 prayer entries from every era of Christian history. The prayers are carefully selected and edited to be immediately usable for private and public devotion.



*A Collection of Prayers: Publications* makes special collections of prayers available as books through [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



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A Collection  
*of* Prayers

A stylized black silhouette of two hands, palms up, holding the text above. The hands are positioned symmetrically, with fingers slightly curled and thumbs pointing towards the center.

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