



Opening Prayer

All: Lord of all, we pray for healing from the persistent sin of racism which causes us to reject the full humanity of your children and the talents and potential you have given them. Empower us to create a new way forward, with a new sense of community that embraces and celebrates the rich diversity of all. Show us how to live in compassionate solidarity, supported by your grace and your love. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, verse 1 (page 11)

THE FIRST STATION

Leader: The First Station...Jesus is condemned to death.

“Crucify him!” they shouted. Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” They only shouted louder, “Crucify him!” So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them, and after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified. (Mark 15:13-15)

Narrative

Pause

All: Racism leads to many forms of injustice, unjust imprisonment and sometimes death. We may not be a crowd cheering the evil deed, but it is easy to remain silent even though we may have an opportunity to speak up. Do we object to an inappropriate joke? Do we advocate for justice? Will we be like Pilate and the crowd, or will we use our voices to create opportunities for others?

All: (stand) Lord, you were a victim of injustice, condemned by those who had the power to save you and ignored by those who might have spoken up on your behalf. Help us to use the opportunities we have to speak out against the injustices around us, knowing that you desire justice for all. Amen. (sit)

Flute

THE SECOND STATION

Leader: The Second Station...Jesus takes up his cross.

And carrying the cross himself, Jesus went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. (John 19:17)

Narrative

Pause

All: Too often, we don't want to know the truth. The poverty of a one room rental with a shabby mattress from a trash bin, the disparaging looks, the job interviews that never materialize or the jobs that are lost due to fear or irrational judgement, education that slips by the wayside, children separated from parents and placed somewhere far away. This is not an aberration. It is a daily reality of injustice toward migrants, immigrants, and refugees.

All: (stand) Lord, help us to acknowledge the truth with honesty and courage. Injustice is far too common and imposes heavy crosses on our brothers and sisters. Help us to speak the truth about the magnitude of the injustices they face. Amen. (sit)

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, verse 1 (page 11)

THE THIRD STATION

Leader: The Third Station...Jesus falls for the first time.

Yet it was our pain that he bore, our sufferings he endured. Though harshly treated, he submitted and did not open his mouth. Like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers, he did not open his mouth. (Isaiah 53:4-7)

Narrative

Pause

All: There is great fear in the hearts of immigrants whether or not they have a passport, green card or visa. Family members are picked off the streets and never heard from again. Immigrants endure xenophobic rhetoric and constant suspicion. Will we leave our brothers and sisters to bear the cross alone, or will we step out in solidarity and accompany them as they travel their own Way of the Cross?

All: (stand) Lord, the cross of injustice is heavy. Help us not to dismiss it as just “the way things are” but rather to acknowledge the crosses that others must bear. Help us find ways to accompany them on their journey. Amen. (sit)

Piano

THE FOURTH STATION

Leader: The Fourth Station...Jesus meets his mother.

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, “and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” And his mother kept all these things in her heart. (Luke 2: 34-35, 51)

Narrative

Pause

All: Mary was cautioned from the beginning that the blessing of bearing Jesus would come with a cost. A mother's pain is no different in our communities of color. When her child suffers, she aches, when her child is beaten, she nurses the wounds, and when her child is murdered, she identifies the body or never sees her loved one's face again. Jesus felt the pain of his mother as he looked into her eyes. Will we be like him and stand with parents who have mountains of grief and anxiety in their hearts?

All: (stand) Lord, although at this time you could not relieve your mother's fears, you did acknowledge her pain. Help us to stand with anxious and grieving families and work to end the injustices that besiege them. Amen. (sit)

"Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping", verse 1 (page 11)

THE FIFTH STATION

Leader: The Fifth Station...Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross.

They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. (Mark 15:21)

Narrative

Pause

All: What could be lonelier than facing racism? Simon was at Jesus' side, and his presence meant Jesus was not alone. It is bad enough that some people experience injustices inflicted on them and insults hurled at them. How much more painful if they believed the whole population shared these ideas. We can keep our distance, or we can reach out and walk with people who are pushed to the margins.

All: (stand) Lord, you have arranged the universe so that one person's actions can help ease the burden of another. Embolden us to reach out to make others' crosses easier to bear. Amen. (sit)

Flute and Piano

THE SIXTH STATION

Leader: The Sixth Station...Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

He had no majestic bearing to catch our eye, no beauty to draw us to him. He was spurned and avoided by people, and we held him in no esteem. (Isaiah 53:2-3)

Narrative

Pause

All: When someone suffers unjustly, the human tendency is to avoid eye contact and walk away. Yet, we know that thousands have made the decision to get involved so that injustice does not continue. Veronica saw the suffering of another person and reached out to help – at the risk of calling attention to herself. There are countless women and men who have consoled one another or wiped the face of someone who is suffering or shared a small bit of food. Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter places of pain, to cry with those in misery, to mourn with the lonely and weep with those in tears.

All: (stand) Lord, give us the gift of courage to reach out with love to people who suffer. Teach us to serve you by serving our sisters and brothers and not count the cost. Amen. (sit)

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, verse 1 (page 11)

THE SEVENTH STATION

Leader: The Seventh Station...Jesus falls for the second time.

Jesus replied, “A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight.” (Luke 10:30-33)

Narrative

Pause

All: Jesus fell a second time under the weight of the cross. He suffered immensely for his willingness to identify with our humanity. Undoubtedly, some who saw him were quick to look down on him as being a criminal. One of the signs of prejudice is to separate ourselves from those we deem unworthy or inferior. Applying such biased thinking to whole groups is a signal that racism has infected our thinking. As soon as we start mentally separating people based on racial or ethnic stereotypes, we judge falsely and break the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves.

All: (stand) Lord, help us to accept all people as individuals with unique dignity and not to divide them up based on their membership in some favored or disfavored group. Amen. (sit)

Flute

THE EIGHTH STATION

Leader: The Eighth Station...Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.

A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children." (Luke 23:27-28)

Narrative

Pause

All: The women of Jerusalem were able to see beyond themselves and grieve the injustice done to Jesus. When I see injustice, how do I react? Do I care? Do I weep for those most at risk? Or do I ignore injustice because it has not happened in my community?

All: (stand) Lord, you call us to speak out against all injustice, not just the injustices that hurt our own communities. Help us to develop hearts that beat with genuine compassion when anyone's community suffers injustice. Amen. (sit)

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, hum (page 11)

THE NINTH STATION

Leader: The Ninth Station...Jesus falls for the third time.

“You impose on people burdens hard to carry, but you yourselves do not lift one finger to touch them. Woe to you!” (Luke 11:46-47)

Narrative

Pause

All: Jesus is weighed down by the weight of the cross as though bearing the sins of the world. Injustice and racism are crosses most often borne by people of color, but it is not just an individual burden. It has community-wide impacts: the inability to earn a living wage, the lack of freedom to go a park with children, differences in the distribution of educational resources. Social and economic structures, as well as political institutions, maintain policies and practices that magnify human suffering.

All: (stand) Lord, the call to change social and economic structures that perpetuate racism can be uncomfortable. Help us to acknowledge the roots of racial injustice and work to change them. Amen. (sit)

Flute

THE TENTH STATION

Leader: The Tenth Station...Jesus is stripped of his garments.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of the Skull), they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall. But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink. After they had crucified him, they divided his garments by casting lots. (Matthew 27:33-36)

Narrative

Pause

All: We are called to transform our society with God's love. Yet, our society still allows some people to be stripped of their dignity. As members of the Body of Christ, our dignity is intertwined with our immigrant brothers and sisters.

All: (stand) Lord, help us to see every person's dignity as important as our own and create social structures that promote dignity for all people.
(sit)

“Jesus, Remember Me” (page 12)

THE ELEVENTH STATION

Leader: The Eleventh Station...Jesus is crucified.

He was pierced for our sins, crushed for our iniquity. He bore the punishment that makes us whole. By his wounds, we were healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

Narrative

Pause

All: Complicity may not be intentional. Nevertheless, structures of sin in our own society unfairly deprive some people of their basic human rights.

All: (stand) Lord, forgive us for the sins we have committed and also for the sins of omission that allow injustice to persist. Help us to stand up to the structures of sin and become accomplices in the work of justice. Amen. (sit)

“Jesus, Remember Me” (page 12)

THE TWELFTH STATION

Leader: The Twelfth Station...Jesus dies on the cross.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ... “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ... Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. (Mark 15:34-37)

Narrative

Pause

All: We are called to be united with those who suffer injustice. Their pain should be our pain. Can we testify to their pain? Am I taking time to learn the stories of oppression? Am I seeking to listen to the cries of our brothers and sisters experiencing injustice and rejection? Do I work to change unjust policies? Do I take steps to welcome the stranger?

All: (stand) Lord, when no one else cares, you care. You call us to care as well. Lead us to an ever-deeper conversion that bears fruit in true solidarity with those who suffer. (sit)

“Jesus, Remember Me” (page 12)

THE THIRTEENTH STATION

Leader: The Thirteenth Station...Jesus is taken down from the cross.

Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council...went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus... Pilate summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when Pilate learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. (Mark 15:42-45)

Narrative

Pause

All: Racism can only end if we contend with barriers that perpetuate social and economic inequality that we see all around us. Working for change will take courage. We cannot remain silent. We must engage with others in respectful conversation and take action.

All: (stand) Lord, give us the courage to transform our institutions so that the work of racial justice may bear fruit. (sit)

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, verse 2

THE FOURTEENTH STATION

Leader: The Fourteenth Station...Jesus is laid in the tomb.

Taking Jesus' body, Joseph of Arimathea wrapped it in clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed. (Matthew 27:59-60)

Narrative

Pause

All: When the stone was rolled across the tomb, it seemed as if all was lost. But the tomb is not the end of the story. Racism and injustice are not the end of the story either. Jesus makes all things new. Jesus can transform hearts. We are one human race, and God desires that we dwell in harmony with one another. We are to do justice and to love goodness and to walk humbly with our God. This is our task. We must humbly and fearlessly engage in the work of social and racial justice. (stand)

“Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping”, verse 2

Intercessions (please respond, “Lord, hear our prayer.”)

The Lord's Prayer

Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping



1. Some-times our on - ly song is weep-ing; Our on - ly
2. Some-times we catch the faint-est hum-ming, A far-off



sound is gasp - ing breath. Some-times it seems that God is
tune our hearts know well. Some-times we sense the Spir-it



sleep - ing While our brief lives are bound in death.
com - ing. Our song re - turns; our voic - es swell.



Who hears the song our sor-rows swal-low And of - fers
The Spir - it sings though we are shak-en, And Christ has



hope to calm our fears? When all our words seem frail and
shared our heart-felt cries. Re - stored, our wea - ry souls a -



hol - low, God heeds the prayers with-in our tears.
wak - en To join God's song that nev-er dies.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b.1979, © 2015, GIA Publications, Inc.

Tune: WAYFARING STRANGER, 9 8 9 8 D; American folk song; arr. by Horace Clarence Boyer, 1935–2009, © Horace Clarence Boyer

Jesus, Remember Me

Ostinato Refrain

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.
Spanish: Je - sús, re - cuér - da - me cuan - do en - tres en tu Rei - no.
Polish: Je - zu, w kró - les - twie Twym wspom - nij na swo - je - go słu - ę.

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Je - zu, w kró - les - twie Twym wspom - nij na swo - je - go słu - ę.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community, 1981
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Sources: *Stations of the Cross: Overcoming Racism*, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2020; Exodusrefugee.org, “Sifa’s Story”, 2026; *Stations of the Cross, Many Migrants’ Challenges Mirror Christ’s Journey to the Cross*, jesuitscentralsouthern.org, 2025.