

Journey with Jesus...

walking in the way of Jesus (draft – 04-24-06)

Station	Element	Content
Prophetic Announcement	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	The angel Gabriel visits Mary of Nazareth announcing that she will miraculously conceive and give birth to the Messiah. She is confused and afraid because she is a virgin, but the angel tells her not to be afraid and assures her that the Holy Spirit is with her. Mary accepts her place in God's plan of redemption and sings a prophecy (the <i>Magnificat</i> – Luke 2:46-55) of how her baby will come and liberate the poor and oppressed.
	Scripture Reading	Luke 1:26-38
	Exercise	none
	Closing Prayer	O God, pour your grace into our hearts; that as at the message of an angel, Mary was overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, and became the mother of the Lord, so we, believing thy word, may receive Christ to dwell in our hearts, and by our life reveal the mystery of his incarnation. Amen. (based on the Gregorian Sacramentary (c.790))
	Refrain	All: Help Us Walk in Your Ways, Lord Jesus.

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Birth of Jesus	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem to register for a census and while there Mary gives birth to God's Son in the City of David, fulfilling the prophecy that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). A humble birth in a stable and attended to by poor shepherds foreshadows the life, ministry and message of Jesus. The young family flees for Egypt after an Angel warns Joseph to escape King Herod's (ruler of Judea) mandate to kill all boys born in Bethlehem.
	Exercise Reflection//Silence (2 Minutes)	Reflect on the joy and sadness; the King of the Universe born in the humility of a pauper; the birth of a child among a massacre...
	Scripture Reading	Matthew 2:1-12
	Song	(Chorus) O Come Let Us Adore Him
	Closing Prayer	How lowly, how gracious His coming to earth! His love kindles my love to joy in his birth. Sweet Jesus, King of glory; Now you sleep in a manger, in a stable poor and cold; But for us You are the highest King, Making our hearts into Your palace. In each one of us, Lord Christ, let there be joy. (adapted from Celtic Daily Prayer)
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Hidden Life	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Jesus lives in relative obscurity in the small Galilee town of Nazareth. Jesus developed in every way as a person and in his understanding of his unique mission as the Anointed One of God. Little is known of this 30-year period of Jesus life – a time in which he waited and prepared for his public ministry. We do know that Jesus did spend time in the Temple discussing the Scripture with the priests.
	Exercise	None
	Scripture	Luke 2:51&52
	Closing Prayer	Father, your Son became like us when he revealed himself in our nature: help us to become more like him, who lives and reigns with and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen (From Praying With the Saints)
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Jesus' Baptism	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	In his thirtieth year, Jesus enters into public ministry through the baptism of repentance through his cousin John the Baptist (a fiery preacher calling the nation of Israel to repentance). Through this act, Jesus identified with sinful humanity he came to save and received the commendation of His Father and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. This event ushers Jesus into a three-year public ministry.
	Exercise: Remember your baptism or commit to follow in the waters of baptism	Remember your baptism – (Romans 6:1-5) What was that commitment about? What was said? What did you physically feel? What emotion was forefront?
	Scripture	Matthew 3:13-17
	Closing Prayer	Almighty, eternal God, when the Spirit descended upon Jesus at his baptism in the Jordan, you revealed him as you own beloved Son. Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit, faithful to our calling. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen. (From Praying with the Saints)
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Temptation	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the

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		world.
	Synopsis	Jesus follows the leading of the Spirit into the wilderness. After forty days of fasting and spending time in the wilderness, Satan comes and tempts Jesus. Jesus remains faithful to his calling and purpose and rejects the offers of Satan to be a sensational messianic figure.
	Scripture	Matthew 4:1-11
	Exercise: Silence	Sit in Silence – Be still and listen – wait on God.
	Discussion?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is temptation only merely inevitable, or is it necessary to our growth as disciples? 2. What is the essence of the first temptation, to turn stones into bread? 3. What is the essence of the second temptation, to attain power and splendor? 4. What is the essence of the third temptation, to throw oneself down from the temple? 5. What similar temptations do we face today? 6. What lessons about how to resist temptation does Jesus teach us in this passage?
	Closing Prayer	Lord, we face battles with temptation every day. Help us to be Father-focused like Jesus was. Help us to learn your Word better so we can find strength in the face of temptation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.
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Appointment of the 12	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	After a night of prayer Jesus chose from his followers 12 disciples. These were to be individuals who would travel with, serve with and learn from the Messiah. The disciples were chosen to take leadership in carrying on the ministry of revealing and inviting people to join the Kingdom of God.
	Scripture	Luke 6:12-16
	Exercise	In light of John 17:17-21 – join with one other person and pray for each other to be growing stronger and closer as Christ's followers.
	Closing Prayer	For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from who every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than

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		all that we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14-21)
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Jesus Public Ministry	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Both authoritative and powerful teaching about the Kingdom of God and compassionate acts of healing marked Jesus' ministry. Jesus ministered in synagogues and throughout the countryside; he spoke and cared for multitudes of people, as well as, individuals along the way. Jesus invited individuals to become disciples and join him in his ministry forming a community who could learn from him and serve with him in his itinerant ministry that moved from Northern Palestine toward Jerusalem.
	Scripture	Mt. 18:21-35; Mark 3:1-6
	Exercise: Releasing/Forgiving	Identifying a wrong – someone who has wronged us – and releasing it – (pile of rocks – dropping them into a bowl/container of water)
	Closing Prayer	The Lord's Prayer (Mt. 6:9-13)
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Last Supper	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	In the third year of Jesus' ministry he brought his followers to Jerusalem for Passover. The pressure was mounting against his ministry from the religious leaders of his day. His message of the Kingdom and his popularity is perceived to be a major threat to the religious establishment. On Thursday Night (the day before Passover) Jesus gathers with the twelve in a secret place for observance of the Passover and Jesus' final meal. Jesus breaks bread with them and shares wine, asking them that whenever they do these things to remember him, what he has done and what he is about to do for them. He also foretells of a betrayer amongst them, and that Peter will deny him three times.
	Scripture	Mark 14:12-31
	Exercise: Communion	Partaking the Lord's Supper.
	Closing Prayer	Blessed are You, Lord God of the universe, our Father for ever and ever; for through Your goodness we have partaken these gifts of bread and wine which earth

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		has given and human hands have made. May they remind us of the great gift of your son – given that we might have life here and for eternity, Amen. (adapted from Celtic Daily Prayer)
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Betrayal	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Praying later the same night (the night before Passover) Judas comes leading a group of guards and other authorities to arrest Jesus. Judas Iscariot points out Jesus to the authorities with a kiss. The soldiers take Jesus to the High Priest, Caiaphas for questioning. Judas, ashamed and full of remorse for his betrayal, hangs himself. Throughout the evening Peter denies knowing Jesus and being friends with him.
	Scripture	Mark 14:43-50 & 66-72
	Exercise: Confession & Building a Cross to be held by one person who will lead the remainder of the walk. (+)	Write a one-word confession on a card (to be taken with them to the next station) – and then spend time in prayer confessing and seeking forgiveness.
	Closing Prayer	O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed. Then Lord, in your mercy, grant us a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. (from Praying with the Saints)
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Station	Element	Content
+ Trial & Crucifixion	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	The Jewish Priests, unable to sentence Jesus to death, send Jesus to Pontius Pilate, the Roman leader in Judea. Pilate finds no fault with Jesus and tries repeatedly to release him. However, the anger of the crowd gathered for Passover outweighs those with love and mercy. Jesus is tortured, humiliated and crucified between two thieves in a public display on Golgotha, outside the walls of Jerusalem. Before his death, in the afternoon on the Friday before Passover, Jesus forgives all responsible for his execution. The body of Jesus is placed in a tomb before sundown on the day before the observance of Passover.
	Scripture	Mt. 27:32-56
	Exercise:	Each person nails their confession card to the Cross

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	Prayers of Gratitude for the Cross (Nailing the confession card to the Cross)	and kneels by the cross. Spontaneous prayers of worship/gratitude said aloud as the group kneels around a large cross laid out on the ground.
	Closing Prayer	Almighty and eternal God, you created all things in wonderful beauty and order. Help us now to perceive how still more wonderful is the new creation by which in the fullness of time you redeemed your people through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. (from Praying with the Saints)
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+Resurrection	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Three days after his brutal execution the followers returning to the tomb of Jesus find the tomb is empty. An angel proclaims that Jesus has miraculously conquered death and is alive again!
	Scripture	John 20:1-18
	Exercise: Sing	The Doxology (<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings...</i>)
	Closing Prayer	L. <i>Christ is risen!</i> A. He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Father, by this Easter mystery you touch our lives with the healing power of your love. You have given us the freedom of the sons of God. May we who now celebrate your gift find joy in it for ever in heaven. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. Amen. (from Praying with the Saints)
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Station	Element	Content
+Appearances	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Jesus appears to his followers over a period of 40 days following his being raised from the dead. He uses this time to assure his followers of his purposes for coming, living among us, dying and conquering the tomb. He spends time, eats with and teaches his followers during this brief period of time.
	Scripture	I Corinthians 15:3-8
	Exercise: God Sighting (each read Luke 24:13-35 silently)	Testimony – How have I encountered God on this journey? How specifically have I seen the presence of God in my world? Write it down in the journal and then summarize it in one word and write that word on the processional cross.

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	Closing Prayer	God our Father, creator of all, today is a day filled with the joy of your sons resurrection. Jesus is alive and among us now. May the risen Lord breathe on our minds and open our eyes that we may know him in the breaking of bread and follow him in his risen life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (adapted from Praying with the Saints)
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Station	Element	Content
+Ascension	Opening Prayer	Leader (L): <i>We adore you, Jesus, and we praise you.</i> All (A): Because of your life you are restoring the world.
	Synopsis	Jesus gathers with his followers on Mt. Olive and commissions them to share his teachings with the world. Jesus affirms that he will come back to earth again. Then he ascends into the sky returning to his rightful place of power in Heaven.
	Scripture	Acts 1:6-11
	Exercise: Dream	What is my dream for the Church? What is my dream for how God might show up in our youth ministry? Journal this and then share it with two others – and pray for this dream to come true. As a whole group take time to share your dreams.
	Closing Blessing Prayed by the Group Coordinator over the group.	May the Father of Life pour out his grace on you; May you feel his hand in everything you do And be strengthened by the things he brings you through; This is my prayer for you. May his Spirit comfort you and make you strong, May he discipline you gently when you're wrong, And in your heart may He give you a song; This is my prayer for you. May Jesus be Lord in all your ways, May he shepherd you the length of all your days, And in your heart may he receive the praise: This is my prayer for you. Amen. (adapted from Celtic Daily Prayer)
	Refrain	All: Help Us Walk in Your Ways, Lord Jesus.