

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Ash Wednesday February 6, 2008**  
7:00 p.m.

*Please return  
To  
M. Mason*



*Today we begin the season of Lent and we take the opportunity to participate in the ancient custom of receiving ashes marked upon the forehead in the sign of a cross. This is an optional choice for each individual. The purpose is not to show off our faith, but **to be shown** our own mortality and our need for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This begins our forty days (not including Sundays) of spiritual preparation for Good Friday and Easter.*

Welcome

Invocation and Dialog

P: In the name of the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

P: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus.

C: **The author of our faith**

P: Who, for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame.

C: **And sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Opening Hymn:

### Take Up Thy Cross

1. "Take up thy cross," the Sav - ior said, "if thou wouldst  
2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak  
3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy  
4. Take up thy cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till

my dis - ci - ple be; de - ny thy - self, the  
spir - it with a - larm; his strength shall bear thy  
fool - ish pride re - bel; thy Lord for thee the  
death to lay it down; for on - ly those who

world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
spir - it up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.  
cross en - dured, to save thy soul from death and hell.  
bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

## Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion                    *-Please be seated-*

*All are invited to come forward to receive The Imposition of Ashes, and then to receive Holy Communion at either side of the chancel steps.*

Communion Hymns:                    **“Let Us Break Bread Together”**                    Green Book #212

(1)

Let us break bread together on our knees  
Let us break bread together on our knees  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

(2)

Let us drink wine together on our knees...

(3)

Let us praise God together on our knees...

**“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”**

Green Book #104

(1)

In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time,  
All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

(2)

When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

(3)

When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.

(4)

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

# **L**e **C**hem in de la **C**roix

(The Way of the Cross)

by

Marcel Dupré  
(1886 – 1971)

with poetry by Jean Claudel (1868 – 1955)

Dr. Marilyn Mason, Organist  
Roberta Pardon, Narrator



## **Station I Jesus is Condemned to Death.**

It is finished. We have judged God and condemned Him to death. We don't want Christ with us anymore. He was a scandal to the Jews. Pilate holds court at the place called Gabbatha and there is the angry mob shouting, and the judge washing his hands.

## **Station II Jesus Receives His Cross.**

Jesus received the Cross as we receive the Holy Eucharist: "We gave him the wood for bread," as Jeremiah prophesied. O how long the cross is, and how huge and ponderous. How weary to carry it step by step until you die on it. We must bear the cross before it bears us.



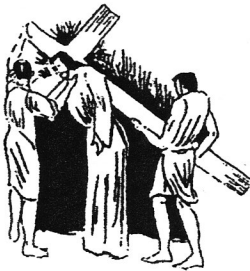
## **Station III Jesus Falls the First Time.**

March on! Victim and executioners all together set out for Calvary. God, whom they are dragging by the neck, suddenly stumbles and falls to the ground. The foot slips often but the heart perseveres. Save us from the first sin, the sin that takes us by surprise.



### **Station IV Jesus Meets His Mother.**

You mothers who have watched your first and only child die, remember that last night at the side of your moaning child. Goodbye my child! Mary has accepted all things. She waits at the side of the road, without tears, without voice, and she says nothing and watches Jesus approach. And as God himself is present, so is she there.



### **Station V Simon Helps Jesus Carry the Cross.**

The time comes when you can not take anymore; you can not go on. It is then that we become involved and you allow them to use us, to put us to work, even by force, bearing your Cross. A certain Simon of Cyrene is harnessed to this piece of wood. He shoulders it firmly and marches behind Jesus, so that no part of the cross will drag or be lost.



### **Station VI Jesus Meets Veronica.**

All the disciples have fled. Even Peter vehemently denies his Lord! A woman throws herself into the thickest of insults, finds Jesus, and takes his face into her hands. Teach us Veronica not to fear what people will say. For every Christian is the true image, however unworthy, of his Christ. And the face of every Christian is the dim reflection of the triumphant face of God in his heart. Show us the veil of holy linen on which you preserved the face of the Holy Viaticum.



### **Station VII Jesus Falls a Second Time.**

It is not the stone underfoot, nor the tight cord around His neck, rather the spirit that trips Him suddenly. The road is long and hard and the end is far. Time drags on! The body falls, yes, and at the same time, the spirit consents. Save us from the Second fall, the fall we make voluntarily through weariness.



## **Station VIII Jesus Comforts the Women of Jerusalem.**

Before He goes up on the mountain for the last time, Jesus lifts a finger, and turns to a few weeping women with children in their arms. And as for us, let us not look, let us listen to Jesus, for he is really here. This is God who has suffered. This man was truly God Omnipotent!



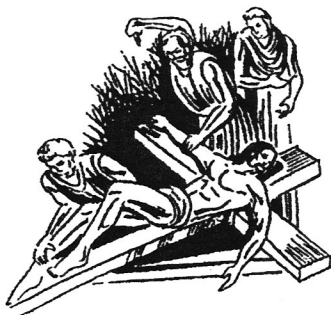
## **Station IX Jesus Falls a Third Time.**

I have fallen again and this time it is over. I would like to get up but there is no way. I have done wrong, and the dead man with me is too heavy! Save us from the third sin, which is despair! Nothing is ever completely lost as long as death remains to be tasted! Jesus falls a third time, now it is at the top of Calvary



## **Station X Jesus is Stripped of His Clothes.**

Behold the threshing floor where the grain of heavenly wheat is trampled. The Father is naked, the veil of the Temple is torn. The hand is laid on God, the Flesh of Flesh trembles. They left you nothing Lord, they took everything. He has nothing to cover himself. He is fit for jail or an asylum. Have pity on the conquered, on the weak in the grip of the powerful! Have mercy on all those who are torn apart and on this terrible love that must be torn from our hearts!



## **Station XI Jesus is Nailed to the Cross.**

Behold, God is no longer with us. The mob jumps at his throat. They sit on you, they kneel on your chest. They have bound the Lamb by his feet. They mark His height on the cross with chalk, and His arms length. And when He feels the nails, then we shall see His face. Here is the throne of David, the glory of Solomon. You are caught, Lord, and you can no longer escape. You are nailed to the cross by your hands and your feet. I shall search no more in heaven with the heretic and the fool. This is enough for me.



## **Station XII Jesus Dies Upon the Cross.**

He has been suffering, yes, but now He is going to die. For three hours He is alone. Our guest hangs heavily and His head droops little by little. His Father has abandoned Him. Do you still need me, Lord, and my sins? Am I what is lacking before all shall be fulfilled?



## **Station XIII The Body of Jesus Is Taken from the Cross.**

Here the Passion ends and the Compassion continues. The Christ who suffered before all eyes is once more hid in the bosom of His Mother. The Church enfolds her beloved in her arms for all time. Here ends the Cross and begins the Tabernacle.



## **Station XIV The Body of Jesus is Laid in the Tomb.**

Now that His heart is opened and now that His hands are pierced, there will be no cross for us that has not already borne His body, there will be no sin in us that His wounds will not reach.

Prayers

Benediction

Postlude: O Welt, ich muß dich lassen

Brahms

## Biographical Information

Dr. Marilyn Mason has made a lasting impression on the American organ scene in her distinguished career as a concert organist, lecturer, adjudicator, teacher, organ consultant and recording artist. Her name commands immediate recognition among organists today, confirming her impact more than 60 years after she made her debut.

University organist, Professor of Music and Chairman of the Organ Department of the University of Michigan, Marilyn Mason began her affiliation there in 1944 as an undergraduate studying under Palmer Christian. She completed her Master of Music degree at Michigan and has spent practically her entire career there. She studied a year in France under Nadia Boulanger (analysis) and Maurice Duruflé (organ), and she earned her Doctor of Sacred Music degree at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

As an undergraduate, Mason was honored with the Stanley Medal, the highest award given to any music major. Later she received the Distinguished Faculty Award and the first Citation of Merit from the music alumni.

During her tenure at Michigan, annual summer and fall organ music conferences have become regular highlights, organ tours abroad to see and hear historic organs have been organized, and the Marilyn Mason Organ was installed in a specifically built recital hall. This organ, built by C. B. Fisk, is a replica in spirit of the instruments of the great 18<sup>th</sup> century organbuilder, Gottfried Silbermann, a favorite of Bach.

Dr. Mason has performed on every continent except Antarctica. She was the first American woman to play in Westminster Abbey, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American to play in Egypt. She has served as a judge at nearly every major organ competition in the world. Mason has commissioned over 80 organ works; composers who have written for her are Albright, Bolcom, Cook, Cowell, Creston, Diemer, Haines, Jackson, David Johnson, Jordan, Krenek, Langlais, Lockwood, Gerald Near, Persichetti, Sowerby, Wyton and Young.

In 1987 she was awarded the Doctor of Music *honoris causa* degree from the University of Nebraska, and the New York Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) named her the "1988 Performer of the Year." She is an honorary member of the AGO and Sigma Alpha Iota.

Many of Dr. Mason's students hold prominent university and church positions all over the world.