Opening Prayer:
God of power and mercy, in love you sent your Son that we might be cleansed of sin and live with you forever. Bless us as we gather to reflect on his suffering and death that we may learn from his example the way we should go. We ask this through that same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

1st Station: Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives
He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.” Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

(Luke 22:39-44)

Prayer After Station 1:
Lord, grant us your strength and wisdom, that we may seek to follow your will in all things
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

14th Station: Jesus is Placed in the Tomb
Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

(Luke 23:50-53)

Prayer after Station 14:
Lord, grant us your compassion that we may always provide for those in need.
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
Closing Prayer:
Lord Jesus Christ, your passion and death is the sacrifice that unites earth and heaven and reconciles all people to you. May we who have faithfully reflected on these mysteries follow in your steps and so come to share your glory in heaven where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

This week, as we journey with Jesus to the cross, may we be reminded of the gift of salvation brought to all believers through His merciful and holy act. May we find comfort in the knowledge that light will always conquer darkness, goodness will always conquer sin and God’s love is ever steadfast. You are Loved by me and Beloved by God.
Blessings,
Pastor Mia

The UP Stations of the Cross paintings are based on those celebrated by Pope John Paul II on Good Friday 1991. They were originally presented as an alternative to the traditional Stations as a way of reflecting more deeply on the Scriptural accounts of Christ's passion.
Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

3rd Station: Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin
When day came the council of elders of the people met, both chief priests and scribes, and they brought him before their Sanhedrin. They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us," but he replied to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I question, you will not respond. But from this time on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?" He replied to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further need have we for testimony? We have heard it from his own mouth."
(Luke 22: 66-71)

Prayer after Station 3:
Lord, grant us your sense of righteousness that we may never cease to work to bring about the justice of the kingdom that you promised. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

12th Station: Jesus Speaks to His Mother and the Disciple
Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.
(John 19: 25-27)

Prayer after Station 12:
Lord, grant us constancy that we may be willing to stand by those in need. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

13th Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross
It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.
(Luke 23: 44-46)

Prayer After Station 13:
Lord, grant us trust in you that when our time on earth in ended our spirits may come to you without delay.
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

2nd Station: Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested
Then, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs, who had come from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying, "the man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him and lead him away securely." He came and immediately went over to him and said, "Rabbi." And he kissed him. At this they laid hands on him and arrested him.
(Mark 14: 43-46)

Prayer After Station 2:
Lord, grant us the courage of our convictions that our lives may faithfully reflect the good news you bring.
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

5th Station: Jesus is Judged by Pilate
As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. 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, “You say so.” Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

(Mark 15: 1-5, 15)

Prayer After Station 5:
Lord, grant us discernment that we may see as you see, not as the world sees.
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

10th Station: Jesus is Crucified
When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

(Luke 23: 33-34)

Prayer After Station 10:
Lord, grant us merciful hearts that we may bring your reconciliation and forgiveness to all.
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

11th Station: Jesus Promises His Kingdom to the Thief
Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23: 39-43)

Prayer After Station 11:
Lord, grant us perseverance that we may never stop seeking you. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

4th Station: Jesus is Denied by Peter
Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him.” But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!” Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, “Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.” But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about!” At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly. (Luke 22:54-62)

Prayer After Station 4:
Lord, grant us the gift of honesty that we may not fear to speak the truth even when difficult. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
Pray before each Station:
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

7th Station: Jesus Bears the Cross
When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” They cried out, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but the emperor.” Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

(John 19: 6, 15-17)

Prayer After Station 7:
Lord, grant us strength of purpose that we may faithfully bear our crosses each day. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

8th Station: Jesus is Helped by Simon to Carry the Cross
They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

(Mark 15: 21)

Prayer After Station 8:
Lord, grant us willing spirits that we may be your instruments on earth. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.
9th 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, for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.' At that time, people will say to the mountains, 'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?"

(Luke 23: 27-31)

Prayer After Station 9:

Lord, grant us gentle spirits that we may comfort those who mourn. Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.