

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church-Troy, MI
Meditation on Stations of the Cross
February 26, 2026

A reading from Luke

Luke 22:54-62

⁵⁴Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹The 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." ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly.

Meditation

Station 3: Peter denies Jesus

Scripture reading: Luke 22:54-62

Ask yourself:

- As Jesus was arrested and tried, Peter followed at a distance. Consider the conflict Peter must have felt between his allegiance to Jesus and the very real fear he felt toward the authorities and the hostile crowd. When have you felt similarly torn between faith and fear?
- Three different people pointed out that Peter was with Jesus, providing him three different chances for Peter to state the truth of his connection to Jesus. Think about times when you have been given opportunities to share your faith and values with others, and instead you have chosen to avoid the conversation, change the subject, or simply stay silent.
- Peter wept bitterly seemingly not only because he regretted denying Jesus, but also because Jesus had predicted the denial. What do you want to say to the God who loves us so deeply even when knowing that we fail and betray the faith?
