

A Walk for Justice and Peace
Good Friday
April 10, 2020



*Do not weep
for me...*

*Weep rather for
yourselves*
—Luke 22:28



Welcome to the
Good Friday Walk for Justice and Peace

Litany

Leader: In the throes of his Passion, our Lord Jesus asked God to forgive those whose sin made his death inevitable.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Even after two millennia, our world is still mired in sin, keeping us from becoming who God created us to be. Instead of a world of peace, there is violence, domestic abuse, pornography, and a love for guns. To our Lord, it must seem like the hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, we participate in a world where racism is a deep, tearing wound in our lives and increasing numbers of children and adults are being plunged into life-destroying poverty. The hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, we have a world where our nation's foreign policy seeks to exploit the natural resources, labor force and markets of other nations and to control trade agreements so that powerful economic interests in the United States prosper, while millions of people suffer and starve. The hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, we live in a nation in which the rich try to blame the poor, a nation in which slogans replace solutions, a nation in which Christians sleep in homes with empty bedrooms while the homeless lie pressed against steam grates. The hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, we live in a nation where we convince ourselves that we will feel safer if certain criminals are executed, even though countless studies show that the death penalty is not a deterrent and in fact adds to the perception that violence is a solution. The hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us, for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, violence is done against the health of our planet. Yet Genesis tells us that when God surveyed creation in its natural state, God declared it good. The hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us for we know not what we do.

Leader: Instead of a world of peace, our religious community is divided. Surrounded by suffering and evil, our churches and synagogues spend most of their resources on themselves. We are called to love others first, yet even so, the hammer still falls on the nails in his wrists.

People: Lord, forgive us for we know not what we do.

Song: Remember Your Love (<https://youtu.be/lduVM3DcqnU>)

First Station: Jesus Is Condemned to Death

Location: In our hearts Issue: The Death Penalty
Reader: Tom Redmond, S.M.
Marianist Social Justice Collaborative

(Reader) We gather on this Good Friday afternoon to not only remember the death sentence given to Jesus but also to consider our long-time practice of giving the death sentence to those who have killed. Murder is a horrible act. Murderers should be held accountable, but we must do so without making them and their loved ones victims of our violence. We seek a restorative justice that responds to harm with efforts to heal, not just to punish.

(Then) Peter said, “I do not know the man.” (Matthew 26: 73)
Pilate seeing that a riot was imminent, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, “I am innocent of this man’s blood. You see to it.” After having him scourged, Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.
(Matthew 27: 24-26) And carrying the cross by himself, Jesus went out to what is called the Place of the Skull. (John 19:17)

(Now) We remember how Jesus carried his cross alone, in sorrow for the sins of the world. We journey in sorrow together for all victims of crime, sorrow for the family members of those who have been murdered, sorrow for the families of those who are incarcerated, sorrow for the men and women, and juveniles in our jails and prisons. In Ohio there are 140 inmates on Death Row. Prominent Ohio voices, including a retired Ohio Supreme Court Justice who wrote Ohio’s death penalty law when he was a state senator, and a retired Director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction who oversaw dozens of executions, have called for the abolition of the death penalty in Ohio. We join them in asking, “How long must this sorrow last?”

(Prayer) God of justice and mercy, we pray for all who are awaiting execution or have been falsely accused. Embolden us to work for the abolition of state sanctioned death and to uphold the dignity of all human life. Give us the courage to reach out to victims of crime and give all prisoners the courage not to lose hope. Strengthen all those working for prison reform. We pray this in the name of our merciful Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Reader) “*The commandment “You shall not kill,” has absolute value and applies to both the innocent and the guilty.*” ~ Pope Francis, 2/21/16

Song: We Are Called (<https://youtu.be/cQf2xKxP1Tw>)

Second Station: Jesus Takes Up His Cross

Location: Looking North on Main Street Issue: Gun violence
Reader: Maureen Schlangen, a gun violence prevention advocate

(Reader) We look north on Main Street at CareSource and Premier Health. Health care workers are unfortunate witnesses to the effects of gun violence every day. Emergency and hospital personnel save many lives, but many times, the weapons — and the ammunition designed to shred everything it touches — are too much for any physician. In the wake of this violence, the community is wounded. Parents, children, siblings, colleagues and loved ones all carry the crushing burden of loss, grief, anger and insecurity.

(Then) “He went out, bearing his own cross.” ~John 19:17

(Now) Every day in America, 100 people on average lose their lives to gun violence. We value life as a gift from God; we value the dignity of every human person. But can we say we *truly value the sanctity of life* and do nothing to prevent the loss of 36,000 human lives to gun violence every year? Can we say we are upholding the dignity of *all people* when we know African Americans are 10 times more likely than white Americans to be murdered with a gun ... and that victims of domestic violence are five times more likely to be killed when their partner has a gun? Let us pray.

(Prayer) God of Life, place your healing hands upon those injured by gun violence and upon all those who provide them with medical and spiritual care.
God of Compassion, give comfort to those who grieve the loss of their loved ones.
God of Justice, give courage and strength to those working to end gun violence.
God of Power and Might, give wisdom and fortitude to the officials with the means to bring about common-sense change.
And brothers and sisters, may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

(Reader) “*As Christians, we are obliged to be a part of the conversation and the practical efforts to address this deadly crisis. We must listen, learn, think, pray and act.*” ~The Most Rev. Edward K. Braxton, Bishop of Belleville, Ill.

Song: The Cry of the Poor (<https://youtu.be/3aqTngprDY4>)

Third Station: Jesus Falls the First Time

Location: N. Main St. near the entrance to Courthouse

Square Issue: Immigration

Reader: Edwin Fuller, LEAD

(Reader) Leaders for Equality and Action in Dayton (LEAD) has been organizing faith communities through The Miami Valley Immigrant Coalition. They collaborate with the immigrant and faith communities in Dayton for immigrant justice. They promote comprehensive, humane immigration reform and working with and on behalf of those who are affected by unjust laws and policies that do not reflect these values.

(Then) Weakened from the brutal beating, loss of blood, and the weight of the cross beam, Jesus falls the first time.

(Now) The US has more immigrants than any other country, but they aren't always welcomed with loving arms. Some immigrants come to us from extremely dangerous situations and face much hardship to get here in hopes of finding safety and opportunity. Too often what they find is more violence, disdain, and prejudice. The situation has escalated so much that there are babes that have been ripped out of their mother's arms never to see them again. Parents and children, human beings, have been totally traumatized by our migration system, new implementation of violent and evil policies, and prejudice attitudes of some of our citizens. Too often migrants in the US and around the world are being brutally beaten and falling from the oppressive weight of the cross of our sins.

(Prayer) God of justice, you delight in those who do right and are angered by those who do harm. Convict those who would abuse people and instill within them a passion for justice. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

(Reader) *"Faith assures us that in a mysterious way the Kingdom of God is already present here on earth (cf. Gaudium et Spes, 39). Yet in our own time, we are saddened to see the obstacles and opposition it encounters. Violent conflicts and all-out wars continue to tear humanity apart; injustices and discrimination follow one upon the other; economic and social imbalances on a local or global scale prove difficult to overcome. And above all it is the poorest of the poor and the most disadvantaged who pay the price."*

~~Pope Francis

Song: Remember Your Love (<https://youtu.be/lduVM3Dcqnu>)

Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Mother

Location: NE corner of Main & Third Streets

Issue: Infant Mortality

Reader: Quiana Bickman, Wesley Community Center

(Reader) As I think of Infant Mortality, I think of how precious our babies are. Infant Mortality is defined as the death of a live-born baby before his or her first birthday. While Ohio infant deaths have declined since 2017, racial disparities in infant deaths continues between African Americans and Caucasians. We have to ask ourselves, "What can we do to stop these babies from dying?"

(Then) Mary came to be with her son. She shared the pain imposed on him by an unjust system. She wept over his unfair and wicked condemnation.

(Now) The Baby Ready Program started in 2015 and has served over 200 mothers. Baby Ready has partnered with Public Health by adding an infant mortality component to help bring awareness to African American families about safe sleep and best health care for infants. While there is no one contributing factor for the deaths of a baby, we know that African American moms experience much more stress, have access to fewer resources and, at times, do not get the same care as other populations.

(Prayer) How we praise and thank you for precious little lives of all new-born babies, little toddlers and young children, knowing that each one is special to You and was known in Your heart, even before conception. Help us, Lord, to hold all lives dear and to work relentlessly to ensure every baby and mother get a healthy start. Amen.

(Reader) *"I believe the only way we'll be able to solve infant mortality and other huge social problems is by designing solutions for those with the greater intent to carry it out."* ~Jane Chen

Song: We Are Called (<https://youtu.be/cQf2xKxP1Tw>)

Fifth Station: Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus

Location: 3rd St. between Jefferson and St. Clair

Issue: Mass Incarceration

Reader: UD student

(Reader) In these stations of the cross, we commemorate Jesus of Nazareth's conviction and sentencing from trumped up false charges against him. The Jewish authorities charged him with blasphemy. Because they couldn't carry out the punishment they wanted, they got the Romans to convict him of treason. Neither were true. Even if they were, the sentence was far too great. Both charges and the death sentence were motivated by the authorities' fear that Jesus and his followers were threatening their power. Fortunately, Simon of Cyrene came to Jesus' assistance, but it didn't really solve the bigger problem.

(Then) A man named Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was coming in from the fields and they pressed him into service to carry the cross. They put a crossbeam on Simon's shoulder for him to carry along behind Jesus. ~Mark 15:21 ~Luke 23:26

(Now) The American criminal justice system holds almost 2.3 million people in prisons, jails, juvenile correctional facilities, and immigration detention facilities. With 740 inmates per 100,000 people, the US has by far the largest incarceration rate in the world. In the last forty years, incarceration has increased with rates upwards of 500% despite crime rates decreasing nationally. How many in American jails and prisons are there for minor drug charges? How many are minorities? Fortunately, the First Step Act has begun to help with the problem of mass incarceration. However, like Simon's carrying of Jesus' cross, it doesn't solve the underlying problems.

(Prayer) Lord Jesus, you call us to visit our brothers and sisters in prison. On a deeper level, you saw part of your mission to be "to set the prisoners free." Since you call your followers to carry on your mission, give us your Spirit of strength to work towards an end to the mass incarceration we see in our country. Help us to address the deeper issues as well—drug addiction, racism, poverty, for-profit prisons, punitive rather than restorative justice, easy accessibility to guns, glorification of violence, fear, and other underlying causes. May we be a people that believes in restorative justice and mercy, Amen.

(Reader) "We don't think about the possibility that people can change their lives ... But in this way we forget that we are all sinners. And often, without being aware of it, we too are prisoners." ~Pope Francis

Song: The Cry of the Poor (<https://youtu.be/3aqTngprDY4>)

Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Location: Facing Metro Library in Cooper Park

Issue: Dayton Strong

Reader: Rev. Darryl Fairchild, Dayton City Commissioner

(Reader) We are blocks away from the location where 9 citizens were shot and killed; in a city where tornados left people without safe shelter; and, in a park where men and women with mental illness pass their time seeking food, shelter, clothing and connection. Here, we are reminded of the sin sick world that harms some and threatens to overwhelm all of us. We are called by the Gospel to care for our brothers and sister who are vulnerable - those who struggle, have been hurt, or grieve.

(Then) Veronica faced the derision of the bystanders and the soldiers who saw Christ as a criminal, and with courage and compassion went to minister to his need, receiving much more, the image of Christ imprinted on her veil and in her heart.

(Now) Today, we are mindful of the 700 families who are still waiting for help as a result of the Memorial Day Tornadoes. Mindful of the families who grieve the lost of a loved one, recovering from a gunshot wound or struggling to overcome the trauma of violence. We remember those whose pain was caused on Aug 4th and those who suffered from acts of violence including 59 homicide victims in Dayton. We celebrate our neighbors who have embodied the spirit of Dayton Strong by getting up, facing a new day, helping someone, volunteering, or providing encouragement. They remind us of one of the mysteries of our faith – life is simultaneous fragile and resilient.

(Prayer) O Gracious God, in the shadow of the valley of death you are with your people, just as you were with Jesus on his journey to Calvary; make your presence known in our midst and pour out your spirit; comfort those who are hurting and grieving, sustain us all, and renew our spirits; so that we may be filled with the sensitivity of Veronica to see those who are struggling in our midst and her compassion to provide balm to them.

(Reader) Joan Chittister: Hope is what sits by the window and waits for one more dawn, despite the fact that there isn't an ounce of proof in tonight's black, black sky that it can possibly come.
Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza: Resurrection does not simply spell the survival of the soul but requires the transformation of the world as we know it.

Song: Remember Your Love (<https://youtu.be/lduVM3DcqnU>)

Seventh Station: Jesus Falls a Second Time

Location: Cooper Park, near 2nd and St. Clair

Issue: Civility Reader: from UD Center for Social Concern

(Reader) The 2020 election is upon us. In about 6 ½ months, we will be voting for a president and others who are meant to represent and serve the people of our republic. Some of us approach this critical civic duty with very strong opinions. I believe the founders would be proud of our passion. But we know that there are others with as much passion who disagree with us on the issues and candidates we support.

(Then) Jesus fell under the heavy weight of the cross, a symbol filled with hate, anger, and sin.

(Now) This may be the most consequential election since the Civil War; that's a pretty heavy cross. The passion of some Americans can overflow into hatred and anger--on social media, at the dinner table, etc. The disdain, the failure to listen, and even some violence from political disagreements are not too far from the jeering at, the spitting on and the whipping of Jesus. He fell under that weight. Still, Jesus called his followers to love one's neighbor--even if they hate you. Incivility will make us fall under the weight of this cross.

(Prayer) Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where uncivil words prevail, show me how to model love. Help me remember the God-given dignity of all and invite others to do the same. Show me how to build bridges and not walls and to see first what unites us rather than how we diverge. Let me seek to understand before asking to be understood. Give me a listening heart filled with empathy and compassion. May I be clear in sharing my own position and respectful and civil in describing those of others. Let me never tolerate hateful ideas. May I invite all to charity and love. Lord, help me to imitate your compassion and mercy. Make me an instrument of your peace. Amen.

(Reader) *"You can disagree without being disagreeable."*
~Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Song: We Are Called (<https://youtu.be/cQf2xKxP1Tw>)

Eighth Station: Jesus Meets the Weeping Women of Jerusalem

Location: Second Street near Jefferson Street

Issue: World Peace Reader: William J. "Bill" Meers

(Reader) We find ourselves in the heart of Downtown Dayton— a city where many have lost loved ones from gun violence and where vigils mourn the victims of homicides and where veterans from foreign wars have returned seeking Peaceful homes. The Dayton International Peace Museum, International Cities of Peace and many faith and community groups advocate daily for Peace and Justice.

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

(Now) Yet the prayers and voices for Peace seem to fall on deaf ears as the development of more powerful weapons continues and political leaders choose nationalism over diplomacy and collaboration with other nations. The cries for Peace by families in Syria and by refugees on our border and around the World are lost in the competition among nations for economic and political domination. The risk of war with Iran and other nations we consider as "enemies" distracts us from the work of building Peace and inclusion even in our own communities.

(Prayer) In all of God's holy names, we pray for Peace in our homes, in our communities, and in our World. May we find the strength to be Peacemakers and to stand with those who work for Peace and Humanity. Amen.

(Reader) *"If we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective."* Martin Luther King Jr.

Song: The Cry of the Poor (<https://youtu.be/3aqTngprDY4>)

Ninth Station: Jesus Falls the Third Time

Location: NE Corner of Main & Second Street

Issue: Healthcare Access for All

Reader: Dr. Donald Nguyen

(Reader) On this day of infamy and global pandemic, America is under siege by a horrific virus that does not discriminate. If there is such an ironic and cruel test of how efficient, fair and affordable the current healthcare system is for a nation, this COVID-19 has clearly exposed how America is in need of an overhaul for the sake of humanity. March 23 also marked the 10th Anniversary of the passage of the Affordable Healthcare Act as it serves as a reminder of how far America has come on the long and arduous journey of bending the health care justice arc. For many of us in the health care field, God knows there is a whole lot more bending needed. The pandemic shows once more that a simple test for the coronavirus can cost up to \$1,300 and until some changes were made, testing was out of reach to many Americans and only the rich and famous could get it overnight. The for-profit system also means the hospitalization and ICU stays will amount to extraordinary medical bills that will bankrupt many Americans, and they just don't know it yet.

(Then) As Jesus' journey to Calvary neared its' completion and his strength was almost exhausted, the oppressive weight of the cross pressed him to the ground.

(Now) Because this country is at war, as some have made this analogy, no wide testing also means our healthcare soldiers are blind because they cannot see where our enemies are. Does it make sense to send our courageous healthcare warriors into battle with no gear and protection? As the pandemic surges upwards, stories are emerging of nurses and doctors having to take impossible and unwanted risks of their own lives to care for the infected. Masks and protective equipment are severely lacking and resources are being directed to the wrong places. The experience in Italy tells us that 30% of the COVID-19 positive patients are health care workers. We hope that is not the same in America. We will not let this virus pull us apart. We will prevail because we have hope and trust in our doctors and nurses who fight for our protection today and for better and smarter health care in the future.

(Prayer) Lord, let us fight for an equal and just healthcare system for us all. We take this time to lift up in prayer our frontline healthcare workers and pray for their health. Amen

(Reader) *"America's health care system is neither healthy, caring nor a system."*
~Walter Cronkite

Song: Remember Your Love (<https://youtu.be/lduVM3DcqnU>)

Tenth Station: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments

Location: Main St. in front of Performance Place

Issue: Addiction Reader: Jodi Long, GDCC & ADAMHS

(Reader) The crucified body of Jesus reminds us of the public judgment Jesus faced – akin to the social stigma a person living in addiction or recovery may face publicly today. The cruel, unjust, inhumane treatment of Jesus, who did nothing to deserve his punishment, is similar to the shame, guilt, and isolation a person living with addiction often faces when others lack the knowledge of addiction being a chronic brain disease and not a spiritual or moral failing.

(Then) "And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get." ~Mark 15:24

(Now) We often judge those who continue using substances or relapse—we call them out publicly, deny them jobs, housing, second, third and fourth opportunities to start anew again. Our lack of understanding of addiction as a brain disease fuels the ongoing injustice for people living with addiction. We pretend the people are at fault or the cause of their brain disease just as people pretended Jesus was at fault. We judge and condemn people who are trapped in active addiction while we leave them stripped and naked of their right to grace, second chances, forgiveness, dignity, and support from the Church. We must reconsider how scriptures are used to justify shaming the individual and blaming them for their brain disease, and how people living with addiction are separated from community.

(Prayer) Almighty God, forgive us for our lack of grace and forgiveness for those living in active addiction. Forgive us when we judge and blame the person for a chronic, relapsing brain disease; when we continue to judge even those in recovery as if they're still actively using by denying them jobs, housing, and places to connect. You've said in your word you have come to set the oppressed free and to declare the year of the Lord's favor. We declare that we will not continue to turn a blind eye on this oppression and that we will break the silence surrounding the stigma related to addiction. Amen.

(Reader) *In many ways, recovering from an addiction is like being reborn. Recovery gives a person the chance to reinvent themselves and to finally become powerful and passionate. From the ashes, a new and greater life is born. "Rising from the ashes, I am born again, powerful, exultant, majestic through all the pain."* ~Shannon Perry

Song: We Are Called (<https://youtu.be/cQf2xKxP1Tw>)

Eleventh Station: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Location: In Front of Christ Episcopal Church

Issue: Inclusion—Love Thy Neighbor Reader: Charlene Bayless

(Reader) As we are all God’s children and God loves us, so we are all neighbors and must love each other. Setting aside difference and embracing commonality, we **each** must show love **to one another**.

(Then) “They took Jesus to Golgatha, which means ‘Place of the Skull’.....They nailed him to a cross...” ~Mark 15:22, 24

(Now) Love must be shown within community and country in the forms of justice and stewardship. Those who are poor must receive pay that supports living. Our Nation’s monies must undergird the **lives** of its people, not the **killing** of other nations’ peoples. Those ostracized because of color, ethnicity or lifestyle must be embraced. Our earth and its resources must be protected.

(Prayer) Lord Jesus, walk with us as we pray for our nation, as we love others as you have loved us. Show us mercy and show us how to show mercy to others. We pray this prayer in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen

(Reader) Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960’s exemplified love and justice. The Reverend Dr. William J Barber in 2020 teaches the United States of America to show love and justice and stewardship. Rev. Barber speaks to us in Dayton, Ohio on April 23. Come. Listen. Act.

Song: The Cry of the Poor (<https://youtu.be/3aqTngprDY4>)

Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the Cross

Location: NE Corner of Ludlow & First Street

Issue: Homelessness Reader: Rev. Mark Craig, Homefull

(Reader) Amidst the highest level of income inequality in 50 years, *Homefull* and other area agencies are attempting to combat the root cause of homelessness—poverty—by addressing the related issues of affordable housing, low income, lack of healthcare, domestic violence, and racial inequality.

It’s reported that 8-million extremely low-income households pay at least half of their income toward housing; most households become homeless because they do not earn an adequate living wage to pay for housing; health issues can cause a person’s homelessness and be made worse by the experience; many survivors of domestic violence become homeless when leaving an abusive relationship; and African Americans, make up 40 percent of the homeless population despite only representing 13 percent of the general population due to the historical and current denial of equal rights and opportunities.

(Then) “I thirst.” “Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said ‘Father, into Thy hands I commend my Spirit.” ~John 19:28; Luke 23:46

(Now) Just as Jesus died on the cross, many homeless individuals die on the cross of poverty. Poverty strips individuals of their dignity, sense of self-worth, housing, food, clothing, transportation, and belongings. We must continue to address the cause of homelessness (poverty) by advocating on behalf of those most vulnerable and ensuring that every individual has equal access to a fair and decent living wage, affordable housing, and healthcare; free from racial inequality and discrimination.

(Prayer) God of the Homeless, bless those who give so much of their time, talents and resources to end homelessness. Bless those who remain homeless that they would have the strength to endure and opportunity to prevail against the internal and systemic forces that continue to inhibit their success; that they might live year to year rather than day to day. Give us wisdom, love, hope, and peace to work together as one to combat the cause of homelessness. Amen.

(Reader) “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” ~Mt. 25:40

Song: Remember Your Love (<https://youtu.be/lduVM3DcqnU>)

Thirteenth Station: Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross

Location: Facing the Great Miami River

Issue: Climate Change & Natural Disasters

Reader: Sr. Leanne Jablonski FMI, MEEC & UD-HSI

(Reader) We feel the caress of God in the Miami River ecosystem and its refreshing waters, and wildlife. We are grateful for its restorative beauty and resilience; and for the parks and flood-protecting dams in our region that protect us during weather extremes. We depend water for life – for cleansing, refreshment, growth of our food, and as a symbol for baptism. Our human bodies contain over 50% water. We're also aware of places where humans have threatened ecosystem functioning by polluting, destroying wetlands or building too close to shorelines.

(Then) “Joseph...of Arimathea...asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down.”

(Now) We have increased our carbon dioxide blanket through our insatiable consumption and ecosystem destruction, burning fossil fuels, deforestation, building and paving our greenspaces. Our air is warming and rainstorms, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes are more frequent. Shorelines and islands are disappearing. Those who did the least to cause the problem of climate change are the ones most impacted: those of low income, people of color, and the indigenous; the vulnerable with health challenges - the very young and very old.

(Prayer) Forgive us, God! We have not heeded the cry of the earth, the cry of the poor and the voices of scientists. Help us to feel the suffering and sadness of species loss and all people who have been impacted by global warming and extreme weather. Embolden us with wisdom and prudence to act sustainably and make the sacrifices necessary to build resilient communities. Guide us in protecting our ecosystems, and ensuring there are adequate resources for all people in our world today and for future generations.

(Reader): *Become painfully aware...dare to turn what is happening in the world into our own personal suffering and thus discover what each of us can do about it.* (Pope Francis, Laudato si #19)

Song: The Cry of the Poor (<https://youtu.be/3aqTngprDY4>)

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Placed in the Tomb

Location: East Side of First Baptist Church of Dayton

**Issue: The Church's Response Reader: Rev. Dr. Crystal Walker
Executive Director, Greater Dayton Christian Connections**

(Reader) “Listen, can you hear? Can you hear the sound of the whip as they beat our savior? Can you hear Jesus’ cries of pain? Can you hear the laughter of those who professed to love him as he hung bleeding on the cross? Can you hear Satan’s minions murmuring and casting lots for his clothes? Can you hear the thief on the cross, taunting Jesus to save him and to save himself? Listen, can you hear?”

(Then) “Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. The rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and departed.” ~Matthew 27:59-60

(Now) The church has turned a deaf ear on the cries of its’ people. Instead of being the hands and feet of Jesus, we have internalized the pain of the people. We have selfishly worshipped a building and not God. Not only does the church need to hear the cries of its’ people, we must take action against injustice in every form. Today, we walked for justice and peace. We ask that we finally open our ears, hearts, hands and feet to the work that God would desire us to do. We are the Church!

(Prayer) O God, we come to you today renewed in our strength as representatives of the Church universal to bring about change in our community. We surrender ourselves to you in service to the community. We adorn ourselves in love. In Jesus name, we claim victory over our community! Amen

“We now enter the hours of darkness in the story of Jesus. **Lord, lead us to the dawn.** We pray that our witness to your greatness will be shown with the works we do in your name. **Lord, lead us to the light.**”

Song: We Are Called (<https://youtu.be/cQf2xKxP1Tw>)

Good Friday Walk for Peace & Justice Sponsors

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<p>Christ Episcopal Church (937) 223-2239 churchoffice@daytonchristepiscopal.com www.daytonchristepiscopal.com</p>	<p>Greater Dayton Christian Connections (937) 222-4322 gdcc@christian.org www.christianconnection.org</p>
<p>Church Women United (Partner with GDCC) (937) 344-6029 Inagreen1946@woh.rr.com</p>	<p>Harmony Creek Church (937) 434-3941 mccastle@aol.com www.harmonycreekchurch.org</p>
<p>College Hill Community Church (937) 278-4225</p>	<p>Homefull (937) 293-1945 resource@homefull.org</p>
<p>Congregation for Reconciliation (937) 276-4077</p>	

<p><u>LEAD (Leaders for Equality and Action in Dayton)</u> (937) 252-2018 leaddayton@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Pledge of Resistance</u> (937) 277-7102</p>
<p><u>Maria-Joseph Nursing & Rehabilitation Center</u> (937) 278-2692 www.mariajosephdayton.com</p>	<p><u>PowerNet of Dayton</u> Serving persons in prison & those returning after release www.powernetofdayton.org</p>
<p><u>Marianist Social Justice Collaborative</u> stoughtonb1@udayton.edu www.msjc.net</p>	<p><u>St. Paul United Methodist Church</u> (937) 252-4467 www.stpauldayton.org</p>
<p><u>Mercy Manor</u> (937) 268-0282 mercymanor@sbcglobal.net www.mercymanordayton.com</p>	<p><u>St. Vincent DePaul Society</u> (937) 222-7349 www.stvincentdayton.org</p>
<p><u>Miami Valley Chapter: Ohioans to Stop Executions</u> (937) 229-5599 stoughtonb1@udayton.edu www.otse.org</p>	<p><u>Sisters of the Precious Blood</u> (937) 837-3302 www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org</p>
<p><u>Mission of Mary Cooperative</u> (937) 823-1308 missionofmaryfarm@gmail.com www.missionofmary.org</p>	<p><u>The Compassionary</u> (937) 369-8532 thecompassionary@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>MLK Jr. Peace Bridge Movement</u> (937) 750-4730 Dayton MLK-Peace Bridge <u>(on Facebook)</u></p>	<p><u>UD Center for Social Concern</u> (937) 229-2524 ncardilino1@udayton.edu www.udayton.edu/ministry/csc</p>
<p><u>Oasis House</u> 937-898-7811 coliver@oasisforwomen.org</p>	<p><u>Wesley Community Center</u> (937) 263-3556 www.wesleycenterdayton.org (also on Facebook)</p>