

STATIONS of the CROSS



St. Luke's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
— OPEN FOR YOU —

100 West 86th Street, Indianapolis
stlukesumc.com | 317.846.3404

MARCH 21 - APRIL 6

Jesus's Final Footsteps

We invite you to do as pilgrims for centuries have done when unable to visit Jerusalem to walk the final footsteps of Jesus on the Via Delorosa. They made this journey using the Stations of the Cross.

This year, mindful of safety during COVID, the Stations are available outside around the perimeter of our building and have been adapted to reflect a Justice theme that is core to the philosophy of the St. Luke's community.

Start at The Welcome Station at the 86th Street side of our building. Use this map to guide your journey, ending at a special 15th Station for the Resurrection.

Scan the QR code for a glimpse of what your journey will be like. Come, walk in the footsteps of Jesus!



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



*St. Luke's Community for
Contemplation and Justice*

stlukesumc.com/ccj



Welcome to the 2021 **STATIONS of the CROSS**

Pilgrims for centuries have journeyed to Jerusalem to walk the Via Dolorosa, The Way of the Cross. They followed in the final footsteps of Jesus from His meeting with Pilate to his burial in the tomb. During the Crusades, it was not safe to go to Jerusalem. Thus, villages in Europe began to replicate the 14 Stations of the Via Dolorosa so that pilgrims could safely continue the tradition of joining Jesus on His last journey. It is a tradition of the Catholic Church to have the Stations of the Cross displayed and Stations are often designed into the building's plans as a permanent installation.

For ten years, The Community for Contemplation & Justice has offered an opportunity to St. Luke's community to visit an adaptation of the traditional Stations of the Cross during Lent. This year, because of COVID-19 necessitating social distancing, the Stations will be outside around the perimeter of our building. The Stations will be available from Sunday, March 21 at noon through Tuesday, April 6. Because we are extending the Stations past Easter, we have added a 15th Station for the Resurrection.

Our theme this year is "Justice." Each Station's narrative is paired with a ministry or organization, that seeks to bring hope and healing to our struggling brothers and sisters who are often forgotten.

The journey begins here at the front of the building facing the large "Open for You" banner. You will be able to access the text at each Station by using your phone to scan a QR code for an audio recording or by reading a printed version displayed at each Station. Art installations at each Station add a visual dimension to the experience.

The entire journey will take about 3/4 hour and is wheelchair accessible.

Come, join us on this journey with Jesus.

WE PRAY

Lord of all our journeys, bless our time with You and each other as we remember Your last journey and our dedication to serving those who are often marginalized and forgotten.

Walk with us as we affirm again that we are an Open Community of Christians helping people find and give hope through Jesus Christ – regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, nationality, disability, or socioeconomic background. Amen.



STATION 1

Jesus is condemned to death



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Learn more at sawsramps.org

STATION I

Jesus is Condemned to Death

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19:1-4

“Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head. They clothed Him in a purple robe and went up to Him again and again, saying, “Hail, king of the Jews!” And they slapped Him in the face.

Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews gathered there, “Look, I am bringing Him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against Him.””

Like Jesus, people who are confined to wheelchairs are imprisoned when they don't have a way to get out of their homes.

SAWs is a faith-based non-profit organization that constructs wooden ramps for people burdened by using wheelchairs, walkers, and scooters. Once a ramp is installed, they can safely exit and enter their homes and visit family, see doctors, or go to church.

It is one of the St. Luke's Outreach Partners. SAWs is looking for help to eliminate these burdens by having you join a building team.

WE PRAY

Open our eyes, Lord, to those around us who are imprisoned. Open our ears, Lord, to hear their cries for liberation. Open our hearts, Lord, to reach out with love and compassion. May we who walk with ease never forget that those who can't walk with ease want full and productive lives as well. Help us, Lord, to be agents of liberation. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when Pilate washed His hands?
Were you there when Pilate washed His hands?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when Pilate washed His hands?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the next Station, remember a time when someone was an agent of your liberation, whatever your imprisonment might have been. Give thanks for that person. You might even call them soon to express your gratitude.



STATION II

Jesus Carries His Cross



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Learn more at proactindy.org

STATION II

Jesus Carries His Cross

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19:17

“Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).”

Jesus carried the physical burden of His cross through the streets of Jerusalem. Children who are at risk, both in our community and around the world, carry burdens with them everywhere they go – often unseen burdens. Maybe they are hungry or tired. They might be scared or angry. And so often this trauma goes on for years.

ProAct Indy is an organization guided by their mission to stand in the gap for vulnerable populations while empowering youth to actively transform their communities. It does this by intentionally connecting schools, corporations, and non-profit organizations in order to leverage social capital through human-centered service projects and social equity training workshops.

WE PRAY

Jesus, You call to us, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” You assure us that Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light, but for many in our world, this is not their experience. Open my eyes to see how I can help lighten the burden that so many of Your children bear. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He bore the wooden cross?
Were you there when He bore the wooden cross?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when He bore the wooden cross?

FOR REFLECTION

Is there someone in your life whose burden you can help carry?
As you move to the next Station, and think about Jesus carrying His cross, consider a time you have been weighed down by a heavy burden. Were you able to invite Jesus to carry this burden with you?



STATION III

Jesus Falls for the First Time



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Learn more at
Umojapartnership.org

STATION III

Jesus Falls for the First Time

This is a reading from the Book of Isaiah 43:1-3

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the water, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”

Children who are hungry and don't have basic needs met, also stumble and fall. When they can't attend school, they lose so many opportunities to learn and gain confidence, as well as to provide for themselves in the future.

In Western Kenya, **UMOJA** (Swahili for “unity”) works for justice and alleviating suffering in orphans and vulnerable children. It provides tuition assistance and makes education an attainable goal. Supplying basic needs removes distraction and creates opportunities to build children's confidence. Staff in Kenya deliver goods to students such as uniforms and school supplies for primary and secondary schools as well as university students. They also provide blankets, solar lamps to study after dark, and other basic necessities. The Umoja Project provides additional support through Girls and Boys Empowerment Programs and counseling. The Umoja fraternity becomes the family that was lost for these orphaned and vulnerable students.

St. Luke's supports UMOJA and is particularly involved in providing funds for sanitary towels for adolescent girls, which allows them to attend school regularly.

WE PRAY

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve others throughout the world who live and die in poverty or hunger. Give them, through our hands, what they need and, by our understanding love, may they have peace and joy. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He stumbled to the ground?
Were you there when He stumbled to the ground?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when He stumbled to the ground?

FOR REFLECTION

The way of the cross can be hard at times and we can falter in our faith. We can feel challenged and struggle to continue. As you move to the next Station, reflect on things you could do to help strengthen your faith at this time. Perhaps there are also ways you could promote more peace and joy in your family and community.



STATION IV Jesus Meets Mary



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



ST. LUKE'S
Baby Blanket
MINISTRY

Contact **Laura Marine**
marinel@stlukesumc.com

STATION IV

Jesus Meets Mary

This is a reading from Second Corinthians 1:3-4

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”

Mary couldn't prevent the suffering of Jesus, but she was there to walk beside Him.

Like Jesus, we have all been nurtured by the love that has flowed from parents, family, friends, teachers, coaches, clergy, and other mentors. We enjoy being wrapped in a warm blanket of acceptance and support.

St. Luke's Baby Blanket Ministry lovingly knits a baby blanket for every child born into a family at St. Luke's. It is a symbol both to the baby and parents that an entire community stands ready to walk beside them in times of celebration and of grief.

WE PRAY

Loving Father/Mother God,

Thank You for surrounding me with Your love and acceptance in both hard and easy times. Help me to “pay it forward” and extend that love to those I meet who need someone to walk with them no matter the circumstances. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He met His mother's gaze?

Were you there when He met His mother's gaze?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!

Were you there when He met His mother's gaze?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the next Station, think about who has nurtured and supported you. There are those in our community who could benefit from an hour a week of your time and talents. Could you be the person who unconditionally loves and supports a child whose life has been full of trauma and pain? Pray about your possible support for these children.



STATION V

Simon Helps Jesus Carry His Cross



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Learn more at doverecoveryhouse.org

STATION V

Simon Helps Jesus Carry His Cross

This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark 15:21

“A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross.”

Jesus struggled to carry the heavy burden of the cross alone. As He stumbled along the road, Simon was directed to help Him.

People who struggle with addictions carry a heavy burden, and this burden is hard to carry alone. **Dove Recovery House** is an organization which steps in and helps carry this burden. They especially help women by empowering them to become substance free, self-sufficient, and healthy. They do this by providing safe housing, quality programming and, above all, hope for their future.

St. Luke's supports Dove Recovery House by collecting needed items and providing funding.

WE PRAY

Jesus, open my eyes to see who is stumbling around me because of the burden they are carrying alone. Give me the courage and willingness to step in and help carry the burden with them instead of turning away. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when Simon shared His cross?

Were you there when Simon shared His cross?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!

Were you there when Simon shared His cross?

FOR REFLECTION

Notice the cloths tied to the cross. There is an ancient tradition in the British Isles (as well as many other places) of tying strips of cloth (cloodies) to trees by people seeking healing or aid for themselves or another. Cloodies have been tied to this cross, representing the hurdles and burdens of those coming to Dove Recovery House.

We invite you to tie a cloodie to the cross representing the burdens or concerns you are carrying. Consider the possibility of surrendering those burdens or concerns to Jesus. How might this feel, to leave them here, at the cross?

Now, as you move to the next Station, remember how it felt when someone helped you through a tough time. Are you able to extend that to someone else now? Even smiling at someone can be a highlight in their day.



STATION VI

Jesus Meets Veronica



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Contact holly@fletcherplacecc.org

STATION VI

Jesus Meets Veronica

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 13:33-35

“My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

When Veronica saw Jesus hurt and struggling, she instinctively took off her veil to wipe His face, to comfort Him, and to ease His journey.

Fletcher Place Community Center compassionately provides programs to ease the journey of low to moderate income individuals, who struggle with the basic necessities of life. Their educational offerings, and day-to-day support through services, help break the cycle of poverty.

Fletcher Place is an outreach partner of St. Luke’s. Volunteer crews are provided to serve hot meals and work in the Thrift Store. Support is also offered through donations of food, paper goods, clothing, and funding for these items.

WE PRAY

Jesus, teach me to recognize You everywhere I go and in everyone I see.
May I be so like You, that others recognize You in my expressions and in my being.
Give me the courage to not turn away from You, regardless of Your disguise.
May I find You in the faces of the poor and suffering, the sick and hurting.
Imprint Your image on my heart so that I see You in others and bring them comfort. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when she offered Him her veil?
Were you there when she offered Him her veil?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when she offered Him her veil?

FOR REFLECTION

Are you a spontaneous Christian and respond when you recognize an opportunity of service?
As you move to the next station, think about what love means to you, and the ways in which you share that love with others.
Do you feel the abundance of God’s Love and does it energize you in any way?



STATION VII

Jesus Falls for the Second Time



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Learn more at
fpgi.org

STATION VII

Jesus Falls for the Second Time

This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew 25:37-39

“Then the righteous will answer Him, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?”

Like Jesus, families can fall again and again. Jobs are lost, medical bills pile up, emergencies arise. An eviction notice appears on the door and a family is suddenly on the street with all their belongings on the curb. How to keep the children in school? How to get to work? Where to store all their belongings? Where to find a shelter that takes families? Everything falls apart!

St. Luke’s is part of the **Family Promise** network of churches that open their doors to house, feed, and transport families for a week at a time. While the family is being housed, Family Promise staff wrap services around them and help them find permanent housing, childcare, transportation, and other services to get the family on stable ground again.

WE PRAY

Forgive me, Lord, I have lived in my own little bubble and have kept away from people who have fallen down again and again. Help me to learn more about homelessness and eviction in Indianapolis, so I might lend my voice to solving the on-going shortage of affordable housing in my own neighborhood. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He fell a second time?
Were you there when He fell a second time?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when He fell a second time?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the next Station, look into the back parking lot and see the Lodge. It is here that homeless families live twice a year when St. Luke’s is their host through the Family Promise program. What could you do to serve these families and other families like them? No contribution is too small!



STATION VIII

Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



**USE
WHAT YOU'VE
GOT
PRISON
MINISTRY**

**Learn more at
usewhatyouvegotministry.org**

STATION VIII

Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

This is a reading from the Gospel of Luke 23:27-28

And there followed Him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for Him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

The women of Jerusalem follow Jesus through the streets doing what they can with what they have – they mourn and lament for Him. Women who have loved ones incarcerated and in prison, do what they can with what they have as well, but too often they need help along the way. The emotional and logistical challenges of this often leave family members feeling like they have been imprisoned, too.

Use What You've Got Prison Ministry is an organization that comes alongside them and supports these families and friends.

This ministry ensures families and friends can maintain contact with loved ones who are in prison by providing transportation for prison visitation and promoting a holistic approach to family wellness. Personal visits have been directly related to a reduction in reconvictions of those who find themselves in the prison system. To this end, Use What You've Got Prison Ministry works to ensure these visits happen. Not only do they provide transportation but they also provide and/or help with counseling, referrals, spiritual retreats, providing essential items for families, and support systems.

WE PRAY

Jesus, we want to see the ones on the road who are mourning and lamenting, just as You saw the women of Jerusalem along Your path. Help us to recognize that these people are doing what they can with what they have, and that they might need us to help with what we have, too. Give us courage to help, to reach out, and to be available. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when the women wept for Him?

Were you there when the women wept for Him?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!

Were you there when the women wept for Him?

FOR REFLECTION

Have you experienced loss in your life? Loss of a loved one or your health or your independence? There are so many big and small losses in life and we too weep for ourselves and others. As you move to the next Station, consider how you've grown through loss, things you learned, and ways in which your compassion has deepened.



STATION IX

Jesus Falls for the Third Time



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



ZANMI
Fondwa
zanmi (zah-me), n. Friend

Learn more at
zanmifondwa.com

STATION IX

Jesus Falls for the Third Time

This is a reading from Psalm 22:11

“Be not far from me for I am in distress; be near, for I have no one to help me.”

Jesus carries the heavy burden of a cross, and falls several times under its weight.

When a family loses their home, they lose the freedom to dream of a future and they fall on hard times.

A decade after a catastrophic earthquake in Haiti, world partners are still helping Haitians on their long path to recovery. The quake destroyed much of the country’s infrastructure, and progress over the years has been hampered by cholera outbreaks, food insecurity, malnutrition, and economic instability. **Zanmi Fondwa** is an important partner which eases the burden for Haitian families by connecting them with economic opportunities, stable housing, and education. St. Luke’s supports Zanmi Fondwa with volunteers on their mission trips to Haiti to help build homes and also receives financial donations to further this cause.

WE PRAY

Merciful Jesus, walk with us in our ways of suffering. For those who are crushed by the weight of homelessness, may they be lifted from the rubble of loss, and may their lives be rebuilt along with their homes.

As we all fall many times in life, may we never lose faith in Your grace and mercy.

Give us courage, rekindle our hope, and bring us into Your glory. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He struck the ground again?

Were you there when He struck the ground again?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when He struck the ground again?

FOR REFLECTION

Recall a time in your life when you felt very close to Jesus, a oneness with Him, and felt comforted by His presence in your life. What a gift! As you move to the next Station, dwell in the knowledge that even in those moments when we don’t feel connected with our faith, Jesus is still there, and there are others ready to build us up and help us on our way.



STATION X

Jesus is Stripped



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Outreach inc.
Hope for homeless youth

Learn more at
outreachindiana.org

STATION X

Jesus is Stripped

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19:23-24

“When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, “They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.” So, this is what the soldiers did.”

Like Jesus, there are young people on our streets who have been stripped of all sense of security. Many LGBTQ, and straight youth, too, have either been kicked out of their homes or have left voluntarily to escape physical and mental abuse.

Outreach, Inc. a St. Luke’s Outreach Partners, equips and empowers homeless teens and young adults to achieve stability and life transformation. Their staff build relationships to help youth transform perceptions of themselves so that they can take advantage of opportunities to create habits for healthy living. They help youth stay in school and graduate. Some even go on to college.

WE PRAY

Lord of the vulnerable, Lord of all those who are stripped of the basics of daily life, help me to share from my abundance. Help me to look at the vulnerable and to see You. Help me to reach out my hand and offer friendship and respect. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when the soldiers stripped His clothes?
Were you there when the soldiers stripped His clothes?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when the soldiers stripped His clothes?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the next Station, make a note to yourself: Someone needs a little tube of toothpaste. Someone needs a pair of socks. Someone needs a can of “easy to open” vegetables. Help me to remember that when I shop for myself, I can shop for someone else, too. When I do this for the least of these, I do it for You.



STATION XI

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Contact tlange@crookedcreekcdc.org

STATION XI

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

This is a reading from the Gospel of Luke 23:33

“When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him there, along with the criminals—one on His right, the other on His left.”

The Romans used nails to hang the body of Jesus on the cross. His hands and feet were pierced with these nails which brought death, and through His death came new life.

A type of new life comes when a business is built, especially when there are more challenges, like the ones minority business owners often face.

The Minority Business Incubator is an organization that equips minority business owners with tools to succeed – through the development of business plans, marketing plans, contacts, and more.

St. Luke’s supports the Minority Business Incubator financially and by St. Luke’s members volunteering to speak at classes, to mentor business owners, and by providing networking opportunities.

WE PRAY

Lord of all, we pray for those who need extra support as they pursue their dreams and livelihood. May our hands be used to support them, and to further build Your Kingdom as we promote healing and new life. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He opened wide His arms?

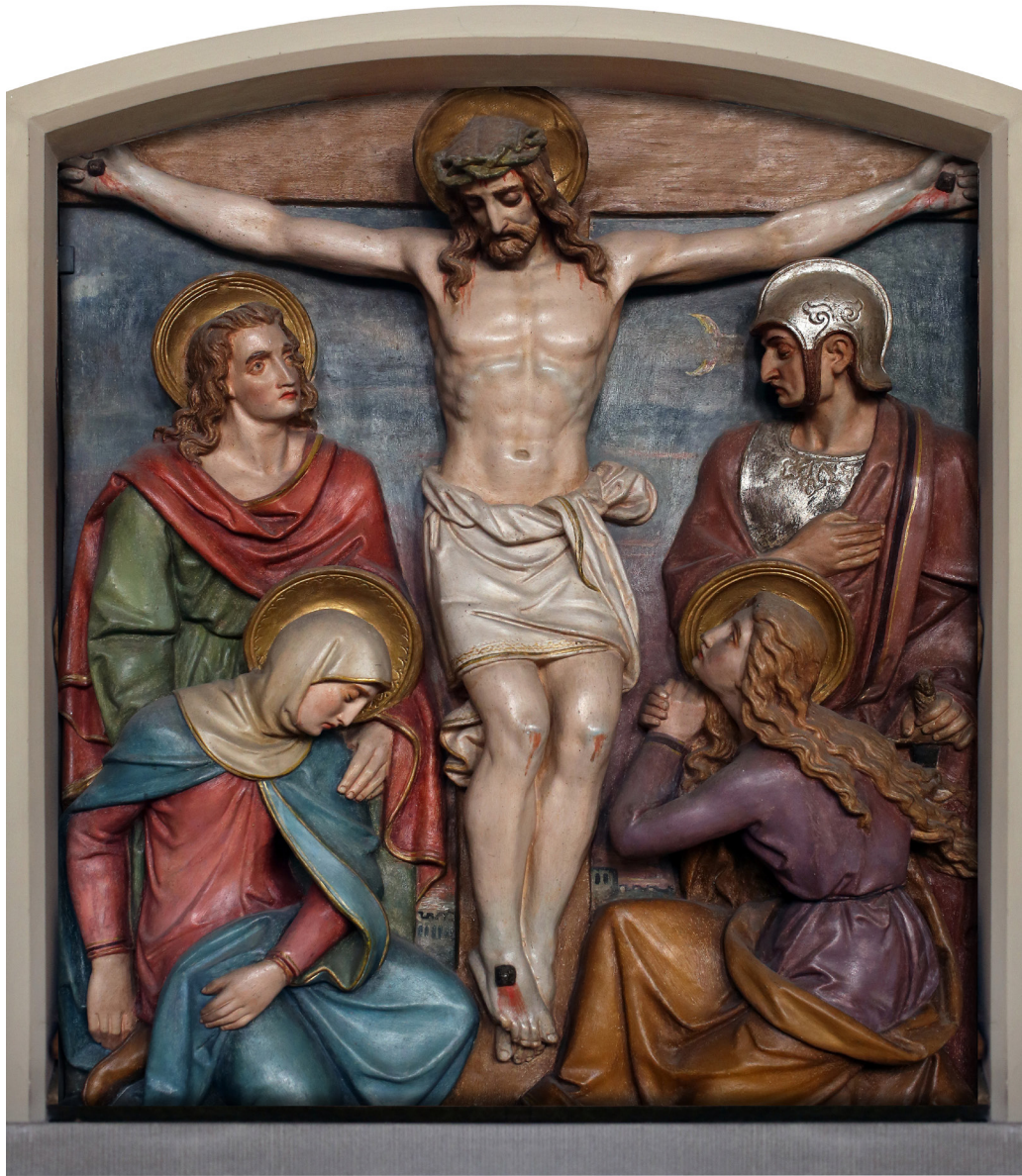
Were you there when He opened wide His arms?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!

Were you there when He opened wide His arms?

FOR REFLECTION

When you imagine Jesus opening wide His arms, how does this move you? Awe? Pain? Amazement? Gratitude? Humility? In some other way? Can this experience deepen your commitment to building up the Kingdom of God here on earth? As you move to the next Station, carry these questions with you and invite them to transform you.



STATION XII

Jesus Dies on the Cross



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Contact
kaywalla@aol.com

STATION XII

Jesus Dies on the Cross

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19: 28-30

“Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.”

As the heart of Jesus stopped beating, hope was born for all of humankind. In His complete surrender to God’s will, Jesus showed us the ultimate expression of love and concern for others.

Hearts and Hope for Haiti provides formal education opportunities, medical care, nutrition, housing, and works to improve the physical and community environment for our Haitian friends.

St. Luke’s supports Hearts and Hope for Haiti through mission trips to Haiti, donations to the Alpha & Omega Medical Ministry Clinic, the School of Hope Secondary School, the Kelley Erb Primary School, and the Little Angels’ Orphanage. We also offer prayerful support for the health and well-being of the doctors, nurses, teachers, and caregivers who provide these health and education services.

WE PRAY

Into Your hands we commend our spirit, oh Lord, Into Your hands we commend our hearts.
For we must die to ourselves in loving You, Into Your hands we commend our love.
Through Your great sacrifice and grace may we open our hearts and share Your hope with others. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He bowed His head and died?
Were you there when He bowed His head and died?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when He bowed His head and died?

FOR REFLECTION

What is in your heart today? Are you thirsting for something? More peace and hope in your life? Jesus is waiting and wanting to quench your thirst. As you move to the next Station, ask God for the wisdom to notice all the ways you are nourished, and ways in which you can share your heart and hope with others.



STATION XIII

Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Learn more at projecttransformation.org

STATION XIII

Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19: 31

“Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down.”

Like Jesus in this reading, children are dependent on the care and tenderness of others. For children in low-income neighborhoods, circumstances dictate that those who are older than they are, and have more resources, must step in and create programs to enrich their lives.

Project Transformation Indiana, an Outreach Partner of St. Luke’s, is part of a national organization that enlists college students to work with children when they aren’t in school. The staff encourages urban churches to better understand the needs and assets of low-income neighborhoods where they are located.

WE PRAY

Lover of the little ones, help me to put my money and my actions where my mouth is. Forgive me for saying “I value children”, but then fail to act on my words. Make lifting up the little ones a priority for me, not just today but every day. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when they took Him from the cross?
Were you there when they took Him from the cross?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when they took Him from the cross?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the next Station, think about how you would feel if you were a hard working parent struggling to make ends meet. Then, imagine knowing you can rely on a group like Project Transformation to care for your children during out-of-school hours and to invest in their educational, physical, social-emotional, and spiritual development.

Are you relaxing even as you walk and think about what a gift this would be?
Remember these parents, their children, and Project Transformation in your prayers.



STATION XIV

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Contact Yvette Collier
heavydutycutie@yahoo.com

STATION XIV

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

This is a reading from the Gospel of John 19:38-42

“Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate’s permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus’ body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.”

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wanted to care for the body of Jesus, which had been abused and disregarded by the Romans. They lovingly placed His body in a tomb and prepared it for burial. They sought to memorialize the life of Jesus through these acts.

The Indiana Community Remembrance Coalition seeks to memorialize the lives of documented victims of racial violence by fostering meaningful dialogue about race and justice. They are doing this work with communities who are taking on the challenges of telling the truth about our history and building a future rooted in justice.

Specifically, one area of focus is lynchings that took place in America between 1877 and 1950. To create greater awareness and understanding about racial terror lynchings, and to begin a necessary conversation that advances truth and reconciliation, the **Equal Justice Initiative** in Montgomery, Alabama, is working with communities to commemorate and recognize the traumatic era of lynching, by collecting soil from lynching sites across the country, and erecting historical markers and monuments in these spaces.

Here at St. Luke’s, we have a committee learning about the 19 lynchings that took place in Indiana, with a special interest in memorializing the lynching that took place in Marion County.

WE PRAY

God, we seek to follow in the footsteps of Joseph and Nicodemus by caring for those whose bodies were abused and disregarded. We want to memorialize them by learning the truth, by listening, and by engaging in the work of justice. Help us, Lord to be able to absorb these truths and be moved into action. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble! Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

FOR REFLECTION

As you move to the final Station, consider the act of Joseph and Nicodemus, caring for Jesus’s body with such respect. Are there situations in your life, where you can offer more respect? More tenderness? Even just becoming aware of these places can be a step forward. Pray that God’s grace will give you a deeper understanding of this, and the many other ways people are in need of healing.



STATION XV

Jesus is Resurrected



If you missed the initial QR code to access the audio for all the stations, scan here.



Open the camera on your phone



Aim it at the QR Code



Tap the banner that appears



Crooked Creek
Food Pantry, Inc

6940 N. Michigan Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268
- www.ccfpindy.org -

contact Steve Claffey
ccfpindy@gmail.com

STATION XV

Jesus is Resurrected

This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew 28: 5-7

“The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.’ Now I have told you.”

If the story had ended when Jesus died, it would have been that God was overcome by the world and that the Son of God remained buried. However, God still reigns supreme and in Jesus rising from His death, the tree of Eternal life was created to give sustenance to all.

In our communities, there are many people who struggle daily for practical sustenance, like food.

Crooked Creek Food Pantry serves food insecure families by operating a Gleaners supported food pantry, which is now one of the five largest in Marion County. They distribute substantial amounts of food to about 2,450 families each month.

This Pantry, which is located only 5 miles from St. Luke’s, was organized six years ago as a St. Luke’s Outreach Partner and operates with major donation and volunteer support from the St. Luke’s congregation.

WE PRAY

Lord, we look to You for life that is sustaining. Give us ALL, this day, our daily bread. Help us to know Your compassion, giving us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to feel. May we always be Your hands and feet here on earth and serving You in all ways. We pray in hope. Amen.

SONG

Were you there when He rose and conquered death? Were you there when He rose and conquered death?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble! Were you there when He rose and conquered death?

FOR REFLECTION

Having experienced these Stations in solidarity with Jesus, and in the name of Justice, we now reflect on the power of Love and the presence of God’s blessings in our lives.

Dorothy Day believed that the world would be saved by beauty. Beauty is such a blessing. In our efforts to work towards justice, may we remember this: that there can be beauty present in the midst of loss and struggle, and in the courageous proclamation of injustice, oppression, and poverty. There is also a certain beauty to be found in all those who work toward a more fair, just, and verdant world.

We’re also given the natural beauty of the world as a constant reminder of the presence of a very generous and loving God. So, let us care for each other, reaching out with compassion to serve our fragile community and world. We go now with expanded hearts, to love and serve the Lord through each other. We pray this, in the name of Jesus, who gives us hope. Amen.

Continue the Journey with our new Webpage **stlukesumc.com/Stations**

1) Find contact information for all the justice ministries/organizations featured in these Stations:

SAWs: sawsramps.volunteerhub.com

ProAct Indy: proactindy.org.

Umoja Partnership: Umojapartnership.org

St Luke's Baby Blanket Ministry: Laura Marine: marinel@stlukesumc.com

Dove Recovery: doverecoveryhouse.org

Fletcher Place: Holly McHugh: holly@fletcherplacecc.org

Family Promise: info@fpgi.org

UWYGPM: usewhatyouvegotministry.org/index.html

Zanmi Fondwa: zanmifondwa.com

Outreach, Inc: outreachindiana.org

Minority Business Incubator: Tom Lange: tlange@crookedcreekcdc.org

Hearts and Hope for Haiti: kaywalla@aol.com

Project Transformation: ptindiana.org

Indiana Community Remembrance Coalition: Yvette Collier: heavydutycutie@yahoo.com

Crooked Creek Food Pantry: Steve Claffey: ccfpindy@gmail.com

2) Find a virtual copy of the Stations of the Cross with all the prayers and reflections.

3) Find audio & video of the Stations of the Cross to share with others or experience again.

4) Find action steps to continue your journey.

Thank You

BEHIND THE SCENES

Betty Brandtplanning committee
Annette Cleary.....planning committee
Kaylee Vida.....planning committee
Nan Schultelogistics coordinator
Kristen Raves communications
Kyle Williams..... videography/audio
Jeanne Lewisgraphic designer
Rachel Ferry webpage designer
Jenna Stensland..... social media
John KounsQRcode technology
Bruce Hill invitation, QRcode technology
Matt Russell..... photography

Jenny Godby..... art coordinator
Sharon Chambers..... recording coordinator
Jay Rigby.....grounds coordinator
Leslie Hazelwood facilities coordinator
Gary Larsen.....sign-stand designer
Dave Learsign-stand production & hanging of banners
Jim Keller.....sign-stand production & hanging of banners
John Connellsign-stand production & hanging of banners
Steve Hockett.....sign-stand production & hanging of banners
Jim Hamiltonsign-stand production & hanging of banners
Dave Ditzlersign-stand production & hanging of banners
John Young.....sign-stand production & hanging of banners

AUDIO RECORDINGS

Betty Brandt (Welcome)
Jenny Godby (Station I)
Marsha Reynolds (Station II)
Gustanna Moss-Chaney (Station III)
Ellen Hostetler (Station IV)
Maria Blake (Station V)
Bob Zehr (Station VI)
Matt Russell (Station VII)
Cecelia Whitfield (Station VIII)

Rev. Jamalyn Williamson (Station IX)
Willie Miller (Station X)
Keith Young (Station XI)
Annette Cleary (Station XII)
Sarah Flores (Station XIII)
Phil Bremen (Station XIV)
Rev. Nicole Caldwell-Gross (Station XV)
Bambi Dupree-Alridge – hymn
Jason Powell – accompanist