

The Way of the Cross *for Pandemic Time*

Text -- Mary Barber, Joseph Wallace-Williams, based on form from *Book of Occasional Services*

Opening Song -- Sandra T. Montes -- *You will Hear my Pain*

Trisagion setting -- Paul Vasile

Artwork by Station --

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The Way of the Cross

You Will Hear my Pain may be sung during the entrance of the ministers.

You Will Hear My Pain

Sandra Montes

1. Walk - ing towards sal - va - tion. Walk - ing towards sal - va - tion.
2. I can hear your weep - ing. I can hear your weep - ing.
3. Ba - by, now you're sleep - ing. Ba - by, now you're sleep - ing.
4. I will not be si - lent. I will not be si - lent.

Walk - ing towards sal - va - tion. I can - not breathe.
I can hear your weep - ing. I am on my way.
Ba - by, now you're sleep - ing. I will hold you close.
I will not be si - lent. You will hear my pain.

1. Ha - cia mi res - ca - te. Ha - cia mi res - ca - te.
2. Pue - do o - ír tu llan - to. Pue - do o - ír tu llan - to.
3. Ya es - tás dur - mien - do. Ya es - tás dur - mien - do.
4. No es - ta - ré en si - len - cio. No es - ta - ré en si - len - cio.

Ha - cia mi res - ca - te. No pue - do res - pi - rar.
Pue - do o - ír tu llan - to. Voy ha - cia ti.
Ya es - tás dur - mien - do. Te a - bra - za - ré.
No es - ta - ré en si - len - cio. Mi do - lor e - scu - cha - rás.

Opening Devotions

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

or this

In the Name of the One Holy, and Living God. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Presider and People

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our trespasses, forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, trial, but
deliver us from evil.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our
sins as we
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of
and deliver us from evil.

V. We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

R. In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter upon the contemplation of these mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The procession goes to the First Station.

Verses from *You Will Hear my Pain* may be sung a second time before the procession to the First Station.

The *Trisagion* may be said or sung while processing to each station.

Score

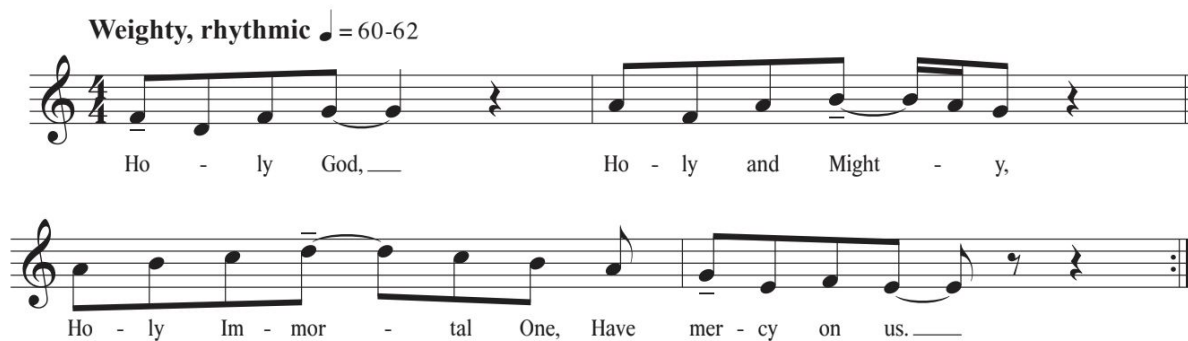
Trisagion (Holy God)

for The Rev. Joseph Wallace-Williams

Paul M. Vasile

Unison Setting:

Weighty, rhythmic ♩ = 60-62



Ho - ly God, ___ Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy on us. ___

Note: The piece can be also be taught and sung without printed music by having a leader sing each phrase, then inviting the Assembly echo it. It can be sung a cappella or with a drone on A or A-E.

Song Leader/Cantor: Holy God

Assembly: Holy God

Song Leader/Cantor: Holy and Mighty

Assembly: Holy and Mighty

Song Leader/Cantor: Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Assembly: Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

First Station

Jesus is Condemned to Death -- Black Parents' Anguish

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“What justified all those shots?” his father said. “What justified doing that in front of my grandsons? What are we doing?”” His father said there are now “eight holes” in his son’s body” . . . (Jacob Blake Senior, Chicago Sun Times 8/25/2020)

“Don't wait until something happens to your child. Get involved now so something doesn't happen to your child. (Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin, ABC News, 7/13/2020)

“I became acutely aware that perhaps the only place my black male child was safe was in my home. Every time he leaves the house I pray, ‘God please be my eyes, and be my hands, watch over my son and bring him safely home.’ I am sure that I am not the only black mother who prays such a prayer when her black child, especially black male child, leaves home.” (Kelly Brown Douglas, *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*)

“Momma... Momma...” (George Floyd, 5/25/2020)

V. A sword pierces Mary's heart.

R. And we feel powerless to help.

Let us pray.

Oh God, behold the anguish of Black mothers and fathers and parents, who daily must send children out into a hostile world. Comfort we who are parents in our sorrow; grant all of us courage to stand with parents everywhere, in silence if we must, and with our feet at all times, to break the yoke of hatred and violence. For your mercy's sake, Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Second Station

Jesus Takes up his Cross -- Essential Workers

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“It affects your nerves, your mental state, your way of thinking — because you have to be cautious in everything you do now,” Rosie said. “It’s like I’m risking my life for a dollar. It’s twisted.” (Amazon warehouse worker; Vox.com, June 29, 2020)

“We’ve got people coming up to us being like, ‘Thank you for being here, we appreciate you.’ Normally, they just kind of look down on retail employees.” (Target employee; Vox.com, April 23, 2020)

“When Chinchilla unlocked the door to her house, her two young children would run toward her. But she had to head in the opposite direction. “How sad is that?” she said. “Not being able to hug your child when she’s so happy that you’re home because you’ve been gone for 14 hours.” (Dr. Dinora Chinchilla, critical care pulmonologist in LA County, NPR August 22, 2020)

“Farmworkers—as many as half of whom are undocumented— [are] harvesting crops under a dark, orange-red sky, in evacuation zones with dangerous air quality, using only their cell phones to light the way. There are also an estimated 225,000 undocumented health care workers ... as well as an additional 190,000 undocumented individuals working ... in necessary custodial and administrative roles to ensure health care settings remain safe and open. Millions of other undocumented immigrants are keeping grocery shelves stocked, packing warehouses, and cleaning and sanitizing businesses that have stayed open so we can remain home and the country can keep running.” (Tom Jawetz, Center for American Progress, testimony before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship on September 23, 2020)

V. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:

R. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Let us pray.

Most merciful God, for the comfort and safety of the privileged ones, we daily send out workers into our dangerous marketplaces, hospitals, and streets of our society. Forgive us we pray, and help us to truly value our siblings who we call essential. Grant us compunction so that we work toward your

justice, that all may have their needs met and live in safety. Grant this for the sake of him who bled.
Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Third Station

Jesus Falls the First Time -- Border Closing

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

"The largest shelter [in Juarez] has over 500 people living in it. It's like a tinderbox just waiting to erupt if there are infections," Levy said. "The bunk beds are very close to each other. Many people share a bunk bed. It's very problematic." (Phil Canete, Refugee Health Alliance; NBC News, May 12, 2020)

"People are just worn down," says Helen Perry, Global Response Management's executive director. "They've been in these conditions for a long time... people are just trying to find anywhere they can go where they feel safe." Asylum seekers living at the encampment have divided their living spaces into sections based on countries of origin, and each section of the camp has its own leader to help coordinate day-to-day care. In late August, the body of a young man was found dead in the Rio Grande River. He was later identified as 20-year-old Edwin Rodrigo Castro de la Parra, an asylum seeker from Guatemala who was a leader at the Guatemalan section of the encampment. (Time Magazine, about a Matamoros camp of asylum seekers near the Texas border, 9-25-20)

It's dead winter, and their only shelter is often a few taped-together trash bags. They are at the mercy of cartels and kidnappers, who see them as easy prey. A lawyer in Laredo, Texas, I recently spoke to astounded me by disclosing that more than half of the migrants she has interviewed have had someone in their family kidnapped, extorted or assaulted by narco cartels while waiting just across the border in Nuevo Laredo... One asylum officer who resigned in protest told the Los Angeles Times that we are "literally sending people back to be raped and killed." (Sonia Nazario, NY Times, 2-19-2020)

V. Surely he knows our griefs:

R. Because he has carried our sorrows.

Let us pray.

God, of promises made and promises kept, to Sarah and Hagar, have pity on us when we forget that we were once strangers; Help us to break all chains, remove all walls and borders, and rather build bridges and bigger tables of fellowship. In the name of your Son, who was a refugee fleeing genocide. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Fourth Station

Jesus meets his afflicted mother -- Climate Crisis

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

My message is that we'll be watching you. This is all wrong. I shouldn't be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet you all come to us young people for hope. How dare you. You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. Yet I am one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. (Greta Thunberg, UN Summit in New York, 9/23/2019)

“You're toppling dominoes in ways that Americans haven't imagined. It's apocalyptic.” (Roy Wright, formerly of FEMA, on rolling blackouts, record heat waves, and massive wildfires on the West Coast; NYT, 9/11/2020)

V. A sword will pierce your own soul also: R. And fill your heart with bitter pain.

Let us pray.

Creator God, who spoke the world into being and declared it to be good. You call us to be stewards of your beautiful bounty. Grant us the discomfort of hearing the cries of this good Earth, and in that discomfort, to do our part to heal the damage we have caused. For your mercy's sake. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Fifth Station

The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene -- Allyship

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“I definitely did not have role models that I could see who were people of color, women of color, who were in science...I wanted to be out there because, for me, I was really excited to be able to be in such a high-profile place. Hopefully with a picture of my hair wild and curly -- which is how it is all the time -- more young girls and young boys who are people of color can just see that they have a space within these fields.” (Elise Myers, Black woman scientist and doctoral student at Columbia University; Times Herald-Record, 9/4/2020)

“It’s kind of hard, because as a white girl I haven’t really experienced racism that much firsthand. But I also can’t ignore it. I still have to be there and talk about it...I feel like I can always do something, and that is showing up for people.” (Skye Jogl, 13 years old; The New York Times, 8/30/2020)

“ALLY At the Stadium

ACCOMPLICE On the team

CO-CONSPIRATOR In the game

We need as White People need to be In the game” (Dr. Deborah Homes, retired educator, St. Louis, October 2020)

V. Take up your cross. R. Come follow me.

Let us pray. (Silence)

O God of Hope, your Divine Son put his very body on the line to bring life to us all: Bless all who, following in his humble steps, use their privilege and power to speak up, show up, and walk alongside the unseen, the voiceless, and oppressed; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, our brother, your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Sixth Station

A woman wipes the face of Jesus -- Living in Institutions

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“There are a lot of people in a confined space and a lot of treatment is socializing,” said Jessica Gold, a psychiatrist and assistant professor of psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis. “These are all the therapeutic methods that involve socializing and getting up and out of your room.” She said the group activities are key to battling depression. “The treatment of psychiatric illnesses involves more — not less — social interaction and patients attend groups and occupational therapy sessions,” said Dinah Miller, a psychiatrist and assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Johns Hopkins University. (Physicians speaking about patients hospitalized for psychiatric illness during the pandemic, NY Newsday, April 27, 2020)

On July 12, 2020, Onoval Perez-Montufa died at the Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, Florida. Perez-Montufa had tested positive for COVID-19 on July 2, after experiencing shortness of breath. In its news release, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) described Perez-Montufa as an “unlawfully present Mexican national subject to mandatory detention,” an “aggravated felon,” and a convict who had served 12-years for “conspiracy to distribute, and possession with intent to distribute, 5 kilograms or more of cocaine.” ICE also took the occasion of his death to tout its “extensive precautions” to limit the spread of COVID-19 and its spending on healthcare services for detainees...According to ICE, by July 29, 2020, 141 detainees at Glades County Detention Center had contracted COVID-19. (Center for Migration Studies Report, August 12, 2020)

V. Restore us, O God of liberation:

R. Show the radiance of your face, and we shall be freed.

Let us pray. (Silence)

O Holy One, to love you is perfect freedom, yet injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Be present we pray as we are locked behind doors, bars, and razor wire, and the prisons of our ignorance and prejudice; give to those of us with more freedom of movement the courage and will to break every shackle and open every prison; through our liberator and brother, Jesus. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Seventh Station

Jesus falls a second time -- Weariness

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“I was triggered today by some of the comments about people not wanting to continue to hear the talk about anti-racism because it makes them feel uncomfortable or anxious in some way. The suggestion that we not call our work 'Anti-Racism' work was especially telling for me.

And I was especially struck today by the extraordinary degree of care we as black people are expected to give white people when they feel threatened. They have the luxury of returning to their comfortable lives if they don't want to be engaged anymore but black people don't have that luxury. We return to the realities that they don't want to talk about in our everyday lived lives.” (The Rev. Dcn. Shug Goodlow, Diocese of Missouri, August 2020)

These times really do raise for me the question of how long must we wait, plan, work, march, agitate, forgive, and vote before we have a society in which all lives matter equally, regardless of race or color? In my bone-weary tired state this morning, before I even got out of bed, I asked myself why should I continue to fight to try to change a system that has proven time and time again that it simply does not regard me and people who look like me as fully human. (May 29, 2020, Robert M. Sellers, U Michigan Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

“As Black female psychiatrists, we recognize the feeling of being overwhelmed. There aren't many of us: Roughly 2% of practicing physicians in the United States identify as Black women...Even if we all saw patients 24/7, we...could never meet the mental health needs of Black women...On the rare occasion that we meet, we speak freely of the anguish we feel...We admit we have no answers, and at times feel hopeless. And then we get up again, and we do our jobs.” (Altha Stewart, MD, Aderonke B. Pederson, MD, Crystal T. Clark, MD, Brandi Jackson, MD, letter from Black women psychiatrists to Michelle Obama, Psychiatric News, 10/2/202)

V. But as for me, I am a worm and not human: R. Scorned by all and despised by the people.

Let us pray.

Source of Life and Ground of Being, how many times have you made for us a way out of no way, and been our strength when we had none. Give to us, your weary and exhausted ones the warmth of your

presence, the comfort of your healing touch, the strength of your love within us. Bless with discomfort those of us whose burdens are lighter, give us the wisdom to perceive the weight on our siblings' shoulders and to lift it. Through Jesus our rock, Amen.

*Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

Eighth Station

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem -- Hunger, Feeding Ministries

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

Last week's giveaway in St. Louis was so packed that after giving away goods to nearly 3,000 vehicles, organizers were forced to turn away about 350 more when supplies ran out...Leola Gladney, 48, a single parent of three from Dellwood, collected two boxes— one for her family and one for her disabled mother, who suffered a stroke. Gladney said she recently left her marketing job at Maritz because of health problems, is awaiting a major back surgery, and is relying on relatives to pay bills. "It's a constant battle," she said. "If this wasn't available, I don't know what I'd do." (Joel Currier, St. Louis Dispatch, May 17, 2020)

V. Those who sowed with tears: R. Will reap with songs of joy.

Let us pray. (Silence)

God of nourishment, you are teaching your Church to mourn the sin of individualism and sloth, and to feed the hungry and clothe the naked among us. You are pushing us out of buildings to truly be the Church in your communities, to be bread for the world. Grant us the courage and creativity to see the plenty that you see, and to keep passing the bread until all are fed. Grant this for the sake of the one who said, this is my body, given for you. Amen.

*Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

Ninth Station

Jesus falls a third time -- Addiction, Domestic Violence

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Around the country, care providers who work with people in addiction recovery said the grim data are supported by what they're seeing in communities. "The longer people had to isolate it was relapse, relapse, overdose, relapse, overdose," said Jennifer Austin, who coaches people with substance abuse disorder in Ogdensburg, N.Y. "I've had people who I've never worked with before reach out to me and say, 'Jen, what do I do?' Giroir noted that COVID-19 and the addiction crisis are hitting people of color especially hard, often in communities that lack access to affordable health care and addiction treatment. (Brian Mann, NPR, August 13, 2020)

Lele — her full name is not being used for her safety — said that her husband had abused her throughout their six-year relationship, but that the Covid-19 outbreak made things far worse.

"During the epidemic, we were unable to go outside, and our conflicts just grew bigger and bigger and more and more frequent," she said. "Everything was exposed."

After her husband attacked her with the high chair, Lele limped to the next room and called the police. When they arrived, however, they only documented the attack, then took no further action.

Next, she hired a lawyer and filed for divorce — only to find that the epidemic had cut off that avenue of escape, too. Her divorce proceeding was postponed until April. She is still waiting for the court's decision. (Amanda Taub, NYT, April 6, 2020)

V. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

R. And like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Lord Jesus, you were powerless, just as we are powerless to help ourselves in our addiction, and made to feel powerless at the hands of our victimizer. Convert the hearts of dealers and batterers. Give wisdom and insight to those helping us to find a way out. Shelter us with knowledge of our belovedness, and that we are fearfully and marvelously made, for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who don't make junk. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Tenth Station

Jesus is stripped of his garments -- Social Distancing

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Last week, a patient who lives alone in two rooms said to me, “This is like being in prison — a nice prison with food and shelter — but a prison. It’s like solitary confinement. I am totally cut off. My memory is getting worse. I never had this problem before ...” (Louise Aranson, MD, Professor of Medicine, UCSF, NY Times, June 8, 2020)

Zita Robinson, who’s 77 and diabetic, has been careful around her granddaughter since the coronavirus pandemic took hold.

A door connects Robinson’s apartment in Phoenix to the main house where 8-year-old Traris “Trary” Robinson-Newman and her mother live, but it mostly stays shut. Their only physical contact is if Trary walks in with her back toward Grandma. Then Robinson will kiss her own hand and lightly touch Trary’s back — “like I’m sending her a kiss with my hand.”

“It’s very hard,” Robinson said. “We live together, but we live apart.”

Not hugging Grandma is hard for Trary, too: “It’s like I can’t see her anymore.” (Terry Tang, AP, August 15, 2020)

V. They gave me gall to eat: R. And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Lord God of infinite patience, as we grow fatigued with virtual life, face masks, and lack of human touch, help us to know the forbearance of your Son who was humiliated, despised, and abandoned. Grant us strength, O lover of souls. Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Eleventh Station

Jesus is nailed to the Cross -- George Floyd

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“I bring rage out. I do bring rage out. I always have. I don’t know if that’s an asset or a liability, but whatever it is, I do.” (Presidential Candidate Donald Trump, quoted by Bob Woodward)

“Not me alone--

I know now--

But all the whole oppressed

Poor world,

White and black,

Must put their hands with mine

To shake the pillars of those temples

Wherein the false gods dwell

And worn-out altars stand

Too well defended,

And the rule of greed’s upheld--

That must be ended.” (Langston Hughes)

V. They pierce my hands and my feet: R. They stare and gloat over me.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Lord Jesus Christ, an innocent man, misunderstood, you suffered pain and humiliation at the hands of authorities and powers: open the hearts and minds of white people to the reality of structural racism and the ways we Black men suffer under the weight of oppression, that our deaths and our pain may not be felt in vain, but bring about the sanctification of our world. This in your name we plead.
Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Twelfth Station

Jesus dies on the Cross -- Homelessness, Unemployment

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The state of Missouri said it received more than 59,000 initial claims, down from 101,000 for the week ended April 11. Since mid-March, when the shutdowns began, more than 398,000 Missourians have filed for unemployment, according to the state data. That amounts to about 13% of the state's civilian labor force as of March, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Nationally, another 4.4 million people filed for unemployment for the week ended April 18, bringing the number to about 26 million since mid-March.

For Tami Marks, that means having to sell her Mesa, Arizona, home to stay afloat. Marks, 48, lost her job in the nonprofit sector at the end of March and hasn't been able to land a new position. Her husband's retirement gig doesn't bring in enough money to cover the bills, and the \$240 weekly unemployment payment she has been collecting "barely puts food on the table," she said.

"I've gotten to the point where I've applied at Target and Michael's for seasonal jobs, just to have a job," Marks said, but she is finding that, with so many people out of work, competition is fierce. "I don't even get callbacks for those," she said.

"There's nights I sit down and I lose it," she said. "Right now, starting to pack up my house that I didn't plan on selling for at least a few more years is tough." (Martha C White, NBC News, Nov 16, 2020)

"The homeless check off most boxes in terms of being the most susceptible and most vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic, and most likely to spread and most likely to die from it," said Neli Vazquez Rowland, founder of A Safe Haven Foundation, a Chicago nonprofit that has been operating a "medical respite" isolation facility for homeless individuals with the coronavirus. (Giles Bruce, Kaiser Health News, Nov 16, 2020)

V. Christ for us became obedient unto death: R. Even death on a cross.

Let us pray.

O God, whose Son had no place to lay his head: Grant us the compunction of heart that we would no longer be passive observers and bystanders to our siblings without adequate housing. Grant us the grace of that unnamed woman who lavished your Son with love by bathing his feet in perfumed ointment, to come to the aid of those who are unemployed and underemployed through the labor of our hands . *Amen.*

*Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

Thirteenth Station

The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother -- Violence against Trans People

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

Since the start of the year, at least 37 transgender and gender non-conforming people have been killed in the U.S. Of those 37 victims, 22 were Black and 7 were Latinx; 25 were Black or Latinx women. The 37 known transgender and gender non-conforming people killed so far this year are: Dustin Parker; Neulisa Luciano Ruiz; Yampi Méndez Arocho; Scott/Scottlynn DeVore; Monika Diamond; Lexi; Johanna Metzger; Serena Angélique Velázquez Ramos; Layla Pelaez Sánchez; Penélope Díaz Ramírez; Nina Pop; Helle Jae O'Regan; Tony McDade; Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells; Riah Milton; Jayne Thompson; Selena Reyes-Hernandez; Brian "Egypt" Powers; Brayla Stone; Merci Mack; Shaki Peters; Bree Black; Summer Taylor; Marilyn Cazares; Dior H Ova; Queasha D Hardy; Aja Raquell Rhone-Spears; Lea Rayshon Daye; Kee Sam; Aerrion Burnett; Mia Green; Michelle Michellyn Ramos Vargas; Felycya Harris; Brooklyn Deshuna; Sara Blackwood; Angel Unique; and Yunieski Carey Herrera. (Madeleine Roberts, HRC, November 19, 2020)

V. Her tears run down her cheeks: R. And she has none to comfort her.

Let us pray. (Silence)

The community observes a period of silence in memory of trans lives brutalized up to death.
Leader says Amen.

*Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

Fourteenth Station

Jesus is laid in the tomb -- Breonna Taylor

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

“Graduating this year on time is so important to me because I will be the first in my family to accomplish this,” [Breonna Taylor] wrote in her scrapbook during her senior year, next to a photo of herself in a cap and gown. “I want to be the one who finally breaks the cycle of my family’s educational history. I want to be the one to finally make a difference.” (The New York Times, 8/30/2020)

“2020 def gonna be my year WATCH!” (Tweeted by Breonna Taylor in January 2020; The New York Times, 8/30/2020)

V. You will not abandon me to the grave: R. Nor have you abandoned them at the hour of their death.

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, whose prophet declared to Mary that a sword would pierce her heart too, let the horror of murder and the shadow of death pierce our hearts too, that we who bear the name of the crucified one might never stop saying her name -- Breonna, Sandra, Vanessa. For we do not grieve as those who have no hope. This we ask through him whose body lay in the tomb, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

Concluding Prayers before the Altar

Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:

Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Collect for Our Time (said together)

God of all mercy, keep us from a mindless acceptance of things as they are, and a longing for peace without the courage to work for justice. Let us all know in the life-threatening pandemics of disease, poverty, racism, and violence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you, and that from this central heart of peace, there may flow a creative and courageous compassion, a deep thirst for racial justice, and a relentless proclamation of your love, to heal and reconcile your world in you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*