

# *Good Friday Peace Pilgrimage 2021*

An online video prayer offering

*The 41st Annual Good Friday Pilgrimage for Peace*, sponsored by the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, is offered as an online experience. At a time when the reality and brutality of systemic racism has been at the forefront of the national conversation, when the suffering of our brothers and sisters of color has become impossible for white people to ignore or deny, we ask you to join with us in lamenting and repenting of the many ways in which we have upheld white supremacy and contributed to the anguish that racism causes.

## **Format of each station**

### ***Announcement***

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

**All:** By the power of your holy cross, help us to live your love.

**Refrain:** Stay with me, disciple and friend,  
Take up your cross / follow me.

### ***Readings***

**Response:** "Were You There?" see verse for each station.

### ***Examination of Conscience for White People***

**Response:** Open my eyes, God, help me to see as you see.  
Open my heart, God, help me to love as you do.

***Instrumental interlude:*** "A Lenten Prelude"

## **Station 1: St. Peter Cathedral:**

*Jesus is betrayed; racism and Christian churches intersect*

Were you there when they crucified my love?  
Were you there when they crucified my love?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my love?

## **Station 2: City of Erie Police Station:**

*Jesus is arrested and condemned to die; racism and policing intersect*

Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?

**Station 3: School District of the City of Erie:**

*Jesus falls three times; racism and educational system intersect*

Were you there when love fell beneath the cross?  
Were you there when love fell beneath the cross?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when love fell beneath the cross?

**Station 4: Site of Proposed Plastics Shredding Plant:**

*Jesus meets his mother; racism and climate crisis intersect*

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

**Station 5: Community Health Net:**

*Veronica wipes the face of Jesus; racism and pandemic intersect*

Were you there when they laid love in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid love in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid love in the tomb?

**Station 6: Emmaus Soup Kitchen:**

*Jesus comforts the women of Jerusalem; racism and sexism intersect*

Did you weep with the women on the way?  
Did you weep with the women on the way?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Did you weep with the women on the way?

**Station 7: Social Security Office:**

*Jesus is stripped of his garments; racism and poverty intersect*

Were you there when they pierced love in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced love in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced love in the side?

**Station 8: Erie County Prison:**

*Jesus is nailed to the cross; racism and incarceration intersect*

Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed love to the tree?

## **Station 9: Mount St. Benedict Monastery:**

### *Jesus dies on the cross; racism and terrorism intersect*

Were you there when they crucified my love?  
Were you there when they crucified my love?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they crucified my love?



#### **Credits:**

##### **Art:**

“Jesus Dies on the Cross” by Janet McKenzie

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##### **Music:**

“Stay with Me”

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During the COVID-19 crisis, on behalf of the Taizé Community GIA is happy to give permission free of charge for the use of the songs of Taizé in any streamed, podcast or online services or prayers in North America.

Sung by Marilyn Schauble, OSB.

“Were You There?”

Text and music: Spiritual. Public domain.

##### **Interlude instrumental:**

“A Lenten Prelude” from Three Preludes for the Paschal Season by Matthew Corl,

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Played by Sisters Charlotte Anne Zalot (piano) and Anne Wambach (oboe).

##### **By Erie Benedictines for Peace**

Pictured with the cross: Sister Stephanie Schmidt, Prioress, Juan Llarena, BFP steering committee, Sister Val Luckey

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