



HOLY WEEK PRAYER WALK

Blacksburg, Virginia

April 1-7, 2007

The **LORD**
has heard my cry
for mercy;
the **LORD**
accepts my
prayer.

Psalm 6:9



As God's people, we are called to be a people of prayer and a people who live in solidarity with all other people in the world, especially those who are oppressed and hurting, those on the margins of our society.

This prayer vigil will take us to many spots around our community and allow us to intentionally pray for various people and issues in our midst.

We invite you to actually walk these paths silently, alone or with a group, stopping at the places mentioned to meditate and pray. You may pray aloud or silently. Don't feel that you have to stop with the suggested prayers or go to all the sites. Allow the Holy

Spirit to enter in and guide you. You can also break the walk up, doing one part at one time and another part at another time.

If you cannot walk the paths, we invite you to pray in your homes for these places and people, forming a mental picture of each place in your mind.

God longs to hear from us.

FOR JUSTICE— Police Station

We invite a stop on our prayer walk outside the police station which may include praying for those who work in law enforcement in our community and around our nation and world, for their safety and their well-being, for those who are incarcerated and their families, for those who commit crimes because of drug/alcohol addictions, for lawyers and judges, for our criminal justice system that can at times be prejudicial against the poor and minorities that all can be treated fairly.



Suggestion for meditation:

Remember Jesus' words calling us to visit those who are in prison

You are invited to be in solidarity with those who are imprisoned in mind, body, or soul.



Matthew 25:36

FOR HOMELESSNESS—

As you walk the streets remember those who walk the streets without a place to call home

We invite a stop on our prayer walk somewhere along the way which may include praying for those in our town, county, country and world who have no place to call home, for those who stay in our own town at the Red Carpet Inn because it is the cheapest place to stay on a nightly basis, for those displaced from their trailers on Givens Lane, for those living in the family shelters scattered about town, for those who work daily to alleviate homelessness, for victims of domestic violence, poverty, homelessness and the fear and despair associated with homelessness.



Suggestion for meditation:

Remember Jesus' compassion for the "widow and the orphan."

You are invited to be in solidarity with the homeless in our community.

FOR ENVIRONMENT/EARTH—

A beautiful spot you notice on your walk



**The earth is the
LORD's, & everything
in it, the world, & all
who live in it.**

P s a l m 2 4 : 1

We invite a stop on our prayer walk wherever you witness the beauty of God's good creation which may include prayer for our earth, for those who make choices that harm the earth, for those working to protect the environment, prayers of gratitude for all the goodness within creation and for the gifts God provides for us within creation.

Suggestion for meditation:

Remember God's words as God made each part of creation: And God said, "It is good."

You are invited to be in solidarity with the earth and all God's creatures.

FOR COMMERCE— Downtown

We invite a stop in downtown Blacksburg, outside some of the stores and banks to pray for our capitalist society, for shopkeepers, employees, and bankers, for customers, for those able to buy and those not able to buy, for trade both fair and unfair.



Suggestion for meditation:

Remember the laws God set forth in the Old Testament to ensure fair trade and equal distribution of wealth, remembering that God calls us always to beware of greed, selfish tendencies, and corrupt business practices.

You are invited to be in solidarity with those with the poor, being mindful that our economy leaves many in need and in despair.

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN— Cemetery



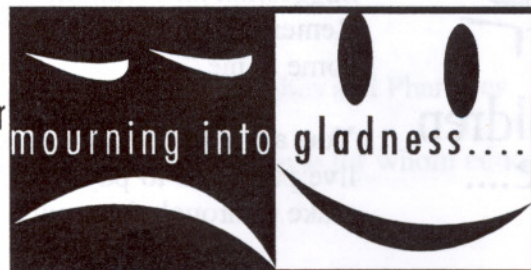
We invite a stop on our prayer walk at the cemetery that may include prayers of thanksgiving for faithful servants whose days on earth are ended, for those who mourn their loss, for those whose grief is fresh, for those who are afraid of death.

Suggestion for meditation:

Remember Mary and disciples who mourned Jesus' death.

You are invited to be in solidarity with those who mourn.

I will turn their



Jeremiah 31:13

FOR THOSE WHO HUNGER & THIRST— Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

We invite a stop on our prayer walk at the Interfaith Food Pantry (behind Blacksburg Baptist Church) that may include praying for those who receive these groceries, for those who donate them, for those volunteers who serve here, for systemic reasons for poverty, for policy makers, for the hungry in our community and our world.

Suggestion for meditation:

Remember how Jesus fed the hungry with food for their bodies and their souls.

You are invited to be in solidarity with the hungry in our community.



FOR POVERTY— Outside the Lutheran church for VICCC



Let the little children
come to me....

LUKE 18:16

We invite a stop on our prayer walk outside of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church where Valley Interfaith Childcare Center is housed which may include prayers for the working poor and all the challenges they face, for families with young children, for the VICCC workers and their families, for policymakers who are making decisions that will affect these families.

Suggestion for meditation:

Remember Jesus' words; "Let the little children come to me."

You are invited to be in solidarity with those who live paycheck to paycheck, not knowing if they will make it through the month.

FOR PEACE— War Memorial

We invite a stop on our prayer walk at the War Memorial Chapel that may include prayers for those whose lives have been lost in war, for those who are serving in conflicts currently, for those who have been harmed in war, for families of soldiers, for governments, for policy makers, for peacemakers.

Suggestion for meditation:

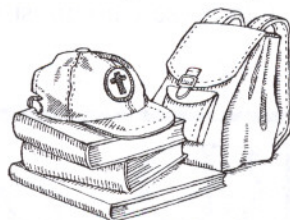
Remember Jesus words; "Blessed are the peacemakers."

You are invited to be in solidarity with victims of war.



FOR THOSE IN THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE— Sites on campus

We invite a stop on our prayer walk along the campus of VT that may include prayers of gratitude that God values the students, alumni, professors, that God would guide the may be used for good and not God's people, especially the to access higher education.



life of the mind, prayers for administration, advisors and boards pursuit for knowledge here, that it ill in God's world, to serve all of poor and prayers for those not able

Suggestion for meditation:

Remember how Jesus interacted with scribes and Pharisees.

You are invited to be in solidarity with those for whom education (thus power) is not available.

FOR THOSE WHO WORSHIP IDOLS— Stadium & Coliseum

We invite you to stop outside of the stadium and the coliseum to pray for our society that many times places so many things before our worship of God, including sports, amassing wealth, status in society, jobs, and family, among others.



Suggestion for meditation:

Remember the first and second commandments: You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You are invited to be in an attitude of confession for our own tendency to worship idols.

After you finish your walk, consider driving to:

FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER— Heritage Hall & Montgomery Regional Hospital

We invite a stop on our prayer walk at Heritage Hall and/or MRH that may include visiting folks to say hello, simply walking the halls and praying for the residents by name, praying for care givers, for families.

Suggestion for meditation:

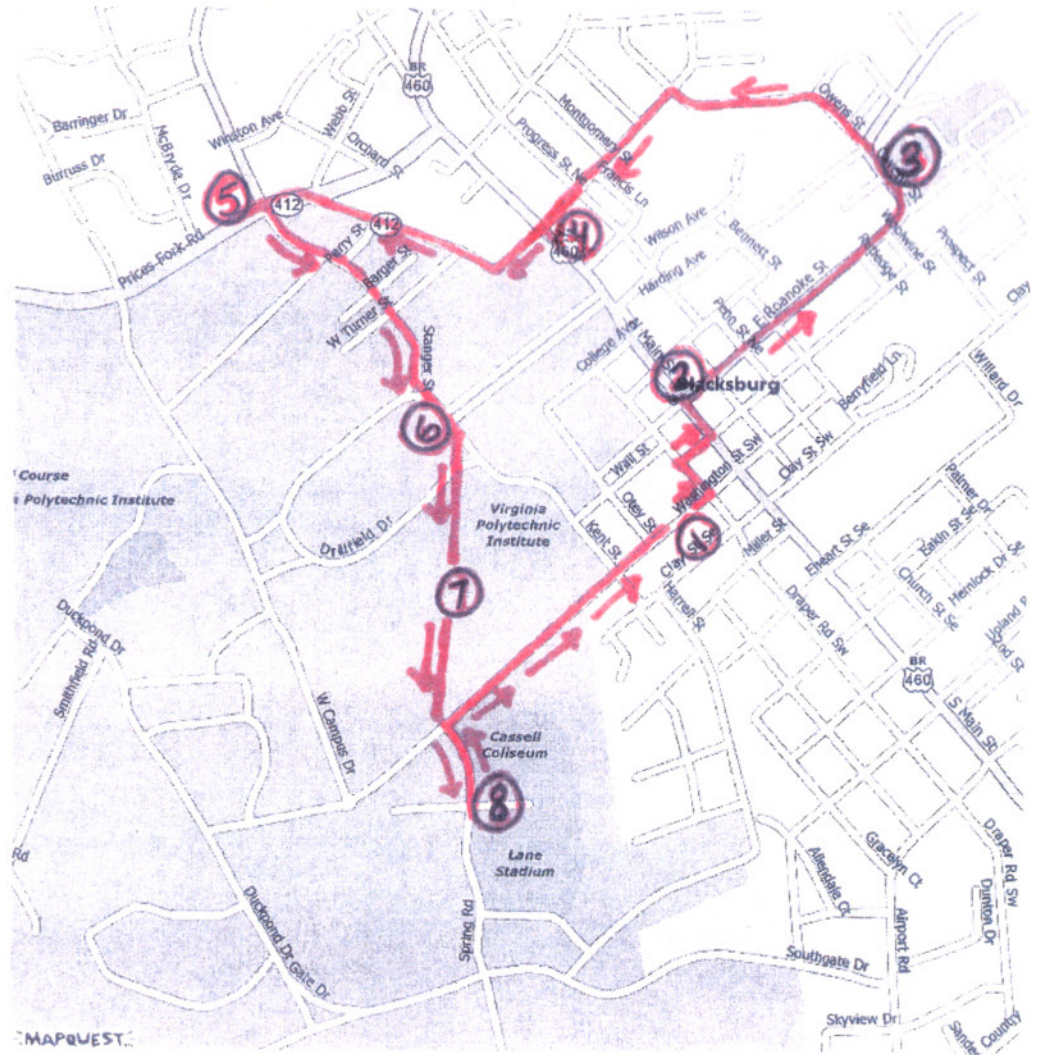
Remember the suffering whom Christ healed.

You are invited to be in solidarity with those who are suffering.



Holy Week Prayer Vigil Map

1. Blacksburg Police Station
2. Downtown Blacksburg
3. Cemetery
4. Interfaith Food Pantry
(in alley behind Blacksburg Baptist)
5. Valley Interfaith Childcare Center
(inside Luther Memorial Lutheran)
6. War Memorial
7. VT Campus
8. Cassell Coliseum/Lane Stadium



Don't forget to stop somewhere along the way to pray for the homeless and to pray for the environment.

