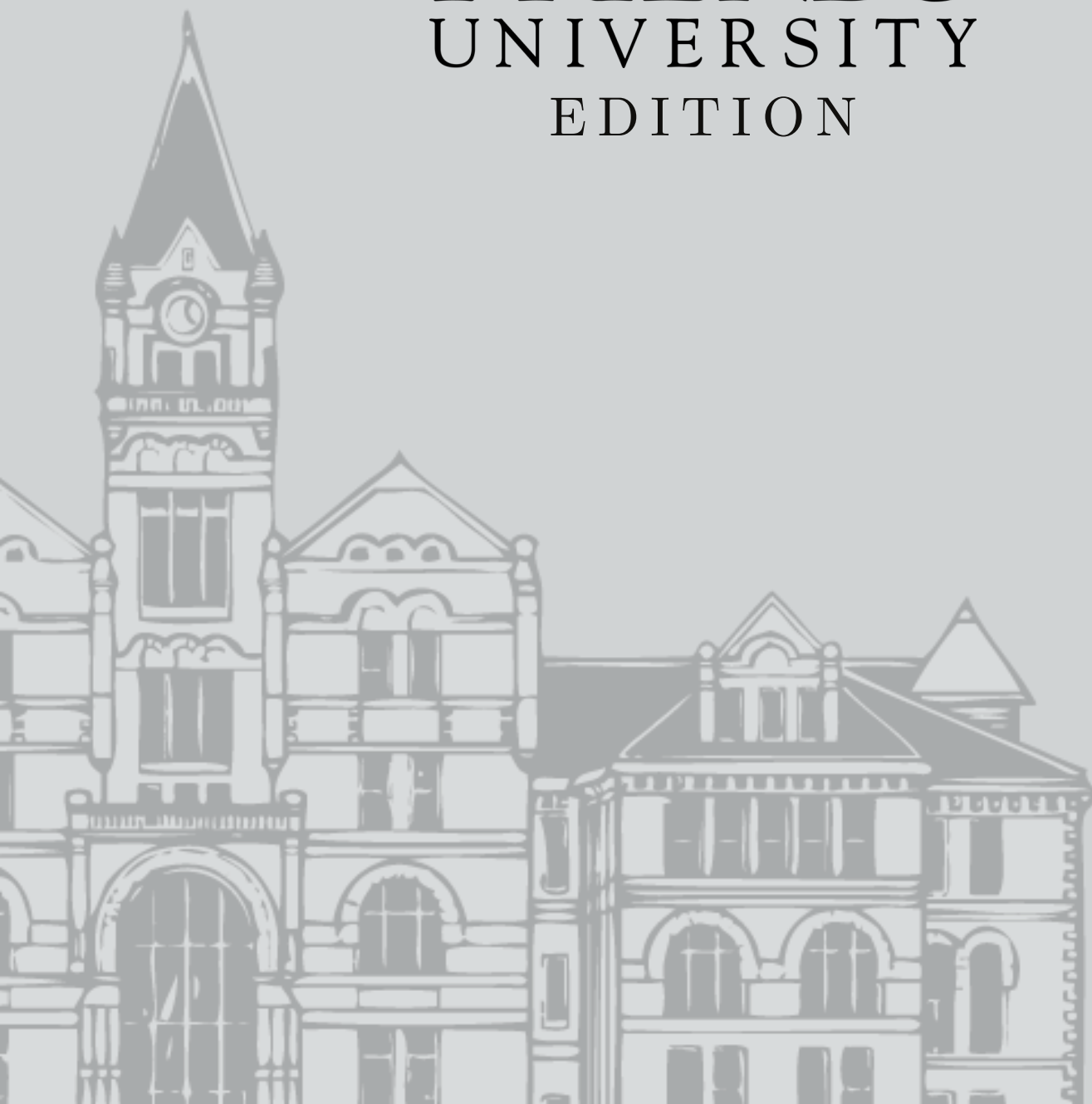


STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIENDS
UNIVERSITY
EDITION



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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Some background for this spiritual exercise

We are taking a meditative prayer walk. This gets our whole being (body, mind, and spirit) engaged in prayer. In the Roman Catholic tradition, buildings often have pictures of these “stations” on their walls – people take this prayer walk in the quiet of a sanctuary, considering the Lord’s sacrifice for them and entering into His death. We take the walk out to Friends’ campus to help ourselves see the right now nature of what Jesus is doing and the present reality of how we can enter into it with Him.

The “Stations of the Cross” originated with believers who visited Jerusalem and literally went along the way Jesus went to the cross. There are records of their acts of devotion dating back to the 300s. Traditionally, there are fourteen stations, and they are not strictly biblical. They function as *visio divina*, a visual portal for us to see the passion of Jesus re-enacted. So, this meditative prayer walk will require **determination and imagination**. We are contemplating on our busy campus and we are asking ourselves to see familiar sites in deeper ways. Using our imagination and the sights around us, Pilate’s court and Golgotha become present realities. NOTE: this version does not follow the traditional stations that originated in the early church. It is a modified version that focuses on the events of Jesus leading up to his crucifixion as outlined in scripture.

Some help for experiencing this journey

Identify with Jesus in His “death march.” Go with Him to the cross. Go on an inward journey – remember, grieve, repent. Receive the love and forgiveness of Jesus in a fresh way.

Go on an outward journey – see our campus through the eyes of our dying Savior.

Pray that others remember, turn away from sin, and grieve.

See the love of Christ & receive God’s forgiveness in Him.

Let this symbolize your journey of suffering love for your neighbors.

Visualize Jesus in each of the stations

See Him there broken, torn, suffering in love. Don’t rush by Him as we often do, as others around you may be doing. The stations slow us down and force us to truly be with Him in His suffering, in our time, and on our campus, as who we are right now. The New Testament scripture passages are included to help us imagine the scenes.



*"Don't rush by Him as we often do,
as others around you may be doing."*

TO BEGIN

You are about to take a 1.15-mile walk. Be sure you have appropriate footwear, outerwear, and water. Depending on your pace, it takes approximately 50 minutes. If you feel as if you may not be in the right location, there is a map to reference on the last page.

In front of Davis, near the northeast corner of Rose Window Plaza, there is a sycamore tree. It is the large tree with white bark. Walk over to it. Notice how it looks different than the trees around it.

Reflect on how sin first entered the world through a tree in the Garden of Eden. That's the backdrop to the story of Christ's journey to the cross.

Take a moment to pray and center in on how to take the next step and consider our campus where many have little concern for or understanding of this journey.



If music helps you find a meditative attitude, cue up the album *Golgotha* by Poor Bishop Hooper. Each station matches up to a song.

FIRST STATION

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Walk down Centennial Lane and turn RIGHT onto S Hiram Street. Turn LEFT onto the driveway before Friends Village. Make a quick RIGHT and walk between the parking stalls until you see a gate on your LEFT. Open the gate and walk into the Community Garden.

Mark 14:32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Slowly walk through the garden and imagine the disciples sleeping as Jesus prays. If you can, find a place where you can drop to your knees and feel the weight of the journey ahead as you see **Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane**.

SECOND STATION

Jesus is Betrayed by Judas and Arrested

Exit the community garden through the gate and turn LEFT. Walk through the parking lot next to Friends Village and cross S Hiram Street. Head LEFT until the corner where you will see a brick Friends sign with flowers in front of it.

Mark 14:41-46

Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. The men seized Jesus and arrested him.

Look at the flowers in the small garden in front of the Friends sign. Flowers are given to those we love—often accompanied with a kiss. But the kiss Jesus receives is not one of love, but of betrayal. We judge the actions of Judas, but if we are honest, we are prone to do the same. Consider those you have betrayed or taken advantage of as you look at the flowers in front of you. When finished, take a few steps backward and look up. See the clock on the Davis clocktower—the hour has come. **Jesus is Betrayed by Judas and Arrested.**

THIRD STATION

Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin

Continue walking along the sidewalk next to W Kellogg Dr. Turn RIGHT onto the street that leads to the front of Casado Campus Center. Stop at the Entrance of Casado.

Mark 14:55-65

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.

Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even then their testimony did not agree.

Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

"I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?"

They all condemned him as worthy of death. Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy!" And the guards took him and beat him.

From the outdoors, look at the entrance of Casado. Imagine it being the entrance to the high priest's house. Look through the windows and see the Sanhedrin, the council of Jewish religious leaders, conducting the trial of Jesus. Listen as people share false testimonies about Jesus. Watch our savior remain silent against the attacks as **Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin.**

FOURTH STATION

Jesus is Denied by Peter

Stay where you are for a moment. Turn around and look to the LEFT of Casado parking lot. There you will see a little field with benches and picnic table.

Mark 14:66-72

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him.

“You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said. But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway. When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.” Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.”

He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.” Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

While the Sanhedrin meets behind you, peer down at the field. See a nervous man pacing in the courtyard as he is approached by a young girl. Notice the commotion building as people gather around him. Walk over and sit on one of the benches to listen more closely. You recognize the man—it’s one of Jesus’ followers. But he’s insisting that he doesn’t know Jesus. Consider for a moment—would you do the same? Sit with this question as you take in all of the sounds of campus. Listen for the surprising sound of a rooster crowing as **Jesus is Denied by Peter.**

FIFTH STATION

Jesus is Judged by Pilate

Walk back towards W Kellogg Drive and turn RIGHT. Walk along the path until you reach the beginning of Paul's Pond.

Matthew 27: 11-26

Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"You have said so," Jesus replied.

When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?" But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.

Now it was the governor's custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him.

While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him."

But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

"Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor.

"Barabbas," they answered.

"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked.

They all answered, "Crucify him!"

"Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"

All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!"

Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

Spend some time looking at the reflections in the pond. Look down at your hands and imagine Pilate washing his hands in front of the crowd. Though he sensed that Jesus was innocent, he succumbed to the pressure of the crowd and followed through with the death sentence. Consider times you have gone along with the crowd or stood quiet in the presence of injustice. Feel the severity of that decision as **Jesus is Judged by Pilate**.

SIXTH STATION

Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns

Continue to walk around Paul's Pond. Stop when you get to the white and red statue.

John 19:1-3

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.

Look at the details in the statue titled "Crossing Paths," which honors our region's original inhabitants. Headdresses, worn by some indigenous peoples, were often depictions of status—highlighting accomplishments, respect, and commitment to the tribe. Examine the outline of the statue and see the sharp edges of the headdress. Reflect on the contrast of the sharp crown placed on Jesus' head—a symbol of humiliation and mockery, not respect. Notice how the vivid red paint pools at the bottom of the statue. Consider the bloody scene of Jesus' suffering as **Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns**.

SEVENTH STATION

Jesus Takes Up His Cross

Continue the sidewalk away from the pond as it turns RIGHT onto St. Clair Street. Cross the street and stand in the large field next to Garvey.

John 19:16-18

Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

The object Jesus was made to carry would have probably been only the horizontal beam, known as the patibulum. The patibulum likely weighed somewhere between 75-125 pounds and would have been placed across the nape of the victim's neck, balancing upon their shoulders. Near the sidewalk is a wooden beam. If you're able, lift the beam (please be careful). Experience both the physical and spiritual weight of the walk to Golgotha as **Jesus Takes Up His Cross.**

EIGHTH STATION

Jesus is Helped by Simon of Cyrene

Walk through the parking lot next to the tennis courts. After passing the courts, veer RIGHT and walk onto the brick roundabout near the corner of Green Hall. Continue to the second roundabout and take a seat on the bench.

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.

It is tradition for staff, faculty, and upperclassmen to help new students by meeting them on this roundabout to carry their luggage inside. Students, think back to your first day on campus—strangers helped carry your belongings to your room. Simon of Cyrene was a traveler who carried Jesus' cross. Reflect on how a stranger served and supported a struggling man as **Jesus is Helped by Simon of Cyrene**.

NINTH STATION

Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

Walk to the sand volleyball courts next to Casado.

Luke 23:27-31

A large number of people followed him, 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. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then

"they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!"

and to the hills, 'Cover us!"

For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Jesus' surprising words to the women are in reference to the coming destruction of Jerusalem. Previously, as Jesus entered the city, he foretold, "The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another," (Luke 19:43-44). Lean down and grab a handful of sand. Let the sand fall between your fingers as you picture the crumbling of Jerusalem by Roman soldiers. Feel the intensity of Jesus' prophetic words as **Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem.**

TENTH STATION

Jesus is Crucified

Walk on the drive between Casado and Sumpter. Turn LEFT onto the sidewalk in front of Sumpter and stop in front of the metal sculpture near the entrance.

Luke 23:32-34

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 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. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Examine the sculpture called Tipping Point. The quote on the plaque reads, “Inviting disturbances, symmetry tumbles. Balance is defined anew.” Run your hands along the edges, feeling the metal corners, and imagine the square nails driven into Jesus’ hands. Feel the fate of the world hanging on one man’s shoulders. All of history has led to this moment, the tipping point in God’s redemption story. At the cross, “balance is defined anew”—nothing will ever be the same again. Feel everything change as **Jesus is Crucified.**

ELEVENTH STATION

Jesus Promises his Kingdom to the Repentant Thief

Walk in front of Davis past the Rose Window Plaza. Veer LEFT as if you were going to the library. In front of the library, you will see a set of 3 flagpoles in a triangular shape. Sit on one of the benches there.

Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Flags represent allegiance. Look up at the three poles and picture the conversation going on between the three crucified men. While one mocks Jesus, the other recognizes who He is. The thief declares his allegiance to Jesus and is promised to be with Him in paradise. Consider where you put your own allegiance as **Jesus Promises his Kingdom to the Repentant Thief.**

TWELFTH STATION

Jesus Entrusts Mary and John to Each Other

Walk on the sidewalk toward the entrance of the library. Veer right and continue walking alongside the library until you reach the corner. As you walk around the corner there will be a small opening in the brick wall and a large statue. Go inside and stand in front of the statue.

John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Examine the woman's expression depicted in the statue. Her head is turned, and her hand is near her face, as if she can't look at what is front of her. Imagine what is going through the mind of Jesus' mother as she witnesses her son in excruciating pain. It's at this moment Jesus entrusts her to John. Even during His greatest suffering, Jesus makes a point to take care of His mother and His friend. See the care in His eyes as **Jesus Entrusts Mary and John to Each Other.**

THIRTEENTH STATION

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Walk back toward Davis and stand in the middle of Rose Window Plaza.

Mark 15:33-39

At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah."

Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink.

"Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down," he said.

With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

Look up at Davis. In the entrance on the top of the steps, you can make out a white outline of a cross. Take a deep breath and exhale. Watch the savior take His final breath as **Jesus Dies on the Cross.**

FOURTEENTH STATION

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Walk up the large steps at the entrance of Davis. Face east toward University Ave.

Mark 15:42-47

It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

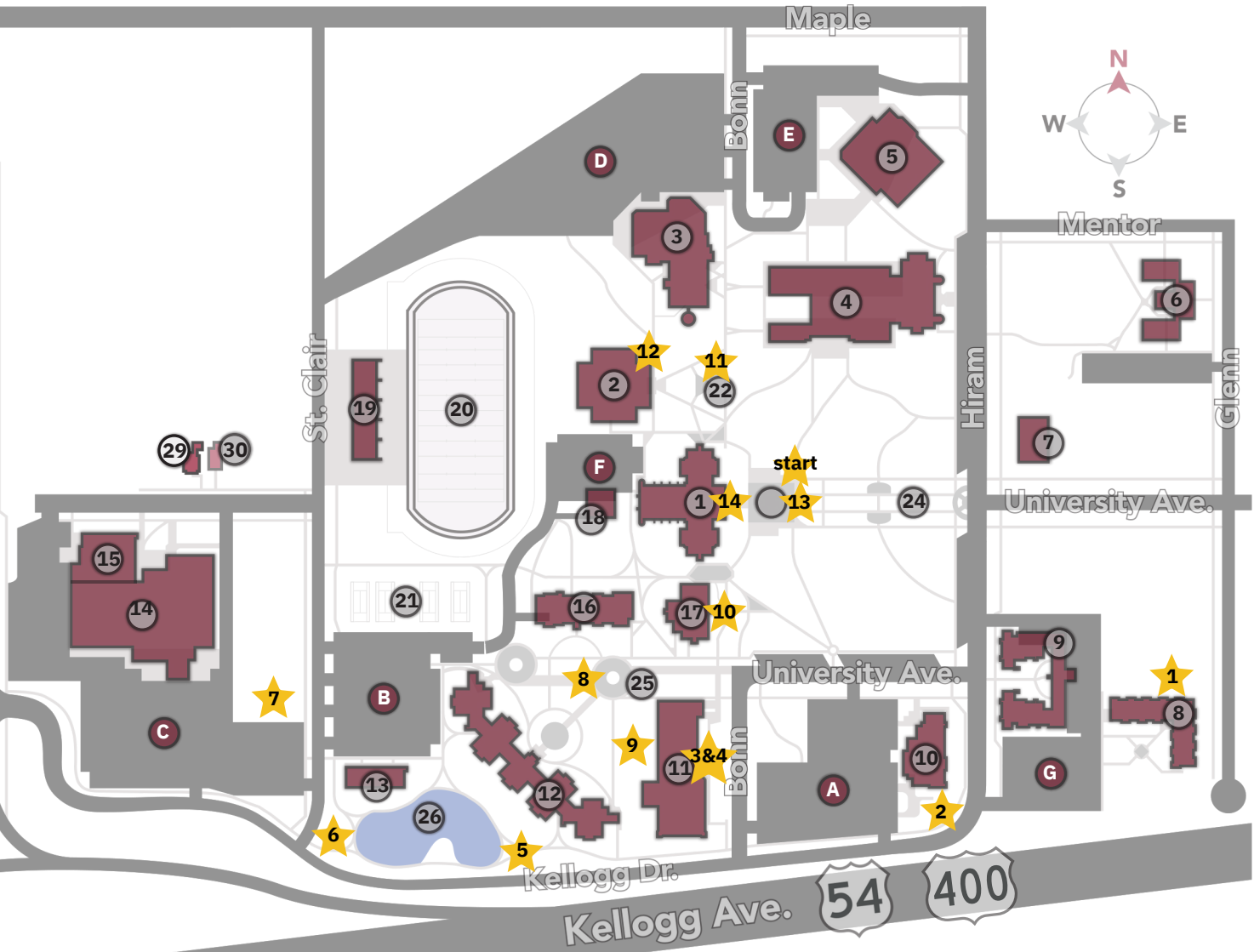
Look out to your left, and you will see the tree from where you began. Remember what it represents. With that image in mind, look further out into campus. You will notice a steel semi-circle at the entrance of Centennial Lane, a shape that resembles the entrance of a tomb. Behind it is W University Ave. It looks as if the street goes on forever within the outline of the beam—a never-ending tomb. Consider the depths Jesus went to save the world. He descended to the depths of the dead to bring salvation to his people. Spend a few minutes considering this sacrifice as **Jesus is Laid in the Tomb.**

FIFTEENTH STATION

Jesus Rises from the Dead

The last station takes place on Easter Sunday. We encourage you to find a place to celebrate Christ's resurrection on Sunday!

Campus map



FRIENDS
UNIVERSITY

Parking Lots

- A. Parking Lot A
- B. Parking Lot B
- C. Parking Lot C
- D. Parking Lot D
- E. Parking Lot E
- F. Parking Lot F
- G. Parking Lot G

On-campus Facilities

- 19. Adair-Austin Stadium
- 29. Art Studio
- 11. Casado Campus Center (CCC)
- 24. Centennial Lane
- 1. Davis Administration Building (DAV)
- 18. Energy Center
- 13. Falcon Flats
- 6. Falcon Glenn
- 22. Flag Court
- 9. Friends Village
- 16. Fry and Woolman Hall
- 15. Garvey Art Center (ART)
- 5. Olive White Garvey Business and Technology Building (BTB)
- 14. Garvey Physical Education Center (GPE)
- 12. Green Residence Hall
- 30. Guest House
- 20. Hoyt Athletic Field and Dr. Biff Green Track
- 21. Forrest C. Lattner Tennis Courts
- 10. Marriage & Family Therapy Facility and Center on Family Living (MFT)
- 26. Paul's Pond
- 3. William Penn Science Building and Sebitts Science Hall (SCI)
- 25. Dr. Katherine Pennington Circle of Friends Plaza
- 7. President's Home
- 4. Riney Fine Arts Center and Sebitts Fine Arts Addition (RFA)
- 23. Rose Window Plaza
- 8. J.R. and Gertrude Smith Apartments
- 2. Edmund Stanley Library (LIB)
- 17. Sumpter Hall