

Station 1: (injustice and judgement)

Jesus is condemned to death

Scripture: John 19: 13-14,16

"As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, "He deserves to die." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified."



THE SHAME OF AMERICA

Do you know that The United States is the Only Land On Earth where human beings are BURNED AT THE STAKE.

In four years, 1918-1921, Twenty-eight people were publicly

BURNED BY AMERICAN MOBS

National Memorial of Peace and Justice outdoor lynching museum Montgomery, Alabama

"The magnitude of the killing is harrowing, all the more so when paired with the circumstances of individual lynchings, some described in brief summaries along the walk: Parks Banks, lynched in Mississippi in 1922 for carrying a photograph of a white woman; Caleb Gaddy, hanged in Kentucky in 1894 for "walking behind the wife of his white employer"; Mary Turner, who after denouncing her husband's lynching by a rampaging white mob, was hung upside down, burned and then sliced open so that her unborn child fell to the ground."

The memorial lists the names of 4,400 lynchings of black people in 800 U.S. counties from 1877 through 1950. The perpetrators were rarely prosecuted in most cases.

Researchers are still compiling names of lynching victims, and various lists appear online, based on newspaper accounts, research, oral histories and other sources.

Racial lynchings, usually defined as unprosecuted murders that occurred at the hands of mobs or unidentified people, began in 1877 in Alabama, and ended in 1943.



Sentencing after the Salem Witch Trial of Bridgett Bishop

To George Corwin Gent'm high Sherriffe of the County of Essex Greeting
Whereas **Bridgett Bishop** alias Olliver the wife of Edward Bishop of
[Salem] in the County of Essex Sawyer at a speciall Court of Oyer and
Termin[er held at] Salem the second Day of this instant month of June for
the Countyes of Esse[x] Middlesex and Suffolk before William Stoughton
Esq'r and his Associates J[ustices] of the said Court was **Indicted and
arraigned upon five several Ind[ictments]** for useing practiseing and
exercisein[g] [on] the Nyneteenth day of April] last past and divers
other dayes and times [before and after certain acts of] Witchcraft in
and upon the bodyes of Abigial Williams , Ann puttnam J[un'r] Mercy
Lewis, Mary Walcott and Elizabeth Hubbard of Salem village single-
women, whereby their bodyes were hurt, afflicted pined, consu[med]

Wasted and tormented contrary to the forme of the Statute in that Case [made and] provided To which Indictm'ts the said **Bridgett Bishop** **pleaded no[t guilty]** and for Tryall thereof put her selfe upon God and her Country, **where[upon] she was found guilty of the felo- nyes and Witchcrafts** whereof **she stood Indicted and sentence of Death** accordingly passed ag't her as the Law directs, Execution whereof yet remains to be done These are theref[ore] in the Name of their Maj'ties William and Mary now King & Queen [over] Eng- land &c to will and Comand you That upon fryday next being the Tenth day of this instant month of June between the houres of Eight and twelve in the afternoon of the same day You safely con- duct the s'd Bridgett Bishop alias Olliver from their Maj'ties Gaol in Salem afores'd to the place of Execution and there **cause her to be hanged by the neck untill she be de[ad]**

INNOCENCE PROJECT

Anthony Capozzi was wrongfully convicted of committing two sexual assaults in Buffalo, New York, in the mid-1980s. He spent over two decades in prison for these crimes before DNA testing proved his innocence and revealed the identity of the true perpetrator who had gone on to commit multiple rapes and murders while Capozzi was wrongfully imprisoned.

REFLECT

Jesus was accused falsely, arrested, judged, condemned to death without a trial, mocked by authorities, humiliated, tortured, and killed in the most horrible and painful way possible at that time. The mob mentality called for justice, Jesus' own faith community of Jews contributed to the injustice, and His disciples feared for their lives and remained quiet.

The cross solved our problem by first revealing our real problem, our universal pattern of scapegoating and sacrificing others. The cross exposes forever the scene of our crime.”

— Richard Rohr, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*

Interactive directions:

- 1. Find a bowl and fill it half way with water using a small cup, one cupful at a time.**
- 2. Think of someone that you have judged unjustly because you were threatened by who they were.**
- 3. Pour a cup of water into the bowl that symbolizes the judgement you made.**
- 4. Think of a time you allowed an injustice to take place and didn't do anything to stop it.**
- 5. Again, add a cup of water to the bowl symbolizing the injustice you let happen.**

*If at this point, you do nothing,
you are like Pontius Pilot.
If you offer your faults/sins/shortcomings to God
and repent,
you will be forgiven... always forgiven
through His infinite love.*

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*"Like buckets of water tossed in the ocean, we carry our faults to
God." Joshua Dubois*

What did you learn about yourself?

Closing prayer:

Dear God, Your Son was innocent and yet He was judged guilty and sentenced. Keep me Lord from judging others. Help me Lord, to see others as You see them, with Love, Compassion, and Forgiveness. Guide me, Lord, in a path of action to help those who, like Jesus, are unfairly judged, either by their appearance or by their circumstance. Change me, Lord, so when I see others, I see you. I ask this all in the name of the One unjustly sentenced to death, Jesus Christ. Amen.