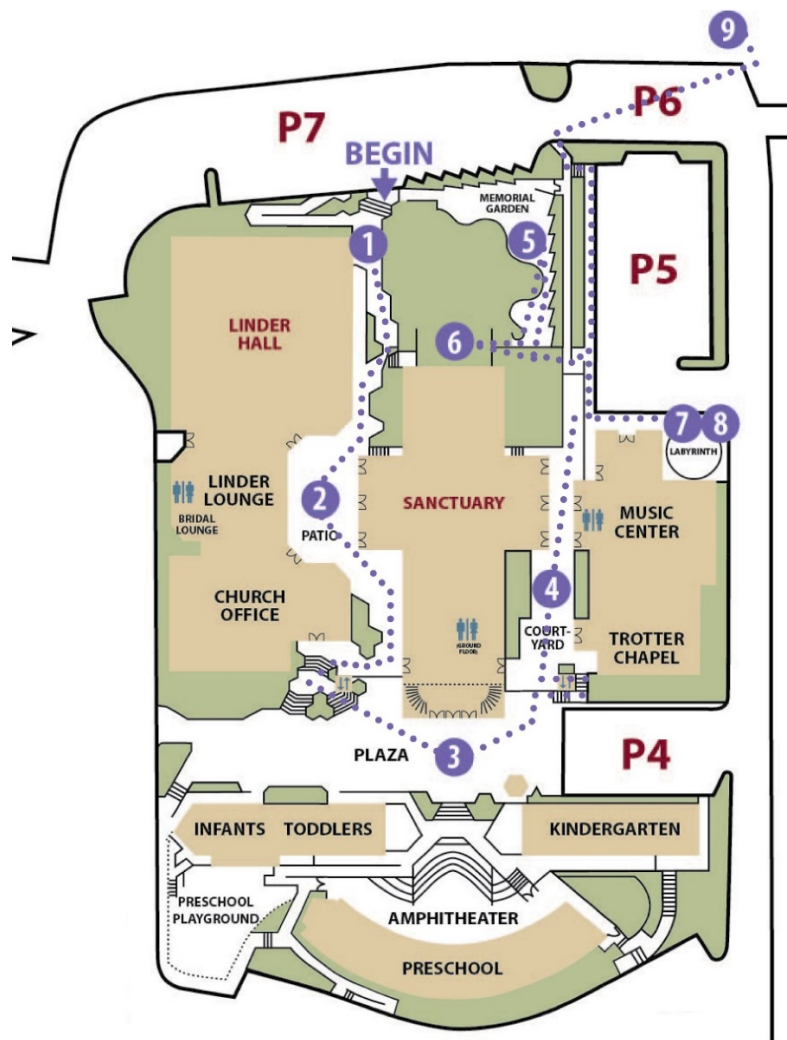




## THROUGH THE MISSION VALLEY CAMPUS

Monday, April 5 through Saturday April 10  
8 AM to 4 PM

Welcome to the Easter Walk across the Mission Valley campus of First United Methodist Church of San Diego. After parking in lot P7, follow the map.



## STATION 1

The beginning of the path that leads from parking lot P7 to Linder Patio and the rest of the campus.

### READ

#### **Matthew 21:1-9**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

### REFLECT

Jesus entered Jerusalem with lots of stress, knowing, or not knowing, what was going to happen. And yet, he handled his stress with his trust in God who would be with him and weave his (our) moments of stress to make a story of redemption.

### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Pick up a donkey stress ball for your family. The last week of Jesus' life was full of stress. He had God to rely on for help. If you feel worried, squeeze your donkey, and let that remind you that you, too, have God to help you.

### PRAY

*God, help us breathe deeply and relax in moments of stress.  
And help us trust you in times of uncertainties,  
knowing that you are our Rock and Redeemer. Amen!*

## STATION 2

### Linder Patio

Observe and reflect upon the table set for Holy Communion inside Linder Lounge.

#### READ

**Mark 14:17-25** When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

#### REFLECT

The Last Supper of Jesus with the disciples is commemorated by Christians all over the world through the sacrament of Holy Communion. We remember Jesus gave us the ultimate sacrifice in his death. We remember Jesus gave us the ultimate grace in welcoming Judas to the table, knowing what he would do. Consider this gift of grace. Sign the Guest Book and recall the moments of being at the Lord's Table

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

##### Make a God's Eye

Materials

- Yarn in several bright colors
- Popsicle/craft sticks
- Scissors
- Glue

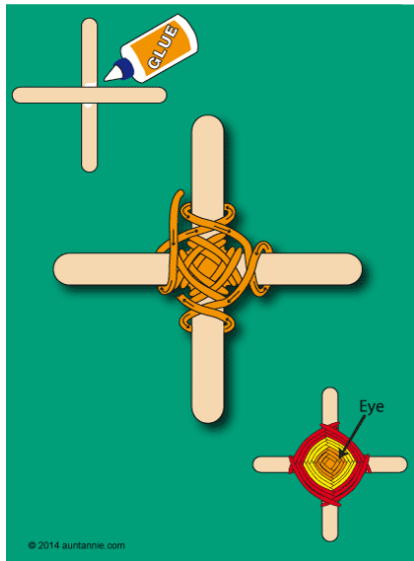
***Read all the steps before starting.***

##### Step 1: Project Preparation

Glue two Popsicle sticks together in a cross. Let glue dry. This may take several minutes.

##### Step 2: Select Yarn

While the glue is drying, sort through the yarn and select three or four colors for your God's Eye. Pick colors that go well together and try to include some light colors and dark colors.



### Step 3: Wrap Yarn

Take one color of yarn and wrap it over and around one stick, then on a diagonal to the next stick and over and around it, on the diagonal to the next stick and over and around it, and so on. Continue for four or more turns around the cross, until the eye is as large as you want. Catch the tail of the yarn as you wrap, so it is held in place.

Tie a length of another color of yarn onto the first one with a tight knot. Wrap the yarn around the arms of the cross as before. Make as many turns around the cross as you like to form a narrow or wide band of this color. Repeat for each additional color until finished.

### Step 4: Finish the God's Eye

Glue the final yarn end to the back of the cross to hold it in place. Make a hanger for the God's Eye with a length of yarn glued or tied to the sticks.

### PRAY

*O God, your grace covers me with love, accepting me as I am and moving me to where I should be. Help me, O God, be moved. Amen.*

## STATION 3

### Outside the sanctuary on the Lower Level

Observe the shape of the church and consider what it means for the church to reach toward the heavens, standing high above all else on the horizon.

#### READ

**John 3:16-17** For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

#### REFLECT

God's love gives us everything we need, including a Savior to help us walk the way that leads to life. This is Good News!

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Listen to this.

[Royal Choral Society: 'Hallelujah Chorus' from Handel's Messiah - YouTube](#)



#### PRAY

*Thank you, God! Amen!*

## STATION 4

### Courtyard between the Sanctuary and the Music Room

#### READ

**Psalm 30:1-2, 4-5, 11-12** I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me..... Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

#### REFLECT

Jesus and his disciples would have known this Psalm well. How do these words inspire hope during times of difficulty?

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Listen to this version of the Hallelujah Chorus. Find joy in your heart and dance to the music!

[Hallelujah! - YouTube](#)



#### PRAY

*God of joy remind us that with you, the final word is life.  
Thank you for walking with us whatever we may be facing. Amen.*

## STATION 5

### Memorial Garden

#### READ

**Luke 24:1-5** But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

#### REFLECT

The women who went to the tomb expected to offer a final act of compassion for Jesus in death. Instead, they are told about the resurrection. They are told that Christ is risen, and become the first people to share that news with others.

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Make a rubbing over one of the columbarium plaques. Place a sheet of paper over a name, hold it tight, as you use the long side of a crayon to rub across the paper. Read the person's name and imagine what this person may have been like. Take the rubbing home and say a prayer for this person of faith.

#### PRAY

*As I linger in this memorial garden, O God, I lift up to you the grief I carry.  
Redeem the pain of loss by your life-giving love.  
Give me, by your grace, resurrection hope. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.*



## STATION 6

### **Bench on the Sanctuary side of the Memorial Garden**

Enjoy the grassy area behind the sanctuary. Look through the large window of the sanctuary and remember the times you were inside. Consider the cross on the hillside that is "blooming" with flowers.

#### **READ**

**John 20:19** When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

#### **REFLECT**

Who helps you believe?

#### **FAMILY ACTIVITY**

Take a selfie in front of the cross and Easter flowers. Consider sending a copy of this photo to the person who helps you believe.

#### **PRAY**

*Gracious God, help me remember that I don't need to do everything alone and I don't need to be perfect. You bring people into my life to be strong when I am weak, to teach me when I am wrong, and to go with me so that I may follow your direction. Amen.*



## STATION 7

### Labyrinth Entrance

#### READ

**Luke 24:13-21** Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

#### REFLECT

What would these disciples have been feeling and thinking? They were grieving, they had not stopped mourning the loss of their beloved teacher/rabbi. They want to believe.... but doubt and then want to believe again. What are the doubts and questions you have? What do you want to believe? Hold the questions and the longings together in your heart and mind.

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Pick a rock to paint. Be sure to paint so that any drips fall on the butcher paper. Use a paper plate as a palette. Paint something beautiful, something hopeful, or something that makes you think of God. Paint anything you'd like! Be sure to use the alcohol wipes to clean up and place supplies into the "used" bin to be disinfected. Take your painted rock with you to Station 8.

#### PRAY

*Standing by this Labyrinth Oh God, I pray for your Presence to fill my soul and spirit and walk with me as I journey to answers that I can only imagine!*

## STATION 8

### The Center of the Labyrinth

#### READ

**Luke 24:8** As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

#### REFLECT

In the regular daily movements of eating a meal together, the disciples recognize Jesus and he disappears from their sight. As you stand in the "heart of God" now, the center of the labyrinth, what do you want to say to the Risen Christ.

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Take the rock you painted at Station 7 and walk the labyrinth with it. As you walk think about moving toward the center of the labyrinth which represents the heart of God. When you get to the center, consider leaving your rock there as a symbol of what you are leaving in the heart of God. Or pause at the center and think about what you would like to receive from the heart of God and take with you as you leave the labyrinth. And then write a word or phrase on your rock to remind you of God's gift.

#### PRAY

*Open my eyes, ears and spirit to see you, O Christ.  
Lead me, from your heart here, further even,  
to the places where your Spirit calls me to live love in action everyday.  
Amen.*

## STATION 9

### Bell Tower

If you feel energetic, climb the stairs as far as you can and take a look at the church and the city below.

#### READ

**Luke 24:49-53** [Jesus told the disciples] "And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

#### REFLECT

What message would you like to give to the city about Jesus? How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is with you always? How will you worship with great joy and be a blessing to God?

#### FAMILY ACTIVITY

Use the available jars of play dough and make three crosses to represent Jesus, yourself, and others you love. Remember that the cross represents new life! New life for Jesus, for all disciples (even you!) and for the whole world.

#### PRAY

*God of grace and peace, send your grace down upon all the earth so that peace reigns over war, forgiveness reigns over blame, and love reigns over hate. Amen.*