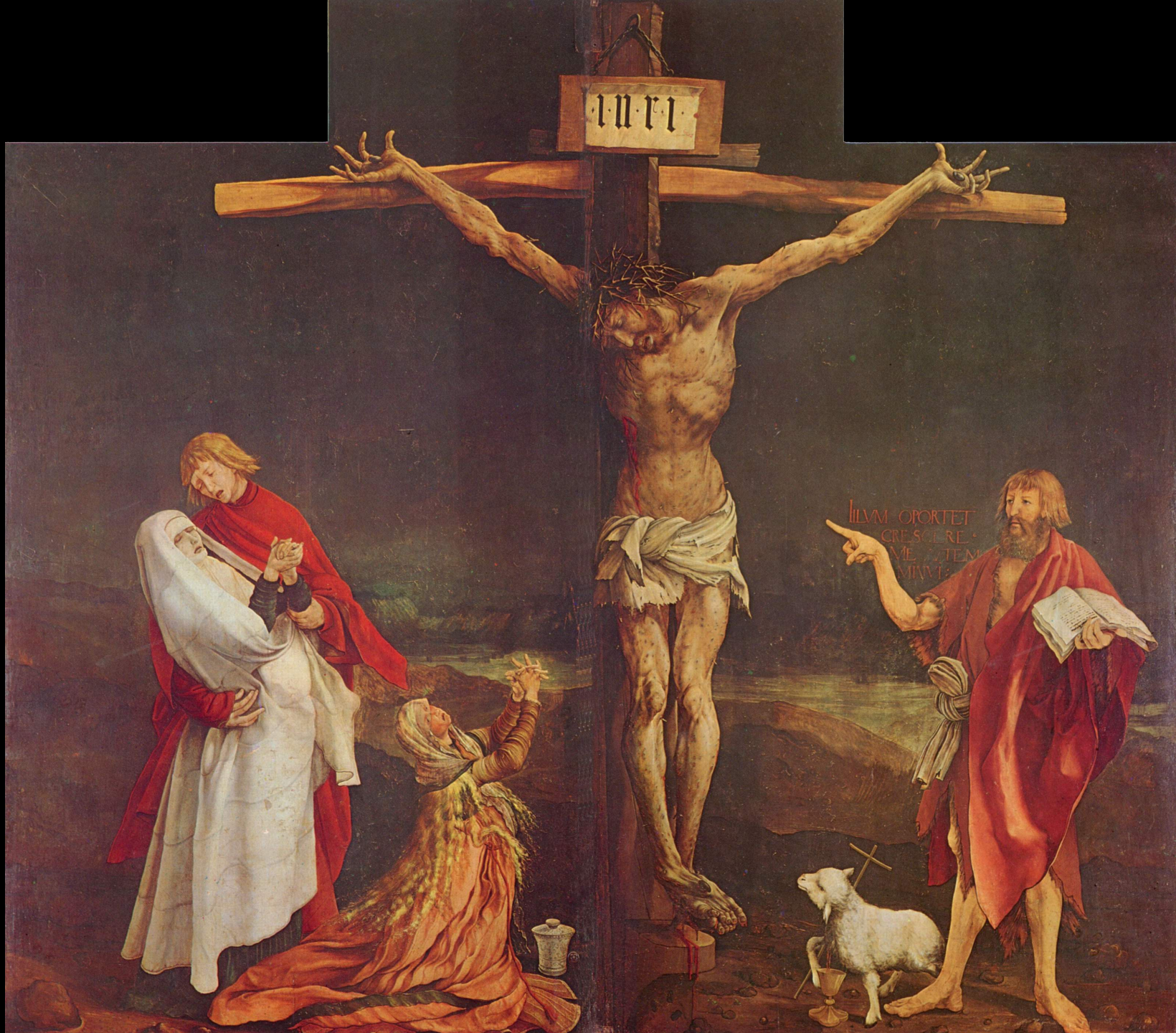




Community

Caféchurch 10/5/2011



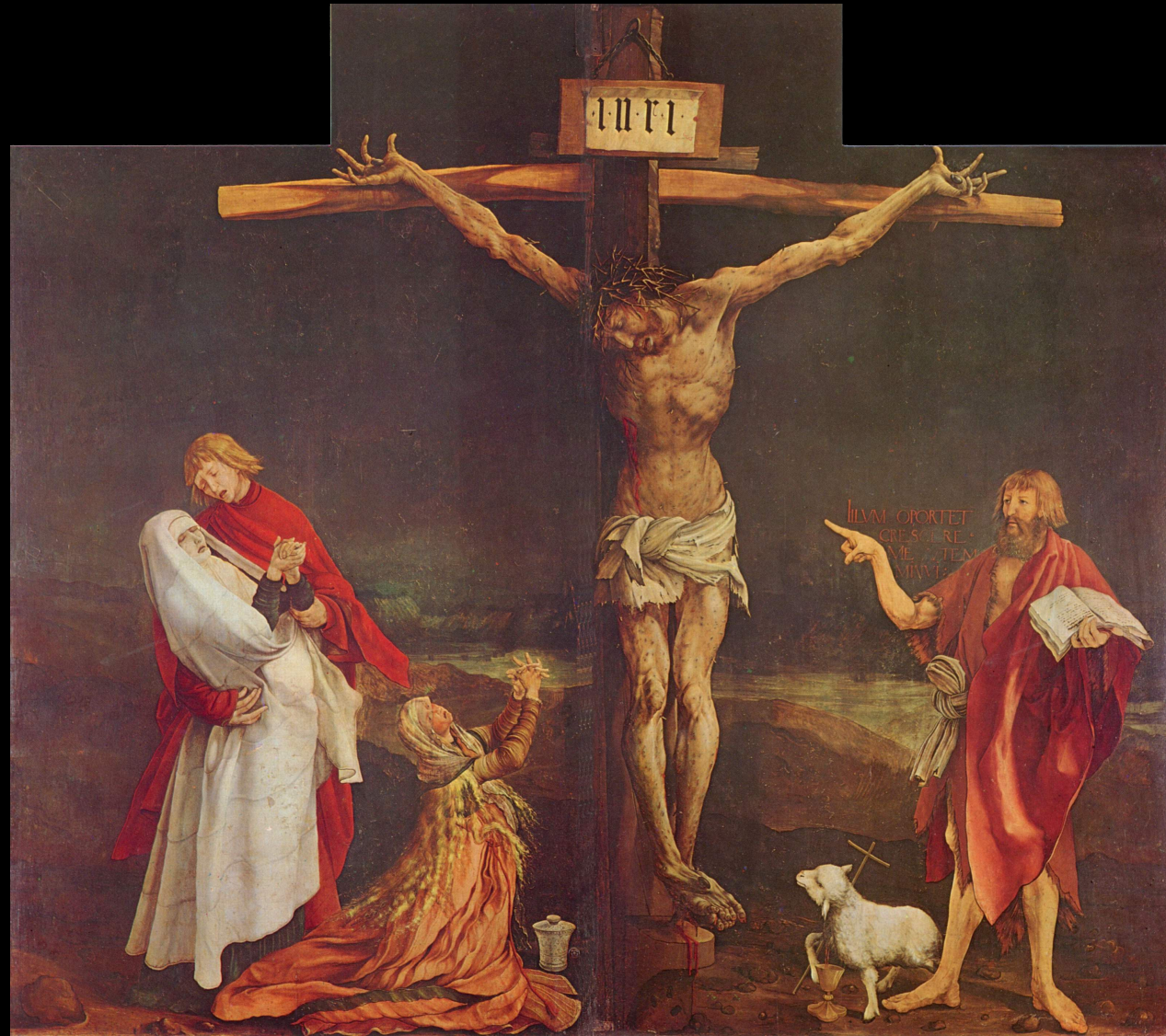
IURI

ILLUM OPORTET
CRESERE
ME TEN
MIAMI



Note the very long index finger, pointing towards Jesus

The purpose of Caféchurch, like any Christian community, is to show each other Jesus



A Question

- How do we go about doing that anyway?
- Name one thing which might show someone Jesus

- ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’ (John 13:34–35)



“Away from actual, historical community, whatever its faults, we have an open field to live an unchallenged life, to make religion a private fantasy that we can selectively share with a few likeminded individuals who will never confront us where we most need challenge. The churches are compromised, dirty, and sinful, but, just like our blood families, they are also real. In the presence of people who share life with us regularly we cannot lie, especially to ourselves, and delude ourselves into thinking we are generous and noble. In community the truth emerges and fantasies are dispelled” (Rollheiser, R *The Holy Longing*)

The Two Poles

“To create space for God among us requires the constant recognition of the Spirit of God in each other. When we have come to know the life-giving Spirit of God in the centre of our solitude and have thus been able to affirm our true identity, we can also see that same life-giving Spirit speaking to us through our fellow human beings.”

(Nouwen, H *Making All Things New*)

A Safe Place

- Here at Caféchurch, we want to be real with each other
- That means we need to treat each other with respect, kindness, and gentleness
- “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, as indeed you are doing.” 1 Thess 5:11

A Question

- How do we make Caféchurch va safe place for people?



And during supper, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. (John 13:2-5)

Footwashing

- How would we go about washing one another's feet?
- Or, to put it another way, how can we serve each other?
- (Sometimes it's ok to be served – sometimes just showing up on a Tuesday is as much as we can manage.)