



# GOBIN CHURCH

A United Methodist Community for All

## Friday, April 17, 2020

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 <https://tinyurl.com/sgv2ggh>

### Ponder

Remember when we named our sins, wrote them down, burned them and made them into ashes as signs of our repentance? Have you resurrected any of those sins instead of allowing them to die with Jesus, so you also may rise from death with him?

### Pray

Dear God, which of my sins will I allow to die with Jesus? Can I accept my own resurrection from death in life? Amen

### Act

Paul writes in this letter to the Corinthians the essence of what he considers to be the good news for us all: Christ died for our sins, he was buried, and in the third day he was raised from the dead, and appeared (first to the women) and then to his disciples. What does this mean? What sins of yours has Christ erased with his death and resurrection? Name them again. Burn them again. They are gone.

### Family

What is your family's resurrection song? <https://tinyurl.com/ww5xmap>  
This is ours.

## Saturday, April 18, 2020

Song of Solomon 8:6-7

### Ponder

Love is as strong as death, passion fierce as the grave, many waters cannot quench love. Do you know a love like this? Who do you love this way? Who should you love this way? Who loves you this way?

### Pray

Dear God, your love for us is beyond our comprehension. Plant your love within us...let it survive and thrive and triumph. Amen.

### Act

Write a love letter. Share how you really feel. Consider sending it!

### Family

When it is time to give thanks together, tell each one of you what you appreciate and thank them. Then thank God! Play it! Sing it! Dance it!  
<https://tinyurl.com/vvpqkpw>

## Monday, April 13, 2020

Exodus 14:10-31 <https://tinyurl.com/s7y3vl3>

### Ponder

Marc Chagall's "The Parting of the Red Sea". <https://tinyurl.com/vnaplxg>  
On this day after Easter's joyful celebration (in your homes) let's pause to reflect on a people's experience of salvation from harm. This work of art shows the combination of the destruction of Pharaoh's army and the life now possible for the Israelites following the angel of the Lord. Do you know that experience of salvation, when freedom rings in your own life?

### Pray

Dear God, give us the experience of resurrection from a life with its focus on anxiety, anger and death. Help us see the path you have cleared for us from death to life. Amen.

### Act

Where can you clear a path? In your garden? In your neighbor's difficulties? In your own day? Look for the angel guiding you. Don't look back....

### Family

Look at the Chagall together. Print it out if you have a printer. Ask each other about the story from each of the perspectives in the picture. The angel, the Israelites, Pharaoh's army, Moses, all have stories, see if you can imagine them.

## Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Exodus 15:1-18 <https://tinyurl.com/wg6wg2m>

### Ponder

Here is a link to Marc Chagall's "Exodus." <https://tinyurl.com/wy98vcy>  
This passage from Exodus is Moses's song of rejoicing. In it he names the miracle he sees as God rescues God's people. It is a vivid first person account, and certainly alarming to imagine. Can we rejoice at God's victory over death without coming face to face with death itself? This is a Bible story I will never forget from Sunday School as a child.

### Pray

Dear God, we would prefer to avoid seeing the Army caught in the waves of the Red Sea, and are relieved now we are past Christ's crucifixion to focus on the Easter Season. Help us hold the two together in order to understand your miraculous salvation. Amen.

### Act

Look around your house. Are there places where you can almost see the miracle of life after death? Take a before and after photo of a room you have just cleaned. Begin a joyful practice you have delayed. 10 pushups daily, anyone?

### Family

If you can go outside, find places where you see decay and new life. Our property is full of dead trees needing to be cut up and purple lilacs buried in the grass. All are part of God's holy world.

### Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Matthew 8:1-10 <https://tinyurl.com/vv885jo>

### Ponder

This is "Resurrection of Christ and Women at the Tomb" by Fra Angelico. <https://tinyurl.com/stqsqxl> Have you witnessed resurrection in your life? Perhaps in a relationship you thought had died but found could live again? Where have you been "surprised by joy"?

### Pray

Dear God, we have in our imaginations walked a path with you that we can still barely comprehend. From the dread of travel to Jerusalem, the irony of Palm Sunday, the betrayal of the Last Supper and the Garden of Gethsemane, the horror of the Crucifixion, the dumbstruck grief of a Holy Saturday, to the surprise and amazement of Easter Sunday, we have traveled in our hearts. Amen.

### Act

Write a poem or draw a picture in your journals that captures the moment in which you most connected with Jesus's journey. If you are brave, share it with someone, with me if you like! [Thewatsondavies@gmail.com](mailto:Thewatsondavies@gmail.com)

### Family

Here is a link to Voices of Eden singing "He Arose."  
<https://tinyurl.com/vo6ye2g> Sing with them if you can. Lyrics:

*Low in the grave He lay,  
Jesus, my Savior,  
Waiting the coming day,  
Jesus, my Lord!  
Up from the grave He arose,  
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,  
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,  
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.*

*He arose! He arose!  
Hallelujah! Christ arose!  
Vainly they watch His bed,  
Jesus, my Savior;  
Vainly they seal the dead,  
Jesus, my Lord!  
Death cannot keep his Prey,  
Jesus, my Savior;  
He tore the bars away,  
Jesus, my Lord!*

### Thursday, April 16, 2020

Psalm 16 <https://tinyurl.com/r84s6h4>

### Ponder

This is a favorite psalm in our family, and one that Ross has memorized and recites for me in times when I am filled with dread. From health challenges to unemployment, from grief to worry for my mother or my children, it is easy to get trapped in the "What ifs?" What do you recite for yourself when you need to remember "Hope lives!" (He even put it as the "wallpaper" on his phone for quick reference.)

### Pray

Dear God, with you our boundary lines can fall in pleasant places. You have made known to us the path of life! With you beside us, we cannot be shaken. Amen.

### Act

Walk the perimeter of your home, your yard, your apartment or even just your bedroom. These are some of the boundary lines in your life. Can you say they "have fallen" in pleasant places? Look around... what other boundaries do you have that are not "of God." Make a list of both. Where does God keep you safe and protect you, and where does God break through barriers for you?

### Family

Make a family picture with some of the images in this beautiful psalm. If it is helpful, ponder this. <https://tinyurl.com/w579vse> By Mariah Wes