

sin. The issue is a thankful heart that has been cleansed by the Holy Spirit and saved by grace. Let's be passionate about holiness in our lives, both because it is what God wants and also because it is what we should seek.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, Forgive me for trying to water down the significance of my sin. Use your Spirit to kindle in me a passion for holiness and please empower me to live in a way which honors you for all that you have done to save me. Amen.

**PRACTICE:** Volunteer your energy today to help someone. Suggestions are raking leaves or doing yard work for someone who needs help.

**Saturday, November 28, 2020:**

<https://tinyurl.com/y265pjaj>

**PONDER:** Micah had seen Judah invaded and overwhelmed, town after town falling before the merciless enemy until Jerusalem was isolated “like a hut in a cucumber field,” as the prophet Isaiah quaintly put it. Micah did not believe in the grandfatherly God of his prophetic rivals. He expected to see God’s chastisement of his people. And yet, he also look for the victory that was to come. In this blackest hour he looked forward with confidence to a fresh revelation of the God whom Israel had found to be their help in ages past. Reflect on how God will continue to be with you in future struggles, in joyful times, and in times of change.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, When things aren’t going the way I think they ought to go, I will still trust in your plan. Amen.

**PRACTICE:** Sing a song thanking God for his presence in your life.



**GOBIN CHURCH**  
A United Methodist Community for All

## **DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS**

**Monday, November 23, 2020:**

2 Timothy 2:8-13 <https://tinyurl.com/y3upcte7>

### **PONDER:**

Enduring together. Today’s scripture reminds us that the Christian life is not a 100-yard dash. It’s a marathon. It’s easy to begin a marathon well and it’s not too difficult to run a few miles if you are in good shape. The test comes over the long haul. Will you endure to the finish? In the Christian race, will you be faithful through all of the hardships? Christians want to be able to say with the apostle Paul. “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.” In this time of pandemic and isolation, when it seems hard to imagine what the future will bring — let alone see any finish line — staying connected to God and each other on our Christian journey and enduring together is vital. Think about how your faith is helping you endure this time.

### **PRAYER:**

Dear God, I never saw this coming. All of the isolation, the shutdowns, the shortages, the sadness and illness. I see how blessed my life has been so far, and I can only thank you for those blessings. Please continue to bless me, sustain me and my neighbors during this time. Amen.

### **PRACTICE:**

Reach out to someone to encourage them today. Ask how they are and listen. Remind yourself and them of the goodness and presence of God during trying times. Pray together.

## **Tuesday, November 24, 2020:**

Psalm 28 <https://tinyurl.com/yxplt3aw>

**PONDER:** This psalm offers encouragement and is a model of how to pray during times when God seems distant. The further we read into this psalm the more we find David purposefully turning his heart toward thanking and giving praise to God by faith and not by feeling. That is the pattern and lesson God has for all of us today. Whenever it seems that God is silent, when it seems God isn't listening or answering our prayers, we must be like David and turn our cries of grief into praise, and then wait for God to move, to answer us, to save us. The waiting process is much easier when we spend our time worshiping our Creator, rather than wallowing in our disappointment or despair. So even though we may not feel like it, we need to thank God for what we have. We shouldn't grumble that we aren't getting what we want, but instead be thankful that we don't get what we deserve. Reflect on a time you felt distant from God. What brought you back to his presence? Do you think God missed your friendship?

**PRAYER:** Dear God, I know you are always present, even when I am drifting and avoiding your presence. Please stay patient with me. I am thankful for your protection. Amen.

**PRACTICE:** Sing a song praising God.

## **Wednesday, November 25, 2020:**

John 5:19-40 <https://tinyurl.com/y2ydk5fx>

**PONDER:** Jesus goes on to say a very beautiful thing about John. "He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light." John was a lamp. He was not a light, he was a lamp. A lamp bears the light, but it is not the light itself. A lamp that doesn't burn is not reaching its potential. Some people are like that. They are lamps, they have the capacity to bear the light, but they are not shining. John was the kind of lamp who shone brightly. He was a witness who told people where they could see, hear and know the light. Each of us can be a shining lamp by letting the truth and love of God fuel our hearts until they begin to burn. When we

understand the amazing revelation of how God wants us to operate in this world, our hearts will begin to burn, and then we will start to shine. We often sing, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." Here is how to do it: Burn!

**PRAYER:** Dear God, Set me on fire for you. Help me burn brightly so others will now they are loved by you. Amen

**PRACTICE:** Sing the song "This little light of mine" and find a place to shine brightly today.

## **Thursday, November 26, 2020:**

<https://tinyurl.com/y4lvovkl>

**PONDER:** When we are in the midst of God's Holy Fire, we can allow it to refine us, or allow it to consume us. But Jesus is there in the midst of the flames, and keeping our eyes on Him is the key to emerging from the furnace shining as purest gold. God's refining fire might not be comfortable or pleasant, but the Lord is for you, not against you! Keep your eyes on Jesus, and embrace the flames! Reflect on a time you were being refined by God. Did you realize it at the time?

**PRAYER:** Dear God, I surrender to Your refining fire. Purify me, Lord, and grant me the faith to stay in the fire, knowing You are there with me all the way. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**PRACTICE:** Keeping with the theme of fire, do something nice for the local fire department. Maybe take them cookies or snacks, or send them a card or note thanking them for their service.

## **Friday, November 27, 2020:**

<https://tinyurl.com/y4gkqgzk>

**PONDER:** The call to holiness is easy to ignore in a world which lives by much different standards. We are tempted to compare our lifestyle with those around us, and sometimes we devalue our sins in comparison to others. But the issue is not comparison shopping our