



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

Saturday, November 20, 2021 (by Lisa Trigg)
John 3:31-36 <https://tinyurl.com/2km5yb5>

PONDER: John's gospel often presents life as a stark conflict between the forces of good and evil, between faith and sin, light and darkness, truth and lies. How often do we find ourselves caught in this big struggle as we steer a way in the complex world we inhabit? We can accept the testimony of Jesus, who comes from above, and to listen to his word. 'Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life'. We can trust in the Lord to give us faith and trust in Jesus. We can desire life eternal, a life that is so good and full that it will never end. And we should realize that life starts now, and not after death.

PRAYER: Lord, you alone can satisfy the longing of my heart. Confirm my personal faith and commitment to you. May the example of my life invite others to believe in you. Amen.

ACTION: Learn facts about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and how we can change our waste management to reduce the problem. Support agencies and organizations that encourage recycling.

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS
November 15-20, 2021

Monday, November 15, 2021 (by Marilyn Culler)
Psalm 3 <https://tinyurl.com/3bven442>

PONDER: How easy it is to feel alone when we are in the thick of struggle. Family problems. Work stress. Friends disappointing us. Not enough hours in the day. We even disappoint ourselves sometimes. Through it all, God sustains us. When the fog of struggle fades away, we realize we are alive. We see God's Holy Presence, God who has been with us through the struggle. Even though those who have done wrong by us aren't struck down, we still have God's shield and protection.

PRAYER: God of my waking, my joys and my struggles, thank you for protecting me. Thank you for your Holy Presence that surrounds me day and night. Bless my work among your people and deliver me from harm. Amen.

ACT: Give God one of your struggles today. Let it go. God will sustain you.

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 (by Jamie Douglas)
Deuteronomy 26:5-10 <https://tinyurl.com/95natrw4>

PONDER: These verses from Moses give instructions to the Israelites to be remember their deliverance from Egypt into the Promised Land by offering God the first fruits of what is produced from the soil. They are to continue to tell the story of God's deliverance and fulfillment of His promises as an act of worship. They are to remember that the land given them is a gift, not something to which they are entitled. As we near our celebration of Thanksgiving, it seems important to remember that all we have and will ever have is not our right, but gifts from God to be handled with respect and credit to Him.

PRAY: Giver of gifts, let us remember that all we have is because of you. May we continue to “tell the story” of Deliverance and Promises kept. May it be our act of worship to continually praise you.

ACT: Make November a month of Gratitude and Thanksgiving. Offer God your “First Fruits” of gratitude each day.

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 (by Anita Edenfield)

Mark 13:9-23 <https://tinyurl.com/9867k6j9>

PONDER: Some disciples were pressing Jesus about the end of time and what signs should they look for to know it was about to happen. Jesus’ description of what was to come filled me with despair; I can’t imagine being in the disciples sandals and trying to process it all! Actually, some following verses (32-36) help me calm my thoughts and process better what Jesus said. My take-away is to “Be alert...Watch!” No one...no one... knows the day or hour, but only God. Rather than worry about it, we should live in righteousness and watch.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, I pray for your guidance to live each and every day in the best way possible. Help us to be mindful so we might see the work to be done here on earth and to do it with glad hearts. Keep us alert and on watch for you in our hearts at all times. Amen

ACTION: Live, love, and laugh in the present moment with the emphasis on loving - loving others! God loves you so pass it on!

Thursday, November 18, 2021 (by Teddy Shuck)

Acts 7:54-8:1 <https://tinyurl.com/3yc2y5v4>

PONDER: After Stephen was arrested and tried, he was asked if the things that were said about him were true. He responded with reminding them how God had always fulfilled his promises to our ancestors. Humanity has not always returned God’s love and help as it should have been.

In fact, he gave us Jesus and in return, Jesus was “betrayed and murdered.” They had received the Law given by angels, but it was not kept. Stephen challenged their actions. They reacted by being enraged, throwing him out and stoning him, even after he shares his vision of Heaven! Why do they not believe what he is saying? Are they jealous? He was only reminding them of their responsibilities. Are we forgetting our responsibilities? Do we see how much Jesus had affected Stephen? Stephen loved Jesus so much that his actions resembled Jesus. It is sad that the people of that time could not see how much Stephen was honoring Jesus. Do you see it?

PRAYER: Pray that like Stephen you will be able to listen to Jesus’ teaching and absorb him in your life more and more each day.

ACTION: Try memorizing a verse from the Bible. Then look for occasions that might be fitting to have them in your heart.

Friday, November 19, 2021 (by Terry Noble)

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 <https://tinyurl.com/me4mex9n>

PONDER: The apostle Paul uses the image of beautiful, perfect first fruit to represent Jesus’ resurrection. We see the idea of bearing good or bad fruit throughout the Bible. In the story of Adam and Eve, we do not know the exact transgression symbolized by eating forbidden fruit, however, in doing so, humanity’s nature is changed and takes on mortality. Our earthly existence is no longer one of walking with God in perfect harmony. We die. What good news Paul brings when he compares Jesus to the “first fruits.” Jesus came to restore the lost relationship with God. Jesus died as the fully human person that he was, but rose as the Christ, who brings us from death to life. In this passage we are given a vision of the time when all of us – all creation – will come together into the fullness of the LIFE that awaits us!

PRAYER: Loving God, in Your Presence is fullness of life and joy. Help me see into that vision as I journey toward perfect harmony with you. Amen.

ACTION: Are you in harmony with God? Is there discord anywhere? Pray for God to show you what to leave behind in seeking oneness with Christ.