

**PRAYER:** Divine Love, flow through me and into all I meet. Amen.

**ACTION:** Pay attention to how others treat you today. Are you mirroring their behavior toward you, or are you mirroring Jesus?

**Saturday, May 21, 2022** (by Lisa Trigg)

Luke 19:1-10 <https://tinyurl.com/2u63bwpv>

**PONDER:** Zacchaeus had become used to keeping the best for himself. He even ran ahead of Jesus to get the best view. I wonder if Zacchaeus was selfish because he was trying to justify his own existence or draw attention to himself in whatever way he could. It seems in this story he was looking for validation as a person, like we all are. I imagine Jesus smiling up into that tree, and changing the life of Zacchaeus, who grew tall in his heart as he was recognized by Jesus as a child of God and a person of worth. How often do we look at someone who might be rejected by some in society – a convicted criminal, a homeless person, a person with substance use disorder – and not acknowledge that person’s own value to God? Zacchaeus saw his own life differently after his encounter with Jesus. Have you let Jesus recognize your talents, and then put them to use in service of him?

**PRAYER:** Dear God, I pray today that no grumbling habit may blind me to the presence of your grace in the life of others and in my own life. Amen.

**ACTION:** Sit in a quiet place and have a talk with Jesus. Ask him to speak to you about your life, to help you as you go forward, and to heal any wounds.



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

## **DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS**

**May 16-21, 2022**

**Monday, May 16, 2022** (by Marilyn Culler)

Acts 11:19-26 <https://tinyurl.com/4t5tak9y>

**PONDER:** How do you want to be remembered? This was a question a student asked me recently. Barnabas is remembered in these verses as good, faithful and full of the Holy Spirit. He was “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” through his teaching. That is our call as Christians: to bring others into the love and peace and justice and kindness Jesus taught. We are all teachers – by lessons, by example, by our words and our works.

**PRAYER:** Lord, help me follow of Jesus more closely and be a teacher of his love. Amen.

**ACTION:** How do you want to be remembered?

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022** (by Jamie Douglas)

Acts 11:27-30 <https://tinyurl.com/34w2p58v>

**PONDER:** In these verses, a prophecy about famine ignited the followers of Christ to act and make efforts to secure food for those in need. I have found that the seemingly small, practical acts of caregiving shine the light of God in powerful ways. Words are cheap without action.

**PRAY:** Lord of Light and Love, open our eyes and soften our hearts so that we are sensitive to the needs of others. Let our actions show what it truly means to follow Christ. Amen

**ACT:** Tune in to your community and find places to shine for Jesus by serving others.

**Wednesday, May 18, 2022** (by Anita Edenfield)

Leviticus 19:18 and Luke 10: 25-28 <https://tinyurl.com/2s3zyjxw>

**PONDER:** Leviticus can often be thought of as a set of instructions for life. However, in education we are instructed to state classroom rules in positive terms; Moses, the presumed writer of Leviticus must have skipped Ed 101! Most of his rules begin with *don't* ... not the most positive of word choices, is it? Leviticus 19:18 is embellished and made into a positive in Luke 10:27 where we read, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and, Love your neighbor as yourself." Simple. Beautiful. ...and *Positive!*

**PRAYER:** God of Love, Beauty, and Kindness, we gratefully thank you for the love you bestow upon us and for blessing us with a huge capacity to love. Help us to live knowing that love means love for *all*, not just for those we decide to love. Help us embrace love in the fashion that you love us; *all* of us. Amen

**ACTION:** Make a daily prayer list for each day this week. Make the first one on your list be someone you might not typically think to include in your daily prayers. At the end of the week you will have expanded your love in seven new ways. Seven this week, fourteen next week and so on and so on. That should bring a smile to anyone's face!

**Thursday, May 19, 2022** (by Teddy Shuck)

Psalm 67

<https://tinyurl.com/3c3wdv3a>

**PONDER:** This prayer psalm for God's blessing rises from a generous heart. Not content to pray for blessings for an individual, the psalmist includes the whole community. "Let God grant us grace and bless us." Even this is not enough, as the psalmist prays for all nations: that they may know God's ways and that they may be governed by God. This seemed so appropriate to our current world situation! It expresses confidence in the power of prayer for all of our lives.

**PRAY:** Lord let your saving power be known among all nations. Amen.

**ACT:** Take care to include others in your prayers, remembering especially those in Ukraine and those along the U.S. borders.

**Friday, May 20, 2022** (by Terry Noble)

Matthew 7:1-12

<https://tinyurl.com/mr44p6hf>

**PONDER:** "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets." In this one sentence Jesus has summed up the whole of the instructions for living as God's beloved people. Think about the enormity of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures distilled down to this one statement. Jesus sees that we have expectations for our own welfare. We want to be treated with respect, compassion, kindness, and love. He uses our own sense of personal well-being to hold up as a measure of how we should treat others. The implications of this are huge. It's pretty easy to look at a friend or family member through the eyes of love, knowing with some assuredness that they will do the same toward us. How are we called as followers of Jesus to do unto others as we would have them do unto us when the others are homeless persons, immigrants, or people we just find difficult to love? What if we are engaging with someone who has not been kind to us? Notice that Jesus does not phrase it as 'do to others as they have done to you' but rather as we would want them to treat us. This is a remarkable challenge to be a conduit of God's love, first knowing that we are beloved and then conveying that love to the world.