

PRAYER: God of all hearts, if there is any unclean part of me, choose to heal me. Amen.

ACTION: Human touch is essential to our well-being. Offer God's healing touch to someone today.

Saturday, June 25, 2022 (by Lisa Trigg)
Luke 9:21-27 <https://tinyurl.com/5w42jwas>

PONDER: Perhaps the most remarkable thing about any suffering we experience is not how painful it is, but how purifying. No one passes through this life without some suffering. The mystic Saint Teresa of Avila saw suffering as a source of purification. She once wrote that God looks around to find where the greatest love is and it is there that He sends the greatest suffering. He found the greatest love in Jesus. If you have had good health, bow your head in gratitude, and have great sympathy for those who must carry the ongoing burden of painful suffering.

PRAYER: Dear God, cleanse my heart so that I may help others in their suffering. Amen

ACTION: Send a Thinking of You card to someone going through a difficult time, and include words of encouragement.



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS
June 20-25, 2022

Monday, June 20, 2022 (by Marilyn Culler)
1 Corinthians 1:18-31 <https://tinyurl.com/msyzady4>

PONDER: God chose the foolish and the weak to shame the wise and the strong, Paul writes. I believe this passage is more about humble and inconspicuous among us than the haughty and arrogant. To the Greeks in Corinth, the cross of Christ seemed foolish, not wise. To the Jews who expected a powerful Messiah, the cross wasn't strength but weakness. The believers in Corinth were ordinary people – God's hand was evident in their transformation. Jesus taught that the first would be last, and the last would be first. All that we have and all that we are come from the One True Source – that is our wisdom and our strength.

PRAYER: Holy Author of my being, redeem me and make me holy and righteous in your sight. Amen.

ACTION: Seek spiritual wisdom in your decision-making today.

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 (by Jamie Douglas)
Ephesians 2:11-22 <https://tinyurl.com/29b33vww>

PONDER: “For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility” (v. 14). Paul was writing to the Ephesians about Gentiles and Jews being reconciled “to God through the cross ...”(v. 16). I have been burdened by the level of hostility between churches who claim to be followers of Christ. I find myself discouraged and heartbroken over the state of the Christian Church. How can we find our way back to the foundation?

How can we be reconciled to one another and to God?

PRAY: Holy One of Reconciliation, let us seek your wisdom and the path back to you. Reveal to us where we have strayed from what you intended the Church to be and convict us into action. Through the Beloved Christ, Amen.

ACT: Seek out another Christian with whom you are struggling to find peace. Ask God to guide your heart, mind, and words through the Holy Spirit. Listen with Love to their perspective. Seek to be reconciled.

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 (by Anita Edenfield)

Psalms 64 <https://tinyurl.com/3uu44j7k>

PONDER: David was in a position of prominence which often caused him to be the target of verbal abuses - some from outsiders and others from within his own family. He expressed his feelings through his psalms and asked for God's help in curtailing these verbal attacks. Perhaps we can relate to David's struggles with things that are said to us! Remember that while words may be small, they can pack a powerful punch much larger than the number of letters they contain.

PRAYER: Creator of our thoughts, words, and deeds, we pray that you give us gentle thoughts that lead to soft and positive words that lead us to do kind deeds. Amen

ACTION: Think before you speak today! We need to remember that words can be emotionally very harmful! In all you say and in all you do stop and think first. Just. Be. Kind.

Thursday, June 23, 2022 (by Teddy Shuck)

2 Corinthians 13:5-10 <https://tinyurl.com/35x3hpvv>

PONDER: Paul is ready to take the Corinthians to task for their behaviors. Just as the Corinthians, we need to learn to distinguish between our ability to accomplish tasks with limited strength and the power that God brings to us as we face our daily tasks. We need to work with others, bonded by the grace of God's calling. We will achieve much more than by working alone.

PRAY: Help me look for peace and reconciliation everywhere. Amen.

ACT: Listen to God, encourage others and love in peace with each other.

Friday, June 24, 2022 (by Terry Noble)

Matthew 8:1-4 <https://tinyurl.com/3hzthpxh>

PONDER: In this scene from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus is being followed by a large crowd. You can imagine how the crowd parted when a leper walked right up to Jesus. Lepers were required to keep their distance and to shout "Unclean" if others were on the road. The story doesn't give us many details, however, it's likely that people shouted to the leper to stay away, some may have picked up a stone to throw at him, but the leper, with his eyes on Jesus, was undeterred. He kneels and affirms his faith by declaring "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean." This may be as close as he's been to another person in a very long time. Jesus replies, "I do choose. Be made clean!" That would not have shocked the crowd who had probably seen Jesus heal many people. The shocking part was that Jesus reaches out his hand and touches the leper. Can you hear the gasp of the crowd? Can you feel how the leper's heart must have skipped a beat when Jesus gently laid a hand on his shoulder, or perhaps cupped the leper's upturned face in his hands? The crowd would not have known what to make of this display of compassion and love. As Jesus' hands in this world, who do you wish to withdraw from, but are being called to love?