

Peter doesn't even realize what he has done until the cock's crow reminds him of Jesus' words. When asked if he loves Jesus, Peter says yes – yes – yes and Jesus' replies each time are to act on that love. When we say that we love Jesus, are we listening to where Jesus is telling us to act?

PRAY: Jesus, I love you. What would you have me do today? I am listening. Amen.

ACT: Go where God leads you today.

Saturday, June 4, 2022 (by Lisa Trigg)

Luke 1:5-17 <https://tinyurl.com/mr24pxyd>

PONDER: Zechariah and Elizabeth are an old couple when they are promised a child. The same surprise happened for Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 18. Think about how comfortable you are with a God of surprises. Each of us is a promised child of God with a mission to prepare the way as we make disciples. Do you fear this, or do you trust God to show you the way, even if it is full of surprises?

PRAYER: Lord, help me appreciate that I am a promised child, and a child of promise, so that I may carry out what you desire of me. Amen.

ACTION: Surprise someone today with an act of kindness.



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS

May 30-June 4, 2022

Monday, May 30, 2022 (by Marilyn Culler)

Acts 16:35-40 <https://tinyurl.com/3x8ehja8>

PONDER: Paul and Silas didn't allow themselves to be quietly sent away. They'd been beaten and thrown in prison. They asked that those responsible for detaining them be the ones to escort them from prison. Sometimes justice and healing simply require someone to acknowledge they have wronged another person. "Actions speak louder than words." The disciples changed lives through their actions. We can't just be speakers of God's Word – we have to be doers.

PRAY: Lord of my life, help my actions speak justice, love and forgiveness. Amen.

ACT: Saying the words "I'm sorry" can be difficult. Can you think of some small act of kindness that would mend a hurt in your life? Don't let it fester – do something to heal the situation and move on!

Tuesday, May 31, 2022 (by Jamie Douglas)

Luke 1:39-56 <https://tinyurl.com/38yr4se7>

PONDER: Today's lectionary offers one scripture: the story of Mary's visitation to Elizabeth. In the Catholic tradition, May 31 is the Fest of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Elizabeth was expecting a son (John) who would baptize Mary's son in the future. Elizabeth was the first person in Luke's narrative (aside from Mary) to know that her cousin was carrying the Son of God in her womb.

We are told in verse 41 that when Mary greeted Elizabeth, the baby in Elizabeth's womb "leaped" and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. As we prepare for Pentecost, these verses remind us that the Holy Spirit has been at work long before the Christian celebration of the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples after the Resurrection of Jesus.

PRAY: Father God, Savior Jesus, Holy Spirit, you are one and you are three. You have been since the beginning of time and will remain present through all eternity. Quiet us and open our minds and hearts and make us sensitive to the guidance and work of the Holy Spirit. Fill us, fuel us, and send us forth. Amen

ACT: Be still. Open yourself to the workings of the Holy Spirit within you.

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 (by Anita Edenfield)
Ezekiel 3: 12-21 <https://tinyurl.com/yeyp4j6u>

PONDER: Ezekiel was made watchman over Israel by God. Being the watchman meant it was now his duty to follow up on God's warnings and try to persuade evil-doers to stop doing wrong. If Ezekiel failed to try then he would personally be held accountable for the consequences that would follow their continuing evil ways. There are times I grapple with whether I am supposed to be my brother's keeper. I think my answer can be found in Ezekiel; it's YES!

PRAYER: Just as we are your sheep and you watch over us like a shepherd, guide us, in turn, to be as ewes to others. When we see poor choices about to happen give us the strength we need to show the right choices to be made. Amen

ACTION: Lead by example. Turn yourself over to God so you can be the positive example for others to follow. Gently nudge as needed!

Thursday, June 2, 2022 (by Teddy Shuck)
Galatians 5:21-25 <https://tinyurl.com/2s43ybym>

PONDER: In these verses, Paul offers guidelines and gives specific commands for living. He recognizes the freedom we are called to could lead us to selfish desires which go against the Holy Spirit. So, he gives two lists, the list of selfish desires and the fruit of the spirit. He recommends following the fruit of the spirit. Loving fulfills the command to "Love one another as you love yourself". God wants us to love each other, yet there seems to be so many selfish desires in our world. Think about the two lists given by Paul. Which of the works of selfish desires do you have problems with? Which fruit of the Spirit characterizes your life? What do you need from the Spirit to live according to the Spirit?

PRAYER: God, you listen to all our prayers. Forgive us for falling to selfish desires and help us to gain strength from living life through the fruits of the Spirit. Your love is the greatest thing we can have. Help us to be worthy of that love. Amen.

ACT: Reread the fruits of the Spirit. With God's help, we can focus on what should be right in the world and work toward making use of the fruit of the Spirit as part of our everyday living. Ask God to weave them into your life. Little by little, start with making small things happen for others.

Friday, June 3, 2022 (by Terry Noble)
John 21:15-19 <https://tinyurl.com/2b54xvdc>

PONDER: Do you feel Peter's frustration when Jesus continues to ask him, "Do you love me?" If we were asked the same question over and over, we would likely feel as though the person doesn't believe us. Why repeat the questions three times? Peter must have thought, "Don't you hear me, Jesus, I said, 'Yes!'" God knows that we do not always listen carefully to questions or think deeply about our answers. Peter is asked three times if he knows Jesus and denies it three times.