

However, this moment of glory is fleeting as God speaks telling them to listen to Jesus and then they are once again four men on a mountain. What do we make of Jesus' Transfiguration? Was it a glimpse of his heavenly nature? Or, perhaps, it was a glimpse of the Divine within his human nature. In other words, we see in the fully human Jesus, ourselves, who are made in the image of God, as God meant us to be. In Christ this union of human and Divine is perfect. We are invited to move ever closer to the true God-nature in each of us.

PRAY: Divine Light, keep your presence ever before me. Amen

ACT: Who shines the Light of Christ in your life? Share with that person what they mean to you.

Saturday, August 6, 2022 (by Lisa Trigg)
Matthew 6:15-24 <https://tinyurl.com/mr28hrph>

PONDER: The central teaching of this Scripture passage is in the sentence: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". Putting your heart into something suggests enthusiasm, energy, determination, and valuing whatever is occupying you. Jesus distinguishes between treasures that are vulnerable to robbery or decay and treasures that endure whatever happens. Love is a virtue to treasure, as is our appreciation of all that is good, true, beautiful, and noble. What we consider valuable shows us where our hearts are.

PRAYER: Thank you, God, for the special gifts in my life, especially the capacity to love. I treasure your love for me. May I share that love with others in a way that glorifies you. Amen.

ACTION: Take time today to sit quietly and write down what you believe are the real treasures in your life? Are any of them lasting treasures? If they are, what makes them so?



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS **August 1-6, 2022**

Monday, August 1, 2022 (by Marilyn Culler)
Psalm 60 <https://tinyurl.com/2cjpzby8>

PONDER: This psalm is a community lament. Lament, petition and history unfold as the nation struggled. Then in the final verse, the psalmist asserts that only God can be trusted to bring victory. This cycle might be a familiar scenario. We lament our situation. We petition God for help. We remind God – like God doesn't remember! – of what has happened to us in the past. Then we finally realize we can trust God to take care of whatever "enemies" are attacking us. This scripture reminds me that the days I spend in lament could be spent trusting God. God is always with us, no matter what the world is throwing at us. Simply trust.

PRAYER: God of my salvation, help me release all my trials and tribulations to You. When I put my trust in you, your grace and forgiveness sustain me. May it be so all the days of my life. Amen

ACTION: What problem are you facing today? Trust that God will sustain you and defeat your fears.

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 (by Jamie Douglas)
Colossians 4:2-6 <https://tinyurl.com/yc26k9wk>

PONDER: Paul offers sage and timeless advice in these verses: 1. Conduct yourself with wisdom in your interactions. 2. Make the most of each opportunity (treating it as something precious). 3. Let your speech at all times be gracious. Verse 2 reminds us of how we can do this. "Be persistent *and* devoted to prayer, being alert *and* focused in your prayer life and *an attitude of* thanksgiving."

PRAY: Lord of Wisdom and Grace, remind us that we are only able to conduct ourselves with wisdom by remaining connected to and focused on you. May we seek you always and listen to your guidance. Amen

ACT: The action for these verses is clear. Spend time this week focusing on prayer with an attitude of thanksgiving.

Wednesday, August 3, 2022 (by Anita Edenfield)
Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13, 14 <https://tinyurl.com/yc6j92tc>

PONDER: My wonderful Bible study group rocked my world when they suggested replacing the word 'fear' with '*respect*' when reading Bible passages. [... **Respect**] **God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.** (verse 13)
This came into my mind when I recently had a discussion with a young man who has made some mistakes in his life, but now wants to do better. He struggles with control issues, and is realizing he does not want to discipline his children through fear and control, but through *respect* - the way his parents had raised him. We *all* need to remember God's love and respect for us and pay it forward!

PRAYER: God of Respect and Love, we thank you for our lives. We thank you for giving us second chances...and third...and fourth! We ask your strength to interact with others not through fear, but through and with respect, understanding and love. Amen

ACTION: Consider giving some of your time to mentor or coach others who need to experience loving guidance from someone who finds themselves rooted in respect and love from God. Positivity had dual benefits for mentors and mentees alike!

Thursday, August 4, 2022 (by Teddy Shuck)
Psalm 50 <https://tinyurl.com/nh28me9d>

PONDER: This psalm is known as a liturgy of divine judgement. God appears like the sun, shedding light on the attitudes and behaviors of the people. There is a critique about sacrifice as a way of feeding and appeasing a deity. Reading this psalm for the first time several years ago actually I found that God does not need or want food. Instead, God wants the prayers and praise of the people. This was something that confirmed for me that sacrifice, although it is a source of letting God know God is loved and works for many, is more about sacrificing time to pray and talk with God than about anything. It is about saying thank you for everything that is done for me and my family and friends too. The psalm ends by saying giving thanks and following God's law the right way honors God and ensures salvation. I need to be more aware of the time I spend in prayer and praise.

PRAYER: God of us all, help us to seek your truth in corner of our lives. Thank you for giving us the Psalms as one of the corners we can learn from others and you.

ACTION: Choose a Psalm, read if more than once. Take some time to be quiet and listen to what it has to say to you.

Friday, August 5, 2022 (by Terry Noble)
Luke 9:28-36 <https://tinyurl.com/y82665t6>

PONDER: The Transfiguration of Jesus is one of the great mysteries of the New Testament. There is purpose in Jesus' choice to take Peter, John, and James with him. He takes three close friends to join him in prayer. While they are praying, Jesus' face and clothes begin to glow. The disciples must be wide-eyed and then shocked when the figures of Moses and Elijah appear. Peter's first instinct is to build a dwelling for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Peter is trying to enshrine and hold on to the moment.