



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS
August 29 – September 3, 2022

Monday, August 29, 2022 (by Marilyn Culler)
Hebrews 13:7-21 <https://tinyurl.com/4t6y44ta>

PONDER: The prayer of encouragement at the end of this passage is a blessing that meets us today in our walk with Christ. The God of peace, the one who sent Jesus, equips us with good things in our service in Christ's name. It's easy to be overwhelmed and discouraged, and yet this blessing reminds us of the power God has in our lives when we are faithful.

PRAY: God of calm in the chaos, thank you for leaders who nurture us in our walk of faith. Continue to equip me to do good works in your world. Blessed Be! Amen

ACT: Be an instrument of God's peace today for someone who is discouraged.

Tuesday, August 30, 2022 (by Jamie Douglas)
Titus 1:1-9 <https://tinyurl.com/muuxbbme>

PONDER: I have been disheartened recently with what I feel to be a sliding of social graces and integrity. I am sure that persons from every walk of life and every generation must wonder if their communities are in social decline. Paul's letter to Titus shares the job description for an elder. How many people would be able to match this job description today? Really.

PRAY: Lord of high standards, help us. We are human and fall short, but we know that we can do better. We can be better. Guide us and equip us. Be our moral compass. Amen.

ACT: Heart and mind check: Are you who you say you are? Do you practice what you preach? Do you consider yourself to be a person of integrity? Consider what that mean to you. Consider the message you send to others.

Wednesday, August 31, 2022 (by Anita Edenfield)

Luke 14:15-24 <https://tinyurl.com/2th3x5cm>

PONDER: Jesus' parable of the Great Banquet is seemingly simple: invitations, RSVP's, and then last minute lame excuses not to attend. Does this sound personally familiar? Perhaps ... but what if it wasn't really about a banquet at all, but rather about *life*? If Jesus invites us every day to clothe the poor, feed the hungry and comfort the sick, but we can't find enough time, we may have just become the lame excuse in the parable!

PRAYER: Gracious God, whenever I make a promise, may I consider well its importance; and when made, engrave it upon my heart! Amen

ACTION: Find something to support and believe in and make it a priority in your life. You may be surprised how important it actually becomes when you commit your whole heart to getting it done!

Thursday, September 1, 2022 (by Teddy Shuck)

Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18 <https://tinyurl.com/3mph56f9>

PONDER: The days of this summer have rolled by so quickly. I admit I have been afraid, sad, happy, surprised but most of all thankful every day for the watchful eye of God. In Psalm 139, the Psalmist expresses everything I feel or have ever felt. He is overwhelmed or even amazed that God is all around him, yet he will always take refuge in the depth of God's love. In my life there have been many times that in many different ways God has let me know He is there. Do I ever wish that I am beyond God's sight? I hope not.

PRAYER: Lord, I see that your knowledge and your love are inseparable. I cannot hide from you, but don't want to hide from you either.

ACT: I will pray and look for ways to help others to see you every day. I will pray to be of use to you every day.

Friday, September 2, 2022 (by Terry Noble)

1 Corinthians 4:1-5 <https://tinyurl.com/2s4s3wpc>

PONDER: We are called to make judgements both mundane and extraordinary throughout our lives. Whether we are judging the produce in the grocery store, making a decision to change jobs, or committing ourselves to marriage, judgments happen every day. Here Paul is warning against the most troubling and damaging judgement we can make. That is usurping God's position and laying judgement against each other or against ourselves. Only God, who knows our deepest thoughts can "bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and disclose the purposes of the heart." Did you notice that Paul says "each one receives commendation from God"? We are imperfect. Only God knows our hearts. We are called to reach out in love - even to those we consider unworthy, remembering that in the eyes of God each of us is equally beloved.

PRAY: Holy God, shine your light of holiness into the depths of my soul. Fill the imperfections of my heart and mind with your goodness. Thank you. Amen

ACT: Be God's light to someone today. Reach out with extravagant love.

Saturday, September 3, 2022 (by Lisa Trigg)

Matthew 10:37-42 <https://tinyurl.com/ycyy7az4>

PONDER: In this time when bottled water is so readily available in most places, we are seldom asked for a cup of water. Jesus commends those who freely give to someone in need, and I think he would have us extend our attention to those who work for others in a thousand hidden ways. Consider those who maintain a city water system, or care for public hygiene, work as civil servants, plumbers, engineers, scientists, street-cleaners or parents of families. We live in a complex society, but the same care and generosity are found in all walks of life. Wherever people devote themselves to the service of others, there we can also find Jesus.

PRAYER: Thank you, Lord, for the opportunities I have to serve others.

ACTION: Share some water in a way that gives life – such as watering a flower, filling a pet's drink bowl, taking bottled water to a sports team.