

Trinity United Methodist Church

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Prayer Ministries of TUMC offers this monthly brochure to our congregation and a circle of interested others as a compact source of daily meditations. We hope the language and the images—the articulations both ancient and modern—will bless you, awaken you, stir your imagination, open you to Sacred Mystery, help you commit to the kind of wholeness that Jesus taught and modeled, and equip you for the daily living of our church's mission statement:

Know God. Be transformed. Love.

May 2018

Morning by Morning

The season of Easter continues through May 19,
followed by Pentecost on May 20.
Then, the church turns to the green paraments
of Ordinary Time.

Tuesday, May 1

And in the early morning,
while it was still dark,
Jesus arose and went out
and departed to a lonely place,
and there he was praying.

Mark 1:35

Wednesday, May 2

It is by no haphazard chance that in every age
men have risen early to pray. The first thing
that marks decline in spiritual life is our
relationship to the early morning.

Oswald Chambers

Thursday, May 3

The breeze at dawn has secrets to tell you.
Don't go back to sleep.

Rumi

Friday, May 4

O God, you are my God;
At dawn I search for you.
My soul thirsts for you.
My body longs for you in a dry, parched land...

Psalms 63:1

Saturday, May 5

And very early on the first day of the week,
they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.
And they were saying to one another,
"Who will roll away the stone for us
from the entrance of the tomb?"

Mark 16:2-3

May 6, 6th Sunday of Easter

On wings of living light,
at earliest dawn of day,
came down the angel bright;
and rolled the stone away.

William W. How, 1872

Monday, May 7

It is a serious thing
just to be alive
on this fresh morning
in this broken world.

Mary Oliver

Tuesday, May 8

Outside the open window
The morning air is all awash with angels.

Richard Wilbur

Wednesday, May 9

Hello, sun in my face. Hello you who made the
morning and spread it over the fields...
Watch, now, how I start the day
in happiness, in kindness.

Mary Oliver

Thursday, May 10

When you arise in the morning,
think of what a precious privilege it is to be
alive—to breath, to think, to enjoy, to love.

Marcus Aurelius

Friday, May 11

Just one small positive thought in the morning
can change your whole day.

Dalai Lama

Saturday, May 12

Life will always provide matters for concern.
Each day, however, brings with it
reasons for joy. Every day carries the potential
to bring the experience of heaven;
have the courage to expect good from it.
Be gentle with this life,
and use the light of life to live fully in your time.

St. Benedict, ca. 480 – ca. 547

May 13, 7th Sunday of Easter

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness will cover the earth,
and deep darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will rise upon you,
and his glory will appear upon you.
And nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Isaiah 60:1-3

Monday, May 14

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

UM Hymnal #140, Thomas Chisholm, 1923

Tuesday, May 15

It's because of you when I'm in bed in the
morning that I can wind my spring and tell
myself I have to live another good day.

Haruki Murakami

Wednesday, May 16

The Lord's lovingkindnesses
indeed never cease,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning.
Great is thy faithfulness.
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"Therefore I have hope in him."
The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the person who seeks him.
It is good that [s]he waits silently,
for the salvation of the Lord. Lamentations 3:22-26

Thursday, May 17

Each morning you wake it is going to be a
"going out," building in confidence on God...Let
the attitude of the life be a continual "going out"
in dependence upon God, and your life will
have an ineffable charm about it which is a
satisfaction to Jesus. You have to learn to go
out of convictions, out of creeds, out of
experiences, until so far as your faith is
concerned, there is nothing between yourself
and God. Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest

Friday, May 18

"And Abraham rose up early in the
morning...and went unto the place of which
God had told him." ...If God has made your cup
sweet, drink it with grace; if he has made it
bitter, drink it in communion with him...If you
are not living in touch with him, it is easy to
pass a crude verdict on God. You must go
through the crucible before you have any right
to pronounce a verdict, because in the crucible
you learn to know God better. God is working
for his highest ends until his purpose
and man's purpose become one.
Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest

Saturday, May 19

Weeping may remain for a night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.
Psalm 30:5b

May 20, Pentecost Sunday

Awake, awake to love and work!
The lark is in the sky; the fields are wet with
diamond dew; the worlds awake to cry their
blessings on the Lord of life, as he goes meekly
by. Come, let thy voice be one with theirs,
shout with their shout of praise; see how the
giant sun soars up, great lord of years and
days! So let the love of Jesus come,
and set thy soul ablaze.
Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1921

Monday, May 21

Every day may not be good...
but there's something good in every day.
Alice Morse Earle

Tuesday, May 22

When I awake, I am still with you.
Psalm 139:18

Wednesday, May 23

Still, still with thee, when purple morning
breaketh, when the bird waketh, and the
shadows flee; fairer than morning, lovelier than
daylight dawns the sweet consciousness, I am
with thee. Alone with thee, amid the mystic
shadows, the solemn hush of nature newly
born; alone with thee in breathless adoration,
in the calm dew and freshness of the morn.
Harriet Beecher Stowe

Thursday, May 24

Waking up this morning, I smile. Twenty-four
brand new hours are before me. I vow to live
fully in each moment and to look at all beings
with eyes of compassion.
Thich Nhat Hanh

Friday, May 25

The Sovereign Lord has given me
his words of wisdom,
so that I know how to comfort the weary.
Morning by morning he awakens me
and opens my understanding to his will.
Isaiah 50:4

Saturday, May 26

When you rise in the morning, give thanks for
the light, for your life, for your strength.
Tecumseh

Trinity Sunday, May 27, 1st Sun. after Pentecost

Let me hear Thy lovingkindness
in the morning; for I trust in thee;
teach me the way in which I should walk;
for to thee I lift up my soul.
Psalm 143:8

Monday, May 28

All things. Break. And all things can be
mended. Not with time, as they say, but with
intention. So. Love intentionally, extravagantly,
unconditionally. The broken world waits in
darkness for the light that is you.
L.R. Knost

Tuesday, May 29

Today I'm flying low and I'm
not saying a word.
I'm letting all the voodooes of ambition sleep.
The world goes on as it must,
the bees in the garden rumbling a little,
the fish leaping, the gnats getting eaten.
And so forth.
But I'm taking the day off.
Quiet as a feather.
I hardly move though I'm traveling
a terrific distance.
Stillness. One of the doors
into the temple.
Mary Oliver

Wednesday, May 30

It is quite possible to leave your home for a
walk in the early morning air and return a
different person—beguiled, enchanted.
Mary Ellen Chase

Tuesday, May 31

Whoever you are, in whatever faith you were
born, whatever creed you profess;
if you come to this house to find God
you are welcome here.
John Wesley