

# Trinity United Methodist Church

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*Prayer Ministries of TUMC offers this brochure to our congregation and a circle of interested others as a compact source of daily meditations. This ministry was started in the late 1990's by Janice Vaughn of blessed memory, a devout and charming daughter of God. Her friend Phoebe has carried the work forward. We encourage you to read each day's meditation aloud, and savor it. Our prayer is that by so doing you will be better equipped for the daily living of Trinity's mission:*

**'Know God. Be transformed. Love.'**

## November 2018



### Roots

#### Thursday, November 1

There is hope for a tree;  
if it is cut down it will renew itself;  
its shoots will not cease.  
If its roots are old in the earth,  
and its stump dies in the ground,  
at the scent of water it will bud and  
produce branches like a sapling. But mortals  
languish and die; man expires; where is he?

Job 7:7-10

#### Friday, November 2

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

The spirit of the Lord will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 11:1-2

#### Saturday, November 3

In that day, the stock of Jesse that has  
remained standing shall become a standard to  
peoples—nations shall seek his counsel  
and his abode shall be honored.

Isaiah 11:10

#### Sunday, November 4

And again Isaiah says, 'There shall come the  
Root of Jesse, and he who arises to rule over  
the Gentiles, in him shall the Gentiles hope.'  
Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace in believing, that you may abound in  
hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:12-13

#### Monday, November 5

We both believe, and disbelieve  
a hundred times an hour,  
which keeps believing nimble.

Emily Dickinson

#### Tuesday, November 6

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed,  
'I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!'

Mark 9:24

#### Wednesday, November 7

The teaching of the LORD is his delight,  
and he studies that teaching day and night.  
He is like a tree planted beside streams of  
water, which yields its fruit in season,  
whose foliage never fades,  
and whatever it produces thrives.

Psalms 1:2-3

#### Thursday, November 8

And God created man in his image, in the  
image of God he created him; male and female  
he created them.

Genesis 1:27

#### Friday, November 9

The LORD God formed man from the dust of  
the earth. He blew into his nostrils the breath of  
life, and man became a living being.

Genesis 1:7

#### Saturday, November 10

They will flourish in the courts of our God. They  
will still yield fruit in old age; they shall be full of  
sap and very green.

Psalms 92:13b-14

#### Sunday, November 11

O God of hosts, turn again now, we beseech  
thee; look down from heaven and see, and take  
care of this vine, even the shoot which thy right  
hand has planted, and on the son whom thou  
has strengthened for thyself.

Psalms 80:14-15

#### Monday, November 12

Jesus therefore said to them again, 'Peace be  
with you; as the Father has sent me,  
I also send you.' And when he had said this  
he breathed on them, and said to them,  
'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

John 20:21-22

#### Tuesday, November 13

'I am the vine, you are the branches; he who  
abides in me, and I in him, he bears much fruit;  
for apart from me you can do nothing.'

John 15:5

#### Wednesday, November 14

Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and  
whose trust is in the LORD. For he will be like a  
tree planted by the water, that extends its root  
by a stream and will not fear when the heat  
comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will  
not be anxious in a year of drought nor cease to  
yield fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

**Thursday, November 15**

For this reason,  
I bow my knees before the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth  
derives its name, that he would grant you,  
according to the riches of his glory,  
to be strengthened with power  
through his Spirit in the inner man;  
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts  
through faith; and that you,  
being rooted and grounded in love,  
may be able to comprehend with all the saints  
what is the breadth and length and height and  
depth, and to know the love of Christ which  
surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up  
to all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:14-19

**Friday, November 16**

I will make the wilderness a pool of water,  
and the dry land fountains of water.  
I will put the cedar in the wilderness, the acacia,  
and the myrtle, and the olive tree;  
I will place the juniper in the desert,  
together with the box tree and the cypress,  
that they may see and recognize and consider  
and gain insight as well,  
that the hand of the Lord has done this,  
and the Holy One of Israel has created it.

Isaiah 41:18b-20

**Saturday, November 17**

Yea, you shall leave [exile] in joy  
and be led home secure.  
Before you, mount and hill shall shout aloud,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the brier, a cypress shall rise;  
instead of the nettle, a myrtle shall rise.  
These shall stand  
as a testimony to the LORD,  
as an everlasting sign that shall not perish.

Isaiah 55:12-13

**Sunday, November 18**

The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the  
juniper, the box tree, and the cypress together,  
to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I  
shall make the place of my feet glorious. And  
the sons of those who afflicted you will come  
bowing to you, and all those who despised you  
will bow themselves at the soles of your feet.

Isaiah 60:13-14a

**Monday, November 19**

I listen to them tenderly  
their names have never touched them  
they have stood round my sleep  
and when it was forbidden to climb them  
they have carried me in their branches

W.S. Merwin, "Trees"

**Tuesday, November 20**

I never saw a discontented tree. They grip the  
ground as though they liked it, and though fast-  
rooted they travel about as far as we do.

John Muir

**Wednesday, November 21**

To know things well takes time and effort...one  
of the inhibitions to the spiritual life is the speed  
at which we live.

Bill Kerley

**Thursday, November 22**

I thank God for this most  
amazing day,  
for the leaping greenly  
spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of a sky.

e.e. cummings

**Friday, November 23**

There is weakness in us, as well as strength.  
At times we choose to walk in darkness, our  
vision obscured. We do not care to look within,  
and we are unwilling to look beyond  
at those who need our help.

Gates of Prayer

**Saturday, November 24**

--Interlude for heart mind body to  
feel forests full of years wisdom crowned  
slow massive trunks drawing sweetness  
singing twining branches twigs buds beauty  
moss fungus ferns lichens epiphytes  
air-scrubbing leaves arboreal creatures  
food seeds sugars medicines untold for the  
healing of the nations, hitting the ground--

**Sunday, November 25**

The disappearance of old growth forests  
may be one of the most serious environmental  
issues today.

Beth Moon, photographer of ancient trees

**Monday, November 26**

Wind and a bobwhite and the afternoon sun.  
By ceasing to question the sun I have become  
light, bird, and wind. My leaves sing.  
I am earth, earth. All these lighted things  
grow from my heart.

Thomas Merton, "O Sweet Irrational Worship"

**Tuesday, November 27**

The words 'tree' and 'truth'  
come from the same root.

Richard Powers, *The Overstory: a Novel*

**Wednesday, November 28**

The tongue that brings healing  
is a tree of life.

Proverbs 15:4

**Thursday, November 29**

There is hope for a tree; if it is cut down it will  
renew itself; its shoots will not cease.

**Friday, November 30**

A shoot will come up from the stump; from the  
roots a branch will bear fruit. The remnant of  
the Web of Being will be wise at last and  
rational and kind and there will be joy and  
peace and hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands.