

# 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.'

## October 2018



## Face to Face, Heart to Heart

### Monday, October 1

Moses: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and free the Israelites from Israel?"

God: "I will be with you."

Moses: "When they ask me who *you* are, what shall I say?"

God: "Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh: I Am That I Am.

This shall be my name forever,  
this my appellation for all eternity.

Go and assemble the elders of Israel..."

Exodus 3

### Tuesday, October 2

The Mystery of God as Trinity invites us into full participation with God—a flow, a relationship, a waterwheel of always outpouring love. God is a verb much more than a noun. Some Christian mystics taught that all of creation is being taken back into this flow of eternal life, almost as if we are a "Fourth Person" of the Trinity, or as Jesus put it, "so that where I am you also may be".

(John 14:3)

Richard Rohr

### Wednesday, October 3

"Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

John 4:14

### Thursday, October 4

When Moses entered the tent, the cloud pillar descended to the tent's entrance, and the Eternal would talk with Moses. When people witnessed the cloud pillar standing at the meeting tent's entrance, they would stand and bow in worship at the entrance of their own tents. The Eternal spoke with Moses face-to-face, just as a friend speaks with another friend.

Exodus 33:9-11a

### Friday, October 5

The commitment, or call, is not to being right or wrong but being wise, useful and loving and working on our own transformation. That is the contribution we can make to our neighbor, our community, our church, our state, our nation, our globe.

Bill Kerley

### Saturday, October 6

"My Father is working until now, and I myself am working."

John 5:17

### Sunday, October 7

Some of us go in jumps like spiritual frogs, we jump from worship to waiting, and from waiting to work. God's idea is that the three should go together. They were always together in the life or Our Lord. He was unshaking and unshaking. It is a discipline, we cannot get into it all at once.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

### Monday, October 8

Other lives are parables. God is making us spell out our own souls. It is slow work, so slow that it takes God all time and eternity to make a man or woman after his own purpose. The only way we can be of use to God is to let him take us through the crooks and crannies of our own characters.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

### Tuesday, October 9

"A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher. Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but fail to notice the beam in your own eye? How can you say, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' while you yourself fail to see the beam in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the beam out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye..."

Luke 6:40-42

### Wednesday, October 10

Life is a school for spiritual practice. It keeps delivering the same lessons again and again, in new forms, until we really learn them and move on to new lessons in an ever more refined relationship to life.

Bill Kerley

### Thursday, October 11

Whatever else you speak of when you speak of 'God', you must include two thoughts: 'creative purpose' and the possibility of things going wrong.

Mitch Watkins

**Friday, October 12**

Keep your life so constant in its contact with God that his surprising power may break out on the right hand and on the left. Always be in a state of expectancy, and see that you leave room for God to come in as he likes.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Saturday, October 13**

The only impression left by such a life is that of the strong calm sanity that Our Lord gives to those who are intimate with him.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Sunday, October 14**

“Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not known me?”

John 14:9

**Monday, October 15**

It is a joy to Jesus when a disciple takes time to step more intimately with him.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Tuesday, October 16**

For God to be truth, God had to be one;  
for God to be love, God had to be two;  
and for God to be joy, God had to be three!

Scottish theologian Richard of St. Victor (1110-1173)

**Wednesday, October 17**

True Trinitarian theology offers the soul endless creativity—an open horizon. Trinitarian thinkers do not seem to have much interest in things like hell, punishment, or any notion of earning or losing. They are only overwhelmed by infinite abundance and flow.

Richard Rohr

**Thursday, October 18**

I cannot reach to the heights or to the depths; there are motives I cannot trace, dreams I cannot get at—my God, search me out.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Friday, October 19**

Examine me, O God, and know my mind;  
probe me and know my thoughts.  
See if I have any vexatious ways, and guide me in ways everlasting.

Psalms 139:23-24

**Saturday, October 20**

We have to get rid of the idea that we understand ourselves,  
it is the last conceit to go.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Sunday, October 21**

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;  
make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,  
that makest me dwell in safety.

United Methodist Hymnal #473

**Monday, October 22**

Look unto me, and be ye saved.

Isaiah 45:22

**Tuesday, October 23**

Get into the habit of saying, “Speak, Lord,”  
and life will become a romance.  
Every time circumstances press, say,  
“Speak, Lord”;  
make time to listen.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Wednesday, October 24**

Rouse yourself up and look to God. Build your hope on him. No matter if there are a hundred and one things that press, resolutely exclude them all and look to him. “Look unto me,” and salvation is, the moment you look.

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

**Thursday, October 25**

There is no remedy for love but to love more.

Henry David Thoreau

**Friday, October 26**

When you begin to touch your heart or let your heart be touched, you begin to discover that it's bottomless, that it doesn't have any resolution, that this heart is huge, vast, and limitless. You begin to discover how much warmth and gentleness is there, as well as how much space.

Pema Chadron

**Saturday, October 27**

When we love another heart  
And allow it to love us,  
We journey deep below time  
Into that eternal weave  
Where nothing unravels.

John O'Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between Us*

**Sunday, October 28**

A sheltered life can be a daring life as well.  
For all serious daring starts from within.

Eudora Welty

**Monday, October 29**

Happy are those whose hearts are set on the pilgrim way.

from Psalm 84

**Tuesday, October 30**

As each of us awakens to our own deepest aliveness and begins to live out of it, we too—no less than Jesus—show forth what God is like in human form.

Bill Kerley

**Wednesday, October 31**

God, let us be serious.  
face to face.  
heart to heart.  
let us be fully present.  
strongly present.  
deeply serious.  
the closest we may come  
to innocence.  
amen.

Michael Leunig