

**DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS**  
**December 29, 2025-January 3, 2026**

**Monday, December 29, 2025** (by Marilyn Culler)

Luke 19:41-44 <https://tinyurl.com/yc2a64zw>

**PONDER:** Jesus wept for Jerusalem. He knew the city would be overrun and destroyed. He knew the stones of the temple would come crashing down. God sent Jesus, and the people didn't realize the "gracious visit from God." Sometimes we don't recognize the struggle coming at us, often until too late. We can't wait to do good when we see a need. We are the hands of God's grace so that salvation is not hidden.

**PRAYER:** Gracious God, show me the needs of my community. Help me be Your hands of grace. Amen.

**ACTION:** Look around your community. What is hidden that would lead to peace? Is it more kindness, more food at the food pantry, more help in the schools? Listen for what God is calling you to do today.

**Tuesday, December 30, 2025** (by Ashlée Vitz)

3 John 1-15 <https://tinyurl.com/57v8mxzd>

**PONDER:** In his final letter, John contrasts two leaders: Gaius, who welcomes others, and Diotrephes, who hoards control. True faith is hospitable; false faith is territorial. The church flourishes wherever generosity governs. Advent hospitality extends beyond our homes into our attitudes—making space for voices, gifts, and stories not our own. When we welcome others, we mirror the God who welcomed us in Christ.

**PRAYER:** Welcoming Lord, make my spirit spacious enough for others to belong. Free me from control so I can reflect your grace. Amen.

**ACTION:** Offer genuine hospitality today—invite, include, or affirm someone who rarely receives an open door.

**Wednesday, December 31, 2025** (by Marilyn Culler)

John 8:12-19 <https://tinyurl.com/ysvxzj4p>

**PONDER:** Jesus knew who he was, and knew his divine connection to God. Teaching in the temple, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me won't walk in darkness but will have the light of life." As the year comes to an end, consider how you shine the Light of Christ in the world.

**PRAYER:** Holy Light, shine in and through me. Amen.

**ACTION:** Light a candle and pray for the Light of Christ to grow more brightly in you in the coming year.

**Thursday, January 1, 2026** (by Ashlée Vitz)

Revelation 21:5 <https://tinyurl.com/mvju8ckn>

**PONDER:** A new year can bring both hope and pressure — hope for change, pressure to be different overnight. But God's renewal isn't about perfection on day one. It's about daily mercy, slow healing, and quiet transformation. God doesn't demand that you fix everything today. Instead, God whispers, "I am making you new — gently, steadily, faithfully."

**PRAY:** God of new beginnings, thank You that I don't have to have everything figured out. Make my heart open to the new You are creating in me. Amen.

**ACTION:** Write one thing you want God to make new in your life this year — and place it somewhere you'll see it daily.

**Friday, January 2, 2026** (by Ashlée Vitz)

Psalm 139:3 <https://tinyurl.com/2n95ujb6>

**PONDER:** There is comfort in knowing that God understands us better than we understand ourselves. Nothing about your journey — the victories or the stumbles — is a surprise to God. God sees your path, not with judgment, but with compassion and guidance. You are fully known, fully seen, and still fully loved.

**PRAY:** Loving God, thank You for knowing me completely and not turning away. Guide my steps today. Amen.

**ACTION:** Take a short walk or sit quietly. As you move or breathe, repeat: “God is with me in every step.”

**Saturday, January 3, 2026** (by Lisa Trigg)

Acts 5:1-42 <https://tinyurl.com/3d4pkzrn>

**PONDER:** When God empowered the apostles to perform miracles and amazing signs, the disciples caught the attention of jealous and skeptical religious leaders, and they faces persecution. But the apostles had been shaped through their experiences by a “blacksmith God” who led them through fire and the hammering to form them into enduring tools of faith. When God places us on the anvil to be pounded, it is because we are still worth reshaping. Be thankful that you remain useful to God.

**PRAYER:** Loving God, send me joy that overcomes troubles, and laughter that heals sore wounds. Amen.

**ACTION:** If others give you a hard time because of your faith, remember you are following the path laid out by Jesus, and continue to share love with the world.