## DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS December 8-13, 2025

#### Monday, December 8, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler)

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 https://tinyurl.com/y4mk34cd

**PONDER:** "Love each other." We have plenty of examples in today's world of not loving each other. Nothing good comes when we act without love. We may not be aware of all the nuances of how to love others. When our hearts are grounded in living and pleasing God, love pours out in ways we don't plan. Guided by the Holy Spirit and living by the example of Jesus, others will know the love of God as we interact with them.

**PRAYER:** God, pour out Your love through all I say and do in the world around me.

Amen.

**ACTION:** Offer a kind word today to someone you don't know.

#### December 9, 2025 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Revelation 1:9–16 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y6j3fh3k">https://tinyurl.com/y6j3fh3k</a>

**PONDER:** John encounters the risen Christ while exiled on Patmos—proof that revelation often happens in isolation, not comfort. He hears a trumpet-voice and turns to see one like the Son of Man, robed and radiant. The churches are lampstands, and Christ walks among them: divine presence in imperfect communities. Advent reminds us that even in exile or exhaustion, Jesus still moves among us with eyes of fire and a word that cuts through despair. His glory is not meant to frighten but to focus.

**PRAYER:** Living Lord, when I feel cut off or unseen, remind me that you still walk among your people. Kindle your lampstand light within me. Amen.

**ACTION:** Spend five minutes in quiet, naming how Christ might already be present in your work or community.

### Wednesday, December 10, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler)

Matthew 12:33-37 https://tinyurl.com/3ba9c8e7

**PONDER:** Who wants to eat rotten fruit? We do it all the time! We feed our minds and hearts on things that are evil: division, hatred, ridicule, judgment and more. No wonder we aren't healthy! Well, maybe that's going a bit too far, or not – evil can manifest in health issues like depression, heart disease, even cancer. This isn't always why we aren't healthy. When we seek to grow God's goodness in the world around us, the rot subsides and the treasures of salvation await.

**PRAYER:** Life-giving God, guide me in Your fruitful ways so that in my living and in my loving, the Tree of Life brings goodness to Your people.

**ACTION:** Clean out your refrigerator and throw away all the rotten stuff that has gotten pushed to the back and forgotten.

# Thursday, December 11, 2025 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Revelation 2:8–17 https://tinyurl.com/3zvu5xte

**PONDER:** The message to Smyrna is short: suffering is real, but fear need not rule. The poor are rich, the persecuted will be crowned. Pergamum, meanwhile, struggles with compromise—truth diluted by comfort. Jesus speaks both courage and correction. Advent sharpens our discernment between enduring faithfully and blending in too easily. Hidden manna and a new name await those who hold fast.

**PRAYER:** Lord of courage, give me endurance when I'm weary and conviction when I'm tempted to drift. Let me live by your hidden nourishment. Amen.

**ACTION:** Encourage someone under strain—offer practical help or a sincere word of solidarity.

### Friday, December 12, 2025 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Revelation 2:18-29 https://tinyurl.com/2rkx8hz8

**PONDER**: Thyatira's church is praised for love, faith, and service, yet it tolerates teachings that corrupt. The tension between compassion and clarity runs through every community. Jesus' eyes like fire see both our deeds and our drift. Advent invites refinement—the painful yet purifying process of returning to truth without losing love. The promise is worth it: authority grounded in relationship with the Morning Star himself.

**PRAYER:** Spirit of truth, burn away what deceives me and refine what honors you. May love and integrity dwell together in my life. Amen.

**ACTION:** Name one area where you've sacrificed conviction for comfort. Take one small step toward alignment with your values.

### Saturday, December 13, 2025 (by Lisa Trigg)

Luke 7:11-50 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ycx7kxp4">https://tinyurl.com/ycx7kxp4</a>

**PONDER:** People were hearing about the signs and wonders Jesus was performing, and his popularity kept increasing. In this passage, Jesus uses people of great faith in order to show what God desires from his people. The widow of Nain is one of those people. Jesus gives her more than just her son. He gave her confidence that the Lord knew her sorrow and was able to restore her world. Is there a way you can demonstrate your faith today?

**PRAYER:** Dear God, help me to repair a relationship that needs love and attention. Amen.

**ACTION:** Ask God to help you take action, and then step out in faith and do it.