



# CENTRAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Daily Scripture Readings

July 15 - July 21

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### Monday, July 15

Colossians 1:15

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

**For Today:** At the beginning of the day, offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God, for all his works and benefits.

**Prayer:** Praise to you, Almighty God, for the matchless gift of your Son Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption and the forgiveness of sins.

### Tuesday, July 16

Colossians 1:16

16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.

**For Today:** As you consider the beauty of creation today, be reminded that everything in nature comes from God.

**Prayer:** Creating God, may my life reflect the presence of Christ, and may my actions show forth the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

### Wednesday, July 17

Colossians 1:19-20

19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

**For Today:** Think of ways to be a peacemaker, in your home, business, or community.

**Prayer:** Gracious God, help me to live my life in ways that demonstrate the love and reconciliation exemplified by Jesus.

## Thursday, July 18

Colossians 1:27

27 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**For Today:** Sing or recite the words to hymn 463 in The United Methodist Hymnal, Lord, Speak to Me.

**Prayer:** O God, may I like the saints before me, reflect Christ to all those I meet on my daily path.

## Friday, July 19

Luke 10:38

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

**For Today:** Find ways to boldly show love and acceptance to those whose differences make it a challenge.

**Prayer:** Loving God, help me be a faithful follower of Christ, showing love and hospitality even when it might not be comfortable or easy.

## Saturday, July 20

Luke 10:39-40

39 She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. 40 But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me."

**For Today:** Take time to reflect on Christ's commandment to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" and to "love your neighbor as yourself."

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, may I discern what is truly important as I encounter the busyness of life. Help me always be attentive to the still small voice of God.

## Sunday, July 21

Luke 10:41-42

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; 42 there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

**For Today:** Be mindful of the essence of Christ's teaching, even when attending to the important activities of everyday life.

**Prayer:** O God, help me stay focused on following Christ and not be pre-occupied with the many distractions that seek my attention daily.