

PRAY EVERY DAY May 3, 2020 Resource

*Oh, Look What Time It Is from 2 Corinthians 6:2, NRSV*

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

*Hymn "Sinners, Turn: Why Will You Die" by Charles Wesley, 1742.*

Sinners, turn: why will you die?  
God, your Maker, asks you why.  
God, who did your being give,  
made you himself, that you might live;  
he the fatal cause demands,  
asks the work of his own hands.  
Why, you thankless creatures, why  
will you cross his love, and die?

You, on whom he favors showers,  
you, possessed of nobler powers,  
you, of reason's powers possessed,  
you, with will and memory blest,  
you, with finer sense endued,  
creatures capable of God;  
noblest of his creatures, why,  
why will you forever die?

You, whom he ordained to be  
transcripts of the Trinity,  
you, whom he in life doth hold,  
you, for whom himself was sold,  
you, on whom he still doth wait,  
whom he would again create;  
made by him, and purchased, why,  
why will you forever die?

You, who own his record true,  
you, his chosen people, you,  
you, who call the Savior Lord,  
you, who read his written Word,  
you, who see the gospel light,  
claim a crown in Jesu's right;  
why will you, ye Christians, why  
will the house of Israel die?

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2020 Challenge*

More resources at [www.vaumc.org/2020BibleChallenge](http://www.vaumc.org/2020BibleChallenge)

April 15—May 5 "Fruit of the Spirit: Joy"

May 6-21 "Fruit of the Spirit: Peace"

May 4: 1 Peter 1:6-9

May 5: Romans 14:17

May 6: Isaiah 9:6-7

May 7: Luke 1:76-79; Luke 2:14

May 8: Philippians 4:4-9

May 9: Mark 4:37-41

May 10: John 14:26-28

*Small Group or Personal Study*

Read from the Bible: Ecclesiastes 3:11; Psalm 27:7-8; Lamentations 3:20-26

- One of the meanings from Ecclesiastes 3:11 of God, "has made everything suitable for its time," is that God has made you well for this time. What challenges are you and our community facing at this time? How has God has made you suitable for this time with your gifts, time, stage in your walk with Jesus?

- Psalm 27:7-8 encourages us to seek God's face today. What do you need to seek God's face for today? Spend time lifting up yourself and your needs to God. The Lord provides grace!

- Lamentations was written about a great time of grief—loss of temple, home, and freedom. Yet, Lam. 3:20-26 shows the hope people still had in God since God's love "never ceases." They had power to lament and grieve but there was hope for God's salvation, too. What kinds of losses have you had that would be good to grieve? How have you witnessed God's faithfulness so that you may both grieve and live in hope?

- Take 5 minutes to silence yourself and pray God's name by breathing, in and out, through your mouth as we learned in Week 1 of the "temple" themed series. Breathe in, "Yah" and breathe out, "way."

*Spend time in silence*  
*Prayer for others and yourself*  
*The Lord's Prayer*

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Call to Pray at Noon Every Day*

Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

We thank you for your blessings, past, present and future. You are our rock and the source of our hope in all things and at all times. As Jehovah Jireh, our provider God, we ask you this day to stretch out your mighty hand and eradicate from the face of the earth forever this virus called COVID-19 (coronavirus) that is spreading rapidly from continent to continent.

We also pray that you, Jehovah Rapha, our healing God, would place your hand upon all of those who have been stricken by this virus and restore them to full health. Be with those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. Protect all who are caring for those with this virus and keep them from contracting it themselves. Calm our fears and provide us with your peace that surpasses all understanding. Strengthen us with the joy of the Lord and help us to hold firmly to the hope that only you can provide.

Unify us that we, the Virginia Annual Conference, may be able to experience anew the promise of your presence in and through the unity of our faith, hope and trust in you in the days ahead and forever. We offer this prayer in the mighty name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.  
AMEN.

*Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships*

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share about it this week in small group for support and prayer.

*A Prayer in Quietness and in Confidence from the Book of Common Prayer*

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength;

By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Choosing Joy in This Time from Psalm 118:24, NRSV*

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.