

## **Devotions 2026: January 5 to January 11**

*For daily devotions I am going to start using 60 days of prayer published by Guideposts.*

### **Monday:**           Peace over Pressure

*Isaiah 31:15 – “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is our strength.”*

When the pace of life pushes you to strive harder, God invites you to slow down and trust deeper. Peace does not come from finishing every task; it comes from resting in Him. Let trust be your strength today.

*Prayer: God, quiet my racing thoughts. Teach me to rest in Your love.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

### **Tuesday:**           The Way of Wonder

*Matthew 2:11 – On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.*

The Magi traveled step by step, guided by faith and a light they could not explain. On this day, as we remember their journey, you are invited to follow in their footsteps. To slow down. To look up. To offer your heart. God still draws people with subtle invitations. And when you arrive, like the Magi, you will find joy in the presence of Christ.

*Prayer: Lord, guide me by the light of Your presence. Help me to seek You not only in life's grand moments but also in the stillness of the everyday.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Wednesday:** A Heart That Listens

*1 Samuel 3:10 – “Speak, for your servant is listening.”*

God speaks, but we do not always slow down enough to hear Him. He speaks in scripture, in whispers, and sometimes in the gentle tug of your spirit. If you long for clarity or comfort, start by making space to listen. He is ready to meet you there.

*Prayer: Lord, I am listening. Help me recognize Your voice and respond with a willing heart.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Thursday:** Surprised by Grace

*Romans 8:28 – We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.*

Life does not always go as planned. Schedules fall apart, interruptions pile up, and ordinary days become messy. But sometimes grace breaks through in the middle of the chaos; a kind word, a moment of laughter, a reminder that God is still at work. His love is often hidden in the unexpected.

*Prayer: Lord, open my eyes to the gifts You tuck into ordinary moments. Help me find Your goodness even in life's messes.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Friday:** The Next Right Step

*Isaiah 31:21 – Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.”*

When you are unsure what comes next, it is easy to freeze or overanalyze. But God promises to guide you; not with confusion but with clarity in His timing. His voice may be quieter than your fear, but it is always trustworthy. Direction begins with listening, not rushing.

*Prayer: God, I do not want to run ahead of You. Show me the next step, and help me walk in peace.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Saturday:****Hold On to Hope**

*Hebrews 10:23 – Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

Hope means trusting in the One who always keeps His word. When doubt or fear creeps in, you can lean into His faithfulness. His promises do not change with your circumstances. You can hold on because He is holding on to you.

*Prayer: God of hope, strengthen my grip on what is true. Help me trust Your promises more than my fears.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Sunday:****Peace When the News Is Heavy**

*Psalms 94:19 – When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.*

Sometimes all it takes is a single headline or message to shift your mood or shake your peace. God sees the weight of what you carry, even when it catches you off guard. He does not rush you past it; He meets you in it, offering calm in the chaos. His comfort is always stronger than your fear.

*Prayer: Lord, steady my heart when hard news comes. Help me lean into Your peace and not spiral into fear.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou