August 25

**Blessing of the Marriage Covenant**

“And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love”.  
1 Corinthians: 13:13

Divorce rates are alarming. Many individuals are choosing to remain single. So much pain and suffering in the world. Maintaining healthy intimate relationships requires much work. Yet, God is a gracious and understands our every need. We surrender our will to the will of the Lord. Today we pray for all couples who are struggling to keep their marriage covenant.

**Prayer:**  God of all peoples,  
You are the true light illumining everyone.  
You show us the way, the truth, and the life.  
You sustain us with your Holy Spirit.  
We rejoice in your life in the midst of our lives.  
We praise you for your presence with us.  
We give thanks for whatever our status in life.

O God,  
You have so consecrated the covenant of Christian marriage  
That in it is represented the covenant between Christ and his church.  
Send therefore your blessings upon all who are married and struggling to stay married,  
That they may surely keep their marriage covenant,  
And so continue to grow in love and godliness together.  
That their home may be a haven of blessing and peace;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from: *The United Methodist Hymnal*