Hi,

Memorial Day weekend -- unlike any other in my lifetime. Even in the midst of this pandemic, we must remember those who gave their lives in the defense of this country.

* **We’ll begin a new series in my Sunday class (**[**noon on my Facebook page**](https://www.facebook.com/scottengle)): *The New Testament in Seven Sentences*. It should give us a lot to talk about. I hope you can join us then.
* Monday is Memorial Day, but **Patti and I have decided to go ahead and have our 3pm Monday class on Matthew**. I know that some of you will have plans, but the class will be posted on [my YouTube page](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChtwqaUcpZbwyTWnkp6INwQ?view_as=subscriber) soon after class is over. My Tuesday class on Genesis will be at noon on my Facebook page.
* The links to my on-line classes, the video recordings of the classes, the class audio podcasts, and the archive of these daily emails can all be found at [www.scottengle.org](http://www.scottengle.org/). All the postings are up-to-date.

*Here is the latest “Scribblings” from Lauren Sandstedt, who is one of our summer interns from Perkins Seminary. Lauren finished her first year with a 4.0 GPA. Those of you who have seen her whiteboards in Piro Hall aren’t even surprised. Here’s Lauren:*

I thought this was a refreshing change during Covid-19, to write prayers for this week’s Scribblings. This week is focused on Psalm 16, titled '*A Song of Trust and Security in God*’ in the NRSV translation.

The Holy One be with you:

***Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.” (v.1)***

Gracious God, Deep down our souls desire a trustworthy hope, beyond ourselves. We recognize that we live in a broken world, but many times it is too much for us to comprehend how resolutions will come to pass. When we fear and start to feel the sweat drip from our brow. . . remind us, that indeed you preserve us, O God. We have no good, apart from you. Though we may feel distant from you in times of panic, remind us that *you never left our side*.

***"The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved." (v.5-8)***

Oh Lord, you are my portion. As certain as the food on my plate sustains me physically, you offer a portion that satisfies *all* parts of me. It is because of your love and grace, that I am able to rest in the truth that my ultimate inheritance lies with you (rather than what the perceived certainties of this world offer). When I am up at night, unable to sleep, staring at the clock and concerned with the next “issue”, remind me that I am able to call on your name. You know my thoughts, before I even voice them to you. Yet, you still remind me to pray – because there is power in the doing. When I remember that your steadfastness *supersedes all* have ever known, I feel confident that *together we are immovable*. . . not shaken by the temptations or fears that exist in this world.

***"Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (v.9-11)***

Holy God, I have no security safer than *entrusting my heart and will to you*. There are times I forget this, but as I read in Psalm 16 I recall that you desire ultimate joy for my life. Bring people into my life who may walk faithfully toward you, alongside me. Bring moments of joy into my life, so I may see your character in full. Bring clarity to my mind, in order to guide me in wise decisions that honor you. Bring faith into my life, so that even when I am faced with trials, I may endure faithfully. O God bring me *resolute hope*, for in you, are my eternal pleasures. . . and the “fullness of joy”.

**Amen.**

P.S. If you enjoyed this psalm, and want to learn an easy way to remember it, check out Shane & Shane’s song of Psalm 16 [here](https://open.spotify.com/track/47K7E5tUAU23egwKOQuZdy?si=rpPHrj4XSie1vzB1kmOdkA) on Spotify. Very beautiful and moving.

‘til Monday, grace and peace,

Scott