

Monday, December 7, 2020

+ OPENING CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

O God, open our lips,  
**and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**  
From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**we praise your name, O God.**

+ REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

By Word and water God renews us this day  
in the living fountain of God's grace,  
and raises us with Christ Jesus  
to live a new life in the Spirit. \* OSL  
**Satisfy us in the morning**  
**with your steadfast love, O God,**  
**that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

+ MORNING HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel.  
The darkness of this earth dispel.  
**Bring light and justice here below**  
that we in paths of righteousness may go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
**Emmanuel shall come to earth; let love dispel all fear.**

+ MORNING PRAYER

The Holy One be with you;  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night and  
for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of pleasing  
you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect  
freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again  
give thanks unto you. **Amen.**

[UM Book of Worship]

+ **Psalm 27** NRSV

**Hear, O Lord, when I cry a-loud,**  
**be gracious to me and an-swer me!**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salva-tion;  
whom shall I *fear*?

The LORD is the stronghold of my *life*;  
of whom shall I be a-fraid?

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me  
to de-your my *flesh*—  
my adversaries and foes—  
they shall stum-ble and *fall*.

12/07/20

<sup>3</sup> Though an army en-camp against *me*,  
my heart shall not *fear*,  
though war rise up a-gainst *me*,  
yet I will be con-fi-dent.

<sup>4</sup> One thing I asked of the *LORD*,  
that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the *LORD*  
all the days of my *life*,  
to behold the beauty of the *LORD*,  
and to inquire in his *temple*.

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of *trouble*;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will set me high on a *rock*.

<sup>6</sup> Now my head is lift-ed up  
above my enemies all a-round *me*,  
and I will offer in his tent  
sacrifices with shouts of *joy*;  
I will sing and make melody to the *LORD*.

<sup>7</sup> Hear, O LORD, when I cry a-loud,  
be gracious to me and an-swer *me*!

<sup>8</sup> “Come,” my heart says, “seek his *face*!”

Your face, LORD, do I *seek*.

<sup>9</sup> Do not hide your face from *me*.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,  
you who have been my *help*.

Do not cast me off, do not for-sake *me*,  
O God of my *sal-vation*!

<sup>10</sup> If my father and mother for-sake *me*,  
the LORD will take me *up*.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O *LORD*,  
and lead me on a level path  
because of my en-e-mies.

<sup>12</sup> Do not give me up to the will of my ad-ver-saries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they are breathing out vi-o-lence.

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall see the goodness of the *LORD*  
in the land of the *living*.

<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD;  
be strong, and let your heart take *courage*;  
wait for the *LORD*!

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,  
one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

**Hear, O Lord, when I cry a-loud,  
be gracious to me and an-swer me!**

Silence

+ **WORD:** Acts 2:37-42 NRSV

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. <sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

**Thanks be to God!**

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

We bless you, Adonai, God of *Israel*,  
for you come to visit us and ransom us from *bondage*.  
You have brought forth a strong De-liverer  
in the house of your child *David*.

**This is what your holy prophets an-nounced:  
deliverance from enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate *us*;  
mercy a-mong our *ancestors*,  
and remembrance of your ho-ly *covenant*.**

This is the promise you swore to  
our an-cestor, *Abraham*,  
to make us un-a-*fraid*,  
to rescue us from our *enemies*,  
to serve before you, holy and just,  
all the days of our *lives*.

**And this, my little child,  
shall be called prophet of the Most *High*,  
going before you, Adonai, to pre-pare your *paths*,  
making your people know de-liverance  
by the forgiveness of their *sins*.**

**Through your merciful compassions, God our God,  
the dawn from on high shall *visit us*,  
to shine on those kept in dungeons  
and the shadows of *death*  
and to guide our feet onto the path of *peace*.**

LUKE 1:68-79

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,  
one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

+ **COMMEMORATION: AMBROSE OF MILAN**

Ambrose was known as an outstanding preacher and author. He is perhaps best known for his converting influence upon Augustine, whom Ambrose baptized in Easter Day, 387. His writings *On the Mysteries* and *On the Sacraments* provide invaluable insights into how Christians in Milan thought about the meaning and practice of Christian initiation and the sacraments. Ambrose demonstrated his commitment to a life of discipleship by giving away much of his wealth to the poor. He fearlessly defended the Nicene Christians of Milan against the personal whims of the emperors and empresses of his time.

\* For All the Saints

Silent reflection

+ **COLLECT: AMBROSE OF MILAN**

Gracious God, our Shepherd, we thank you for raising up Ambrose of Milan as Bishop in your church. Remembering his faithfulness and care, fill all shepherds of your church with truth in doctrine, Fidelity in Word and Sacrament, and boldness and vision in leading the people, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

\* For All the Saints

+ **PRAYERS**

The Holy One be with you,  
***and also with you.***

Let us pray: (*pray for those on your heart today*)

+ **FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL**

***For those we have lifted up today, may God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.***

+ A PEARL HARBOR DAY PRAYER

“O God of our Fathers, we guard in our hearts today the sacred memory of those who gave their lives on that day which will live in infamy. Bless us, O Lord, as we humble ourselves in Thy presence to remember our shipmates and friends who served our country so valiantly. Let us not disgrace those who still lie in the quiet places through our indifference or forgetfulness ...

... We also give thanks for those who survived the attack on our country and who went on with their lives in a way that portrayed honor to a watching world. They carried on with life even as they bore deep within them the haunting memories of what they witnessed, heard, and felt. Bless them with continued grace and mercy from your holy hand. Guide us and direct us in all that we do. Let us live to bring glory and honor to Thee. This we pray in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen.”

[Latin Times](#)

+ PRAYER FOR CONSERVATION of Natural Resources

***Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them,***

***and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

+ PRAYER FOR

Those Who Suffer For The Sake Of Conscience

O God our Father, whose Son forgave his enemies while he was suffering shame and death: Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience; when they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair; and to us your servants, give grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our merciful and righteous Judge. ***Amen.***

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.*

+ CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father,  
You have brought us in safety to this new day:  
preserve us with your mighty power,  
that we may not fall into sin,  
nor be overcome by adversity;  
and in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your  
purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ BLESSING

May the road rise to meet you,  
may the wind be always at your back,  
may the sun shine warm upon your face,  
may the rains fall soft upon your fields,  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of his hand. **Amen.**

(TRADITIONAL GAELIC PRAYER)

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

Unless otherwise noted, prayers used in morning prayer recordings are from the *Book of Common Prayer* under public domain.

All biographical information and prayers cited \* **For All the Saints** are;  
“Reprinted from *For All the Saints: A Calendar of Commemorations for United Methodists*, 2nd edition, editor Heather Josselyn-Cranson, © 2013 by the Order of Saint Luke. Used by permission.”

All prayers cited \* **OSL** are;  
“Reprinted from *The Book of OFFICES and SERVICES of The Order of Saint Luke*, © 2012 by The Order of Saint Luke. Used by permission of OSL Publications.”

All collects cited \* **Holy Women, Holy Men** are reprinted from  
*Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints*  
Copyright © 2010 by The Church Pension Fund