

Thursday, December 3, 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, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide your heavenly home.
Make safe the path to endless day,
To hell's destruction, close the way.
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:

New every morning is your love, great God of light,
and all day long you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our
neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son,
our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

+ **Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13** NRSV

**Steadfast love and faithful-ness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

¹ LORD, you were favorable to your *land*;
you restored the for-tunes of *Jacob*.

² You forgave the iniquity of your *people*;
you pardoned all their *sin*.

⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will *speak*,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their *hearts*.

12/03/20

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear *him*,
that his glory may dwell in our *land*.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithful-ness will *meet*,
righteousness and peace will kiss each *other*.

¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the *ground*,
and righteousness will look down from the *sky*.

¹² The LORD will give what is *good*,
and our land will yield its in-crease.

¹³ Righteousness will go be-fore *him*,
and will make a path for his *steps*.

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

***Steadfast love and faithful-ness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.***

Silence

+ **WORD: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10 CEB**

² We always thank God for all of you when we mention
you constantly in our prayers. ³ This is because we
remember your work that comes from faith, your effort that
comes from love, and your perseverance that comes from

hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God
and Father. ⁴ Brothers and sisters, you are loved by God,
and we know that he has chosen you. ⁵ We know this
because our good news didn't come to you just in speech
but also with power and the Holy Spirit and with deep
conviction. You know as well as we do what kind of
people we were when we were with you, which was for
your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord
when you accepted the message that came from the Holy
Spirit with joy in spite of great suffering. ⁷ As a result you
became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and
Achaia. ⁸ The message about the Lord rang out from you,
not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place. The
news about your faithfulness to God has spread so that
we don't even need to mention it. ⁹ People tell us about
what sort of welcome we had from you and how you
turned to God from idols. As a result, you are serving the
living and true God, ¹⁰ and you are waiting for his Son
from heaven. His Son is Jesus, who is the one he raised
from the dead and who is the one who will rescue us from
the coming wrath.

Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God!

12/03/20

+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*.

+ **STATEMENT OF FAITH: THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven
and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of
the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose
from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at
the right hand of the Father Almighty. From there he
shall come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

12/03/20

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **PRAYERS**

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

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

+ SILENT PRAYER

+ **PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE**

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

+ **PRAYER FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS**

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ **PRAYERS FOR Prisons and Correctional Institutions**

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remembering all prisoners, bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

12/03/20

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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

¹⁶ And I pray that he would unveil within you the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods your innermost being with his divine might and explosive power.

¹⁷ Then, by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of his love will become the very source and root of your life.

Ephesians 3:16-17
The Passion Translation

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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