

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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10/26/20

Monday, October 26, 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.
***Satisfy us in the morning
with your steadfast love, O God,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.***

Psalm 90:14

+ **MORNING CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING**

It is good to give thanks to the *LORD*,
to sing praises to your name, O Most *High*;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithful-ness by *night*,

to the music of the lute and the *harp*,
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your *work*;
at the works of your hands I sing for *joy*.
How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are ver-y *deep!*

Psalm 92:1-5

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are
restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such
piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish
passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and
no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see
life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Augustine

+ **Psalm 119:41-48** NRSV

***Do not take the word of truth utterly
out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your ordinances.***

- ⁴¹ Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your *promise*.
⁴² Then I shall have an answer for those who taunt *me*,
for I trust in your *word*.
⁴³ Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my *mouth*,
for my hope is in your *ordinances*.
⁴⁴ I will keep your law con-tin-ual-ly,
forev-er and ever.
⁴⁵ I shall walk at li-ber-ty,
for I have sought your *precepts*.
⁴⁶ I will also speak of your decrees be-fore *kings*,
and shall not be put to shame;
⁴⁷ I find my delight in your com-mand-ments,
because I love *them*.
⁴⁸ I revere your commandments, which I love,
and I will meditate on your *statutes*.

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

***Do not take the word of truth utterly
out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your ordinances.***

Silence

+ **WORD:** James 2:8-13 CEV

⁸ You will do all right, if you obey the most important law in the Scriptures. It is the law that commands us to love others as much as we love ourselves. ⁹ But if you treat some people better than others, you have done wrong, and the Scriptures teach that you have sinned.

¹⁰ If you obey every law except one, you are still guilty of breaking them all. ¹¹ The same God who told us to be faithful in marriage also told us not to murder. So even if you are faithful in marriage, but murder someone, you still have broken God's Law.

¹² Speak and act like people who will be judged by the law that sets us free. ¹³ Do this, because on the day of judgment there will be no pity for those who have not had pity on others. But even in judgment, God is merciful!

10/26/20

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: Alfred the Great**

Alfred was born in 849 at Wantage, Berkshire, youngest of five sons of King Aethelwulf. He wished to become a monk, but after the deaths (all in battle, I think) of his father and his four older brothers, he was made king in 871. He proved to be skilled at military tactics, and devised a defensive formation which the Danish charge was unable to break. After a decisive victory at Edington in 878, he reached an agreement with the Danish leader

Guthrum, by which the Danes would retain a portion of northeastern England and be given other concessions in return for their agreement to accept baptism and Christian instruction. In his later years, having secured a large degree of military security for his people, Alfred devoted his energies to repairing the damage that war had done to the cultural life of his people and translated many writings into Old English.

by James Kiefer

Silent reflection

+ **COLLECT: Alfred the Great**

O Sovereign Lord, who brings leaders like Alfred the Great to positions of authority that he might establish peace and revive learning and the arts among the people: Awake in us also such desire to increase our knowledge and understanding while we are in this world, and an eagerness to share it with those around us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

For more information: [Link #1](#) - [Link #2](#)

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION (PARISH)

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this fellowship family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ PRAYERS FOR THE GOOD USE OF LEISURE

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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)