

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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Thursday, October 29, 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

(Water may be touched, poured or sprinkled.)

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 JOY

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God;

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting;

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

PSALM 100

+ MORNING PRAYER

The Holy One* be with you;

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,

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diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT., ALT.)

+ **Psalm 43** CEV

Send your light and your truth to guide me.

***Let them lead me to your house
on your sacred mountain.***

¹ Show that I am right, God!

Defend me against everyone

who doesn't know you;

rescue me from each

of those deceitful liars.

² I run to you

for protection.

Why have you turned me away?

Why must enemies mistreat me

and make me sad?

³ Send your light and your truth
to guide me.

Let them lead me to your house
on your sacred mountain.

⁴ Then I will worship

at your altar

because you

make me joyful.

You are my God,

and I will praise you.

Yes, I will praise you

as I play my harp.

⁵ Why am I discouraged?

Why am I restless?

I trust you!

And I will praise you again

because you help me,

and you are my God.

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

Send your light and your truth to guide me.

Let them lead me to your house

on your sacred mountain.

Silence

+ WORD: Romans 2:17-29 CEV

¹⁷ Some of you call yourselves Jews. You trust in the Law and take pride in God. ¹⁸ By reading the Scriptures you learn how God wants you to behave, and you discover what is right. ¹⁹ You are sure that you are a guide for the blind and a light for all who are in the dark. ²⁰ And since there is knowledge and truth in God's Law, you think you can instruct fools and teach young people.

²¹ But how can you teach others when you refuse to learn? You preach that it is wrong to steal. But do you steal? ²² You say people should be faithful in marriage. But are you faithful? You hate idols, yet you rob their temples. ²³ You take pride in the Law, but you disobey

the Law and bring shame to God. ²⁴ It is just as the Scriptures tell us, "You have made foreigners say insulting things about God."

²⁵ Being circumcised is worthwhile, if you obey the Law. But if you don't obey the Law, you are no better off than people who are not circumcised. ²⁶ In fact, if they obey the Law, they are as good as anyone who is circumcised. ²⁷ So everyone who obeys the Law, but has never been circumcised, will condemn you. Even though you are circumcised and have the Law, you still don't obey its teachings.

²⁸ Just because you live like a Jew and are circumcised doesn't make you a real Jew. ²⁹ To be a real Jew you must obey the Law. True circumcision is something that happens deep in your heart, not something done to your body. And besides, you should want praise from God and not from humans.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

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+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: JAMES HANNINGTON**

Among the new nations of Africa, Uganda is the most predominantly Christian. Mission work began there in the 1870's with the favor of King Mutesa, who died in 1884. However, his son and successor, King Mwanga, opposed all foreign presence, including the missions.

James Hannington, born 1847, was sent out from England in 1884 by the Anglican Church as missionary Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa. As he was travelling toward Uganda, he was apprehended

by emissaries of King Mwanga. He and his companions were brutally treated and, a week later, October 29, 1885, most of them were put to death.

Hannington's last words were:

"Go tell your master that I have purchased the road to Uganda with my blood."

by James Kiefer

+SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ COLLECT OF THE DAY: **JAMES HANNINGTON**

Almighty God, by whose grace and power your holy martyr James Hannington triumphed over suffering and was faithful even to death: Grant us, who now remember him in thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to you in this world, that we may receive with him the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Click for more information: [Link #1](#) and [Link #2](#)

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ SILENT PRAYER

Requests known to you

+ FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech you to behold, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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+ PRAYERS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Almighty God our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold office in this State of New Jersey, the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; 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.

+ FOR THOSE WHO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that

they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of 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.***

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+ 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