

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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10/27/20

Tuesday, October 27, 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 PRAISE**

Come, let us sing to the Ho-ly One; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-vation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,*
and raise a loud shout with *psalms*.

For you, O God, are a great God,*
you are great a-bove all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the *earth*,*
and the heights of the hills are yours *also*.
The sea is yours, for you made it,*
and your hands have molded the dry *land*.
Come, let us bow down and bend the *knee*,*
and kneel before God, our Maker.

For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture
and the sheep of your hand.*
Oh, that today we would hearken to your *voice*!

PSALM 95:1-7

+ **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]

10/27/20

+ **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,
fore-ver 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 FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD: James 2:14-26** CEV

¹⁴ My friends, what good is it to say you have faith, when you don't do anything to show that you really do have faith? Can that kind of faith save you? ¹⁵ If you know someone who doesn't have any clothes or food, ¹⁶ you shouldn't just say, "I hope all goes well for you. I hope you will be warm and have plenty to eat." What good is it to say this, unless you do something to help? ¹⁷ Faith that doesn't lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead!

¹⁸ Suppose someone disagrees and says, "It is possible to have faith without doing kind deeds."

I would answer, "Prove that you have faith without doing kind deeds, and I will prove that I have faith by doing them." ¹⁹ You surely believe there is only one God. That's fine. Even demons believe this, and it makes them shake with fear.

²⁰ Does some stupid person want proof that faith without deeds is useless? ²¹ Well, our ancestor Abraham pleased God by putting his son Isaac on the altar to sacrifice him. ²² Now you see how Abraham's faith and deeds worked together. He proved that his faith was real by what he did. ²³ This is what the Scriptures mean by saying, "Abraham had faith in God, and God was pleased with him." That's how Abraham became God's friend.

²⁴ You can now see that we please God by what we do and not only by what we believe. ²⁵ For example, Rahab had been a prostitute. But she pleased God when she welcomed the spies and sent them home by another way.

²⁶ Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead!

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*.

+ **A READING FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION:**

“Doctor Gordon of Boston used to say that as you
passed along Washington street ... you might see
stores with the card in the window,
‘To rent, with or without power,’
and any one could rent the store,
and by paying something extra could have power
furnished from the engine in the rear.
Doctor Gordon thought it would be a good thing to
ask men and women when they joined the church if
they wanted to be a member on the
“with power” or the “without power” basis,

and if the latter, to tell them there were no vacancies
for that kind in the church, it already had too many
members without power.”

Dwight L. Moody

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ SILENT PRAYER

+ 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.**

+ 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 UNITY OF THE CHURCH

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

+ FOR THE RIGHT USE OF GOD'S GIFTS

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, 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.***

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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

Before us it is blessed, behind us it is blessed,
below us it is blessed, above us it is blessed,
around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.
Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.
With beauty before us, with beauty behind us,
with beauty below us, with beauty above us,
with beauty around us, we set out for a holy place
indeed. **Amen.**

TRADITIONAL NAVAHO PRAYER, ALT.