

Saturday, November 21, 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 CANTICLE OF WISDOM**

Wisdom has built her house, setting up seven pillars.
She has prepared the food and wine and set her table.

***She has sent out her servants
to call out from the Heights above the city:***

"Let those who want enlightenment come.

Come, taste my bread and drink my spiced wine.

***Give up your foolishness and live,
And walk the path of understanding."***

If you are wise, your reward is wisdom;
If you teach the just, they grow in understanding.

***Wisdom begins with reverence for God,
and knowledge of the holy one is insight.***

* OSL

+ **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 95:1-7** CEV

***Sing joyful songs to the LORD,
Creator of all the earth.***

Sing joyful songs to the LORD!

Praise the mighty rock where we are safe.

² Come to worship him with thank-ful hearts
and songs of praise.

³ The LORD is the great-est God,
king over all oth-er gods.

⁴ He holds the deepest part of the earth in his hands,
and the mountain peaks be-long to him.

⁵ The ocean is the Lord's because he made it,
and with his own hands he formed the dry land.

⁶ Bow down and worship
the LORD our Creator!

⁷ The LORD is our God,
and we are his people,
the sheep he takes care of
in his own pasture.

Listen to God's voice to-day!

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

***Sing joyful songs to the LORD,
Creator of all the earth.***

Silence

+ **WORD:** Matthew 12:46-50 CEV

⁴⁶ While Jesus was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and brothers came and stood outside because they wanted to talk with him. ⁴⁷ Someone told Jesus, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside and want to talk with you."

⁴⁸ Jesus answered, "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?" ⁴⁹ Then he pointed to his disciples and said, "These are my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰ Anyone who obeys my Father in heaven is my brother or sister or mother."

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: ANNA OLIVER**

Anna Oliver was the first woman to graduate from an American theological seminary and a pioneer Methodist Episcopal Church preacher and pastor. She was born near New Brunswick, New Jersey in 1840. Baptized viviana Olivia Snowden, she changed her name in the early 1870s so as to not embarrass her family when she decided to enter the ministry. Educated in Brooklyn public schools and Rutgers female College in New York City, Oliver began her career as a public school teacher in Connecticut . In addition to teaching, she took an active role in women's

suffrage and temperance movements in her adopted state
for the next eight years.

In 1868 she volunteered to teach black children in Georgia
under the auspices of the American missionary
Association. Inadequate facilities, domineering male
supervisors and hostility from the southern white
community tested her commitment. A year later when she
learned that the AMA paid female teachers less than men
who did the same work, Oliver resigned. She rejoined her
family in Connecticut for a time and resumed her interest in
women's issues.

In 1876 she received a degree from Boston University
School of Theology and assumed the pastorate of First
Methodist Episcopal Church in Passaic, NJ and later,
Willoughby Avenue Church in Brooklyn. She devoted
much energy to temperance and suffrage, and dress
reform and health care for women and children.

Throughout her ministry her favorite text was Revelation
3:8 (KJV): "Behold, I have set before thee an open door,
and no *man* can shut it."

* For All the Saints

Silent reflection

+ **COLLECT**: ANNA OLIVER

***God our creator and Redeemer, anoint from among
your people zealous and faithful preachers like Anna
Oliver and give us ears to hear the gospel that your
image may be fully restored in us, through Jesus
Christ our Lord , who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

+ **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.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ PRAYERS FOR CONGRESS

O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth: We implore you so to guide and bless our Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled and in the Legislature of this State, that they may enact such laws as shall please you, to the glory of your Name and the welfare of this people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ A Collect for Saturdays

Almighty God, who after the creation of the world rested from all your works and sanctified a day of rest for all your creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; 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**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace. **Amen.** NUMBERS 6:24-26

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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