

Friday, February 26, 2021

+ **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. \* OS�

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

+ **CANTICLE OF THE RESURRECTION**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
not with the old leaven of malice and evil,  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

**Christ being raised from the dead  
will never die again;  
death no longer has dominion over him.  
The death he died, he died to sin, once for all,**

**but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So consider yourselves dead to sin  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For as in Adam all die,  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. \* OS�6

+ **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]

+ **Psalm 22:23-31** CEV

**Those who are poor will eat;  
Those who seek you will give praise.**

<sup>23</sup> All who worship the LORD,  
now praise *him*!  
You belong to Jacob's family  
and to the people of Israel,  
so fear and honor the LORD!

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<sup>24</sup> The LORD doesn't hate  
or despise the helpless  
in all of their *troubles*.

When I cried out, he listened  
and did not turn a-way.

<sup>25</sup> When your people meet,  
you will fill my heart  
with your prais-es, *LORD*,  
and everyone will see me  
keep my promis-es to *you*.

<sup>26</sup> The poor will eat and be *full*,  
and all who worship you  
will be thankful  
and live in *hope*.

<sup>27</sup> Everyone on this earth  
will remember you, *LORD*.

People all over the world  
will turn and wor-ship you,

<sup>28</sup> because you are in control,  
the ruler of all *nations*.

<sup>29</sup> All who are rich  
and have more than enough  
will bow down to you, *Lord*.

Even those who are dying

and almost in the grave  
will come and bow *down*.

<sup>30</sup> In the future, everyone will *worship*  
and learn about you, our *Lord*.

<sup>31</sup> People not yet born  
will be *told*,  
"The Lord has saved *us*!"

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

***Those who are poor will eat;***

***Those who seek you will give praise.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** Genesis 16:1-6 CEV

Abram's wife Sarai had not been able to have any children.  
But she owned a young Egyptian slave woman named  
Hagar, <sup>2</sup> and Sarai said to Abram, "The LORD has not given  
me any children. Sleep with my slave, and if she has a child,  
it will be mine." Abram agreed, <sup>3</sup> and Sarai gave him Hagar  
to be his wife. This happened after Abram had lived in the

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land of Canaan for ten years. <sup>4</sup> Later, when Hagar knew she was going to have a baby, she became proud and was hateful to Sarai.

<sup>5</sup> Then Sarai said to Abram, "It's all your fault! I gave you my slave woman, but she has been hateful to me ever since she found out she was pregnant. You have done me wrong, and you will have to answer to the LORD for this."

<sup>6</sup> Abram said, "All right! She's your slave, and you can do whatever you want with her." But Sarai began treating Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.

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*.

+ **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.***

+ **COMMEMORATION: ROMNEY PITT MARSHALL**

Romey Pitt Marshall (1901-1985) started out in the Florida Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South as a boy evangelist. In later years he recalled how, with the coming of the Great Depression, he had lost his faith. He discovered another man who had also lost his faith, and as they poured out their hearts to each other and struggled together they recovered their faith step by step. But it was a more mature faith than the one they had lost, and for Marshall it was a strongly Wesleyan faith. After serving as a pastor in the Florida Conference (1932-1936), he was Editor of "The Florida Christian Advocate" (1936-1941) and Associate Editor of "The Christian Advocate" in Chicago (1941-1943).

Returning to pastorates in the Florida (1943-1949) and Central Pennsylvania (1949-1955) Conferences, he was a forceful advocate whose beliefs had been tested by adversity and continued to be tested daily in local congregations. In the mid 1940s he wrote articles for "The Pastor", a journal for Methodist clergy, urging renewal through a return to a Wesleyan faith and spirituality that combined the evangelistic with the sacramental. He was a member of his Conference Board of Evangelism and gave lectures to clergy on evangelistic preaching.

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On September 12, 1946 in the offices of the Board of Missions at the Methodist Building in New York City, he and three other Methodist clergy met and founded the Brotherhood of Saint Luke, renamed the Order of Saint Luke at its first convocation in 1948. Marshall was its first Director, a title later changed to President. His "Liturgical Question Box" column in "The Pastor," which lasted until that journal's demise in 1956, gave practical answers to numerous questions asked by Methodist pastors, most of whom had never taken a course in worship other than preaching.

While serving as Editor of "The North Carolina Christian Advocate" (1955-1960), Marshall's health broke and he took a small congregation in the Central Pennsylvania Conference until his retirement in 1967. In 1962 he gave up the presidency of the Order but retained the largely honorary office of Director and was later named President Emeritus. He continued to be active in the Order and on its Executive Committee through the 1960s, even after his retirement, until failing health made this impossible. He was well acquainted with progressive Roman Catholic life and thought and was enthusiastic about the work of the Second Vatican Council. After many years of ill health he was, as the Salvation Army puts it, "promoted to glory" on February 26, 1985.

His eloquent witness of Wesleyan faith and spirituality in the face of severe personal challenges has continued to be an inspiration, for which we honor him.

\* For All the Saints pg 107

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT: ROMEY PITT MARSHALL**

Good Shepherd of the flock, we thank you for faithful bishops, pastors, and abbatial leaders like Romey Pitt Marshall who teach and defend the faith. By your Word call them from maintenance to mission, from ease to vision, and from fear to courageous leadership. **Amen.**

\* For All the Saints

+ **PRAYERS**

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

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

+ **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.***

+ PRAYER OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. ***Amen.***

+ PRAYERS FOR QUIET CONFIDENCE

***O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

+ PRAYER FOR THE AGED

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

***Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

+ COLLECT FOR FRIDAY IN THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

Lord Christ, our eternal Redeemer, grant us such fellowship in your sufferings, that, filled with your Holy Spirit, we may

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subdue the flesh to the spirit, and the spirit to you, and at the last attain to the glory of your resurrection; who lives and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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**

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.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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