

Monday, February 1, 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.

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**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 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!**

Psalms 92:1-5

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

**Dawn from on high,  
Your light illumines all our days.  
Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day.  
Be merciful in us for the sake of others.  
Make us fearless when confronting injustice and need,  
that we may give you glory in the power of the Spirit.  
Amen.**

\* For All the Saints

+ **Psalms 35:1-10** ESV

<sup>1</sup> Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;  
fight against those who fight against me!

<sup>2</sup> Take hold of shield and buckler

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and rise for my help!

<sup>3</sup> Draw the spear and javelin  
against my pursuers!

Say to my soul,

“I am your salvation!”

<sup>4</sup> Let them be put to shame and dishonor  
who seek after my life!

Let them be turned back and disappointed  
who devise evil against me!

<sup>5</sup> Let them be like chaff before the wind,  
with the angel of the LORD driving them away!

<sup>6</sup> Let their way be dark and slippery,  
with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!

<sup>7</sup> For without cause they hid their net for me;  
without cause they dug a pit for my life.

<sup>8</sup> Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it!  
And let the net that he hid ensnare him;  
let him fall into it—to his destruction!

<sup>9</sup> Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD,  
exulting in his salvation.

<sup>10</sup> All my bones shall say,  
“O LORD, who is like you,  
delivering the poor

from him who is too strong for him,  
the poor and needy from him who robs him?”

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

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** Acts 21:17-26 CEV

<sup>17</sup> When we arrived in Jerusalem, the Lord’s followers gladly welcomed us. <sup>18</sup> Paul went with us to see James the next day, and all the church leaders were present. <sup>19</sup> Paul greeted them and told how God had used him to help the Gentiles. <sup>20</sup> Everyone who heard this praised God and said to Paul: My friend, you can see how many tens of thousands of the Jewish people have become followers! And all of them are eager to obey the Law of Moses. <sup>21</sup> But they have been told that you are teaching those who live among the Gentiles to disobey this Law. They claim that you are telling them not to circumcise their sons or to follow Jewish customs. <sup>22</sup> What should we do now that our people have heard that you are here? <sup>23</sup> Please do what we ask, because four of our men have made special promises to God. <sup>24</sup> Join with them

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and prepare yourself for the ceremony that goes with the promises. Pay the cost for their heads to be shaved. Then everyone will learn that the reports about you are not true. They will know that you do obey the Law of Moses.

<sup>25</sup> Some while ago we told the Gentile followers what we think they should do. We instructed them not to eat anything offered to idols. They were told not to eat any meat with blood still in it or the meat of an animal that has been strangled. They were also told not to commit any terrible sexual sins.

<sup>26</sup> The next day Paul took the four men with him and got himself ready at the same time they did. Then he went into the temple and told when the final ceremony would take place and when an offering would be made for each of them.

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: BRIGID OF KILDARE**

Sometimes known as “the Mary of the Gael,” Brigid was born in 451 or 452, possibly to a slave of her father. ... Rejecting offers of marriage, Brigid became a nun and eventually settled in Druin Criadh, where, under a large oak tree, she erected the Convent of Cill-Dara, that is, "the church of the oak" (now Kildare). Two monastic communities, one for men and one for women, developed at Kildare. Brigid chose St Conleth to govern the communities along with herself, the first of a centuries-long double line of abbot-bishops and abbesses ruling those communities. The monasteries at Kildare became a center of religion and learning, and Brigid became a woman of much influence within religious and secular society.

In addition to this remarkable monastic community, Brigid's convent at Kildare was home to artisans and calligraphers. A “Book of Kildare,” presumed lost during the Reformation, was said to have been incomparable in the beauty of its illuminations.

Brigid's friendship with St Patrick was well recorded in early manuscripts. The eighth century "Book of Armagh," tantalizingly tells us that “Between Patrick and Brigid, pillars

of the Irish, there was so great a friendship that they were of one heart and one mind.”[ xci]

At her death, Brigid was attended by St. Ninnidh who administered the viaticum. He came to be called "Ninnidh of the Clean Hand" because he had his right hand encased with a metal covering to prevent its ever being defiled after this event.

Today, St Brigid lends her name to a community of men and women established by Mary Ewing Stamps out of The Upper Room’s interest to explore monasticism in an ecumenical context. The community was blessed on February 1, 2000 at its first home on the grounds of Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota; it is now located in Saint Joseph, Minnesota, near Saint Benedict’s Monastery. St Brigid’s and its oblates are “women and men, United Methodist and others, lay and ordained, young and old” whose guiding sources are “Scripture, the Rule of Saint Benedict, the Benedictine Breviary, and Methodist texts such as the United Methodist Hymnal, the Book of Discipline, and the writings of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.”

\* For All the Saints pg.87

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT: BRIGID OF KILDARE**

O God, whose servant Brigid, kindled with the flame of your love, became a shining light in your Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

\* Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006

+ **PRAYERS**

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

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

+ PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

***O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to those we pray for this day, the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 JOY IN GOD'S CREATION

***O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

+ PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly pray to you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil

way. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

***Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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**

<sup>9</sup> I pray that our love will keep on growing and that we will fully know and understand <sup>10</sup> how to make the right choices. Then we will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, <sup>11</sup> Jesus Christ will keep us busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God. **Amen.**

Philippians 1:9-11 CEV

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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