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Thursday, February 11, 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.

* OSL

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:

Oh God, The Holy Spirit,

come to us, and among us;

come as the wind, and cleanse us;

come as the fire, and burn;

come as the dew, and refresh;

convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives to

our great good and to your greater glory;

and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. ***Amen***

[UM Book of Worship.]

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+ **Psalm 50:1-6** NRSV

Pray to me in time of trouble.

I will rescue you, and you will hon-or me.

- ¹ From east to west,
the powerful LORD God
has been calling together
every-one on *earth*.
- ² God shines brightly from *Zion*,
the most beauti-ful *city*.
- ³ Our God approaches,
but not *silently*;
a flaming fire comes first,
and a storm surrounds *him*.
- ⁴ God comes to judge his *people*.
He shouts to the heavens
and to the *earth*,
- ⁵ “Call my followers *together*!
They offered me a sacrifice,
and we made an *agreement*.”
- ⁶ The heavens *announce*,
“God is the judge,
and he is al-ways *honest*.”

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

Pray to me in time of trouble.

I will rescue you, and you will hon-or me.

+SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD: 2 Corinthians 2:12-17** CEB

¹² When I came to Troas to preach Christ’s gospel, the Lord gave me an opportunity to preach. ¹³ But I was worried because I couldn’t find my brother Titus there. So I said good-bye to them and went on to Macedonia.

¹⁴ But thank God, who is always leading us around through Christ as if we were in a parade. He releases the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere through us.

¹⁵ We smell like the aroma of Christ’s offering to God, both to those who are being saved and to those who are on the road to destruction. ¹⁶ We smell like a contagious dead person to those who are dying, but we smell like the fountain of life to those who are being saved.

Who is qualified for this kind of ministry? ¹⁷ We aren’t like so many people who hustle the word of God to make a profit. We are speaking through Christ in the presence of

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God, as those who are sincere and as those who are sent from God.

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,***

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***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: FANNY JANE CROSBY**

Fanny Crosby, born in 1820, went blind at six weeks of age but her disability did not prevent her from becoming the most prolific writer of hymns in American history. A precocious child who began writing verse at age eight, she eventually became a teacher of grammar, rhetoric, and history at the New York School for the Blind. Her hymnody, which is well represented in The United

Methodist Hymnal (1989), continues to be a powerful influence on the worship experience of United Methodists.

Crosby began her hymn-writing career shortly after her marriage to Alexander Van Alstyne in 1858 and eventually produced more than eight thousand hymns. It has been noted that "much of the writing was done to order. For Biglow and Main (her publishers) she produced three hymns a week." A lifelong Methodist, she often visited services in missions throughout Manhattan. After one such visit, she came away convinced that no one was beyond redemption. She wrote that it was the duty of the Christian to

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave,
Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen,
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save (UMH 591).

Her most enduring and beloved hymns speak of a personal and heartfelt devotion to Christ: "To God be the glory, great things He hath done!" (UMH 98), "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" (UMH 301), "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" (UMH 351), "Close to Thee" (UMH 407), and "I Am Thine, O Lord" (UMH 419).

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Her deep roots in Wesleyan spirituality are evident in her beloved hymn, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine" (UMH 369):

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

* For All the Saints pg 93

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

COLLECT: FANNY JANE CROSBY

God of sound and sense, as we commemorate Fanny Jane Crosby who glorified you in the gift of music, so may we fix our faith and affections upon you, and make melody and song our delight in your majesty and mercy. 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)*

+ PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Gracious God, as your son wept with Mary and Martha at the tomb of Lazarus, look with compassion this day on those who grieve. Grant them the assurance of your presence now and faith in your eternal goodness, that in them may be fulfilled the promise that those who mourn shall be comforted; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

United Methodist Hymnal - *adapted*

+ PRAYERS FOR THE GREATER NJ CONFERENCE

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Greater New Jersey Conference to a sizable fellowship of faith. Bless Bishop Schol, our District Superintendents, other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BCP - adapted

+ PRAYERS FOR THE OPPRESSED

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

+ 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**

I pray that God, the source of all hope, will infuse our lives
with an abundance of joy and peace in the midst of our
faith, so that our hope will overflow through the power of
the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13 *THE VOICE*

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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