

Friday, April 2, 2021

*Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me, whom the Lord hath afflicted.* Lamentations 1:12

+ **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** - *The First Song of Isaiah*

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be a-fraid.  
**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de-fense,**

**and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with re-joicing  
from the springs of sal-vation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call u-pon his *Name*;

**Make his deeds known a-mong the peoples;**

**see that they remember that his Name is ex-alted.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great *things*,  
and this is known in all the *world*.

**Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,**  
**for the great one in the midst of you**  
**is the Holy One of Israel.**

Isaiah 12:2-6

+ **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]

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+ **WORD:** Genesis 22:1-24 CEV

Some years later God decided to test Abraham, so he spoke to him.

Abraham answered, "Here I am, LORD."

<sup>2</sup> The LORD said, "Go get Isaac, your only son, the one you dearly love! Take him to the land of Moriah, and I will show you a mountain where you must sacrifice him to me on the fires of an altar." <sup>3</sup> So Abraham got up early the next morning and chopped wood for the fire. He put a saddle on his donkey and left with Isaac and two servants for the place where God had told him to go.

<sup>4</sup> Three days later Abraham looked off in the distance and saw the place. <sup>5</sup> He told his servants, "Stay here with the donkey, while my son and I go over there to worship. We will come back."

<sup>6</sup> Abraham put the wood on Isaac's shoulder, but he carried the hot coals and the knife. As the two of them walked along, <sup>7-8</sup> Isaac said, "Father, we have the coals and the wood, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?"

"My son," Abraham answered, "God will provide the lamb."

The two of them walked on, and <sup>9</sup> when they reached the place that God had told him about, Abraham built an altar

and placed the wood on it. Next, he tied up his son and put him on the wood. <sup>10</sup> He then took the knife and got ready to kill his son. <sup>11</sup> But the LORD's angel shouted from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am!" he answered.

<sup>12</sup> "Don't hurt the boy or harm him in any way!" the angel said. "Now I know that you truly obey God, because you were willing to offer him your only son."

<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in the bushes. So he took the ram and sacrificed it in place of his son.

<sup>14</sup> Abraham named that place "The LORD Will Provide." And even now people say, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

+ **Psalm 22:1-21a** NRSV

***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

***Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?***

<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my  
groaning?  
<sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.  
<sup>3</sup> Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup> In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.  
<sup>5</sup> To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
<sup>6</sup> But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
<sup>8</sup> “Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”  
<sup>9</sup> Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.  
<sup>10</sup> On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
<sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me,

for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.  
<sup>12</sup> Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
<sup>13</sup> they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.  
<sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax;  
it is melted within my breast;  
<sup>15</sup> my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.  
<sup>16</sup> For dogs are all around me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shriveled;  
<sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me;  
<sup>18</sup> they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.  
<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, do not be far away!  
O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
<sup>20</sup> Deliver my soul from the sword,

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my life from the power of the dog!

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the mouth of the lion!

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

***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

***Why are you so far from helping me, from the  
words of my groaning?***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** John 13:36-38 CEV

<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter asked, "Lord, where are you going?"

Jesus answered, "You can't go with me now, but later on you will."

<sup>37</sup> Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I go with you now? I would die for you!"

<sup>38</sup> "Would you really die for me?" Jesus asked. "I tell you for certain that before a rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't even know me."

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*,

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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.*

+ 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 ATTRIBUTED TO FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is  
hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where

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there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

+ FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

***Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

+ COLLECT: FRIDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.***

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+ **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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