

Friday, March 5, 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.**

+ **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]

+ **Psalm 19** NRSV

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be accept-able to you,
O LORD, my rock and my re-deemer.**

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament pro-claims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech,

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and night to night de-clares *knowledge*.

³ There is no speech, nor are there *words*;
their voice is not *heard*;

⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the *world*.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the *sun*,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wed-ding
canopy,

and like a strong man runs its course with *joy*.

⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of *them*;
and nothing is hid from its *heat*.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
re-living the *soul*;

the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the *simple*;

⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
re-joicing the *heart*;

the commandment of the LORD is clear,
en-lightening the *eyes*;

⁹ the fear of the LORD is *pure*,
en-during for-*ever*;

the ordinances of the LORD are true

and righteous al-to-*gether*.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine *gold*;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the hon-ey-*comb*.

¹¹ Moreover by them is your ser-vant *warned*;
in keeping them there is great re-*ward*.

¹² But who can de-tect their *errors*?
Clear me from hid-den *faults*.

¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion o-*ver me*.

Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great trans-*gression*.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be accept-able to *you*,
O LORD, my rock and my re-*deemer*.

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

***Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be accept-able to you,
O LORD, my rock and my re-*deemer*.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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+ **WORD:** Acts 7:30-40 CEV

³⁰ Forty years later, an angel appeared to Moses from a burning bush in the desert near Mount Sinai. ³¹ Moses was surprised by what he saw. He went closer to get a better look, and the Lord said, ³² “I am the God who was worshiped by your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.” Moses started shaking all over and didn’t dare to look at the bush.

³³ The Lord said to him, “Take off your sandals. The place where you are standing is holy. ³⁴ With my own eyes I have seen the suffering of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groans and have come down to rescue them. Now I am sending you back to Egypt.”

³⁵ This was the same Moses that the people rejected by saying, “Who made you our leader and judge?” God’s angel had spoken to Moses from the bush. And God had even sent the angel to help Moses rescue the people and be their leader.

³⁶ In Egypt and at the Red Sea and in the desert, Moses rescued the people by working miracles and wonders for forty years. ³⁷ Moses is the one who told the people of Israel, “God will choose one of your people to be a prophet, just as he chose me.” ³⁸ Moses brought our people together in the

desert, and the angel spoke to him on Mount Sinai. There he was given these life-giving words to pass on to us. ³⁹ But our ancestors refused to obey Moses. They rejected him and wanted to go back to Egypt.

⁴⁰ The people said to Aaron, “Make some gods to lead us! Moses led us out of Egypt, but we don’t know what’s happened to him now.”

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: WILLIAM McKENDREE

McKendree, the first American-born Methodist bishop, was born July 6, 1757 on a small farm near Richmond, Virginia.

Reared Anglican, his family joined the Methodists when he was eighteen. Young McKendree commanded a regiment in the Revolutionary War and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the war he experienced a conversion to God and a call to the ordained ministry which he entered in 1788. He served circuits in Virginia and the Carolinas until 1800 when Bishop Asbury sent him to organize circuits and conferences in the west. He skillfully superintended his large district, which extended from Ohio to Illinois through Kentucky to Tennessee and Mississippi. The record of his work in the west plus a memorable sermon before the General Conference of the church in 1808 led to his election as bishop a few days later.

McKendree gladly shared episcopal leadership with Francis Asbury, the man who was his bishop, mentor, and friend from the time he began riding a circuit, but he also made his own significant contributions. He initiated the bishop's cabinet and the episcopal address to General Conferences. Under his direction General Conferences began using standing committees to prepare their legislation. He vigorously promoted Sunday schools and helped organize the church's Missionary Society in 1819.

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+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT: WILLIAM McKENDREE**

Gracious God, our Shepherd, we thank you for raising up William McKendree as bishop in your church. Remembering his faithfulness and care, fill all shepherds of your church with truth in doctrine, fidelity in Word and Sacrament, and boldness and vision in leading the people, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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 THE ANSWERING OF PRAYER

Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in your Son's Name: We ask you mercifully to incline your ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications to you; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to your will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ PRAYERS FOR a Person in Trouble or Bereavement

O merciful Father, who has taught us in your holy Word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: Look with pity upon the sorrows of you servants for whom our prayers are offered. Remember them, O Lord, in mercy, nourish their souls with patience, comfort them with a sense of your goodness, lift up your countenance upon them, and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ COLLECT: FRIDAY IN THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Grant, O Lord, that as your Son Jesus Christ prayed for his enemies on the cross, so we may have grace to forgive those who wrongfully or scornfully use us, that we ourselves

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may be able to receive your forgiveness; 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**

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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