

Monday, March 15, 2021

Fourth Monday in Lent:

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:8, 9*

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

* OSL

+ **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!

Psalm 92:1-5

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

**Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a
faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

3/15/21

+ **WORD:** Jeremiah 16:10-21 CEV

¹⁰ They will ask, “Why has the LORD our God threatened us with so many disasters? Have we done something wrong or sinned against him?”

¹¹ Then tell them I have said:

People of Judah, your ancestors turned away from me; they rejected my laws and teachings and started worshiping other gods. ¹² And you have done even worse! You are stubborn, and instead of obeying me, you do whatever evil comes to your mind. ¹³ So I will throw you into a land that you and your ancestors know nothing about, a place where you will have to worship other gods both day and night. And I won’t feel the least bit sorry for you.

¹⁴ A time will come when you will again worship me. But you will no longer call me the Living God who rescued Israel from Egypt. ¹⁵ Instead, you will call me the Living God who rescued you from that country in the north and from the other countries where I had forced you to go.

Someday I will bring you back to this land that I gave your ancestors. ¹⁶ But for now, I am sending enemies who will catch you like fish and hunt you down like wild animals in the hills and the caves.

¹⁷ I can see everything you are doing, even if you try to hide your sins from me. ¹⁸ I will punish you double for your sins, because you have made my own land disgusting. You have filled it with lifeless idols that remind me of dead bodies.

I prayed to the LORD:

¹⁹ Our LORD, you are the one who gives me strength and protects me like a fortress when I am in trouble.

People will come to you from distant nations and say, “Our ancestors worshiped false and useless gods, ²⁰ worthless idols made by human hands.”

²¹ Then the LORD replied, “That’s why I will teach them about my power, and they will know that I am the true God.”

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

3/15/21

+ **Psalm 89:1-18** NRSV

***Righteousness and justice are the
foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.***

¹ I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all
generations.

² I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

³ You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

⁴ "I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" *Selah*

⁵ Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,

⁷ a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome above all that are around him?

⁸ O LORD God of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.

⁹ You rule the raging of the sea;

when its waves rise, you still them.

¹⁰ You crushed Rahab like a carcass;
you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.

¹¹ The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;
the world and all that is in it - you have founded them.

¹² The north and the south - you created them;
Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.

¹³ You have a mighty arm;
strong is your hand, high your right hand.

¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your
throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance;

¹⁶ they exult in your name all day long,
and extol your righteousness.

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.

¹⁸ For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

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

Righteousness and justice are the

***foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** John 6:1-15 CEV

Jesus crossed Lake Galilee, which was also known as Lake Tiberias. ² A large crowd had seen him work miracles to heal the sick, and those people went with him. ³⁻⁴ It was almost time for the Jewish festival of Passover, and Jesus went up on a mountain with his disciples and sat down.

⁵ When Jesus saw the large crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, “Where will we get enough food to feed all these people?” ⁶ He said this to test Philip, since he already knew what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered, “Don’t you know that it would take almost a year’s wages just to buy only a little bread for each of these people?”

⁸ Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the disciples. He spoke up and said, ⁹ “There is a boy here who

has five small loaves of barley bread and two fish. But what good is that with all these people?”

¹⁰ The ground was covered with grass, and Jesus told his disciples to have everyone sit down. About five thousand men were in the crowd. ¹¹ Jesus took the bread in his hands and gave thanks to God. Then he passed the bread to the people, and he did the same with the fish, until everyone had plenty to eat.

¹² The people ate all they wanted, and Jesus told his disciples to gather up the leftovers, so that nothing would be wasted. ¹³ The disciples gathered them up and filled twelve large baskets with what was left over from the five barley loaves.

¹⁴ After the people had seen Jesus work this miracle, they began saying, “This must be the Prophet who is to come into the world!” ¹⁵ Jesus realized that they would try to force him to be their king. So he went up on a mountain, where he could be alone.

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*.

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,***

3/15/21

*the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **PRAYERS**

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

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

+ FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with

*you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

+ PRAYERS FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, and especially administrators and teachers in this time of pandemic, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ PRAYERS FOR OUR ENEMIES

*O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life

to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

+ PRAYER: MONDAY IN THE FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

O Lord our God, in your holy Sacraments you have given us a foretaste of the good things of your kingdom: Direct us, we pray, in the way that leads to eternal life, that we may come to appear before you in that place of light where you dwell for ever with your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who 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.**

+ **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.**

3/15/21

+ **BLESSING**

God be in our head, and in our understanding.

God be in our eyes, and in our looking.

God be in our mouth, and in our speaking.

God be in our heart, and in our thinking.

God be at our end, and at our departing.

(SARUM LITURGY, ENGLAND, 13TH CENT., ALT.)

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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