

3/11/21

Thursday, March 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:

Almighty and everlasting God,

in whom we live and move and have our being,

you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are

restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such

piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish

passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and

no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see

life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Augustine

3/11/21

+ **Psalm 42 & 43** (originally one poem) NRSV

***Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.***

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help ⁶ and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

⁸ By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock,
“Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?”

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?

3/11/21

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

¹ Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust
deliver me!

² For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?

³ O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

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

***Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.***

+SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD: Jeremiah 10:11-24** CEV

¹¹ You told me to say that idols did not create
the heavens and the earth,
and that you, the LORD, will destroy every idol.

¹² With your wisdom and power
you created the earth and spread out the heavens.

¹³ The waters in the heavens roar at your command.
You make clouds appear—
you send the winds from your storehouse
and make lightning flash in the rain.

3/11/21

¹⁴ People who make idols are so stupid!
They will be disappointed,
because their false gods are not alive.

¹⁵ Idols are merely a joke,
and when the time is right, they will be destroyed.

¹⁶ But you, Israel's God, created all things,
and you chose Israel to be your very own.
Your name is the LORD All-Powerful.

¹⁷ I said to the people of Judah,
"Gather your things; you are surrounded.

¹⁸ The LORD said these troubles
will lead to your capture, and he will throw you
from this land like a rock from a sling."

¹⁹ The people answered,
"We are wounded and doomed to die.
Why did we say we could stand the pain?

²⁰ Our homes are destroyed; our children are dead.
No one is left to help us find shelter."

²¹ But I told them,
"Our leaders were stupid failures,
because they refused to listen to the LORD.
And so we've been scattered like sheep.

²² "Sounds of destruction rumble from the north
like distant thunder.
Soon our towns will be ruins where jackals live."

²³ I know, LORD, that we humans
are not in control of our own lives.

²⁴ Correct me, as I deserve,
but not in your anger, or I will be dead.

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*,**

3/11/21

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,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ **COMMEMORATION: THOMAS WARE**

Thomas Ware was an early Methodist circuit rider. His memoirs, *Sketches in the Life and Travels of Rev. Thomas Ware* (1839), reveal a faithful soul engaged

3/11/21

in the difficult work of a traveling preacher. They also give us unique insights into the formation of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Ware was born in Greenwich, New Jersey on December 19, 1758. Trained as a Calvinist and although he had a strong religious bent, he did not fully appreciate the deeper aspects of religion until his entrance into the Revolutionary War as a soldier. Ware's military service was cut short when he contracted "swamp fever," and was discharged. He soon joined the Methodists and was sent by Asbury to the Dover circuit in 1783.

In his memoirs he tells the story of meeting up with a minister from another denomination, who, seeing that he was always traveling, asked if he were a missionary. Ware writes, "I replied that I was a Methodist, and we were all missionaries."

* For All the Saints

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT: THOMAS WARE**

God our Creator and Redeemer, anoint from among your people zealous and faithful preachers like Thomas Ware and give us ears to hear the gospel that your image may be fully restored in us, 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)*

+ **PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS**

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

3/11/21

+ FOR PEACE

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ FOR SOUND GOVERNMENT

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the

needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and

3/11/21

hurt the soul; 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.

+ COLLECT: Thursday In The Third Week Of Lent

Keep watch over your Church, O Lord, with your unflinching love; and, since it is grounded in human weakness and cannot maintain itself without your aid, protect it from all danger, and keep it in the way of salvation; through Jesus Christ your Son 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.**

3/11/21

+ **BLESSING**

The Lord bless us and keep us;
the Lord make his face to shine upon us,
and be gracious to us;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon us,
and give us peace. **Amen.**

NUMBERS 6:24–26

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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