

Tuesday, March 2, 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 OF PRAISE**

Come, let us sing to the Ho-ly One; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-vation.
**Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,*
and raise a loud shout with psalms.**
For you, O God, are a great God,*
you are great a-bove all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

The sea is yours, for you made it,*
and your hands have molded the dry land.
**Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,*
and kneel before God, our Maker.**

For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture
and the sheep of your hand.*
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

PSALM 95:1-7

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

New every morning is your love, great God of light,
and all day long you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our
neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son,
our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

+ **Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45** NRSV

**Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.**

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, call on his *name*,
make known his deeds a-mong the *peoples*.
² Sing to him, sing praises to *him*;
tell of all his wonder-ful *works*.
³ Glory in his ho-ly *name*;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD re-*joice*.
⁴ Seek the LORD and his *strength*;
seek his presence con-*tinually*.
⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has *done*,
his miracles, and the judgments he has *uttered*,
⁶ O offspring of his ser-vant *Abraham*,
children of Jacob, his cho-sen *ones*.
⁷ He is the LORD our *God*;
his judgments are in all the *earth*.
⁸ He is mindful of his covenant for-*ever*,
of the word that he commanded,
for a thousand gen-er-ations,
⁹ the covenant that he made with *Abraham*,
his sworn promise to *Isaac*,
¹⁰ which he confirmed to Jacob as a *statute*,

to Israel as an ever-last-ing *covenant*,
¹¹ saying, “To you I will give the land of *Canaan*
as your portion for an *in-heritance*.”
³⁷ Then he brought Israel out with silver and *gold*,
and there was no one among their tribes who *stumbled*.
³⁸ Egypt was glad when they de-*parted*,
for dread of them had fallen upon *it*.
³⁹ He spread a cloud for a *covering*,
and fire to give light by *night*.
⁴⁰ They asked, and he brought *quails*,
and gave them food from heaven in *abundance*.
⁴¹ He opened the rock, and water gushed *out*;
it flowed through the desert like a *river*.
⁴² For he remembered his ho-ly *promise*,
and Abra-ham, his *servant*.
⁴³ So he brought his people out with *joy*,
his chosen ones with *singing*.
⁴⁴ He gave them the lands of the *nations*,
and they took possession of the wealth of the *peoples*,
⁴⁵ that they might keep his statutes
and ob-serve his *laws*.
Praise the *LORD*!

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

***Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** **Genesis 22:1-19** NRSV

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and

laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

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¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice." ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham lived at Beer-sheba.

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

+ **COMMEMORATION: JOHN WESLEY**

Founder of the Methodist movement, priest of the Church of England, keen scholar, brilliant organizer, social reformer, and tireless preacher of the gospel, John Wesley (b. 1703) was the fifteenth of the nineteen children born to Susanna and Samuel. His providential rescue from a fire at the Epworth rectory in 1709 led his deeply religious mother to take even more seriously the task of forming in him the religious and personal habits which made his later work so effective. He was schooled at Charterhouse in London and Christ Church College, Oxford and became a fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. There he began with Charles the now famous "Holy Club" known for its strict devotion and ministries of compassion. The works of William Law, Bishop Taylor, and Thomas à Kempis deeply shaped his understanding of Christianity as a call to a practical holiness.

In 1736, he accompanied Oglethorpe to Georgia as a missionary where his reforming zeal met with dismal failure. Finding himself in a disastrous relationship and under legal attack, he left the colony under cover of night dejected and religiously confused. He returned to England convinced that he had "the faith of a servant not of a son." But encouraged by Moravian Peter Böhler to "preach faith

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until he had it," Wesley soon had his famous Aldersgate heart-warming experience on May 24, 1738. That summer he visited the Moravians of Herrnhut and was impressed by their fellowship, their organization into "bands," and their love feasts.

Returning to England and being turned out of numerous parish pulpits, he took up George Whitefield's practice of field-preaching. The crowds responded, some with enthusiastic outbursts, others with threats of violence, but he eventually won many hearers, especially among England's working classes. He formed his converts into societies for "experimental religion" whose only requirement was the desire "to flee from the wrath to come." Smaller classes were developed for more intense training in the faith. To extend his work, Wesley began to send out highly disciplined lay preachers. Gathering them for yearly conferences, he firmly supervised Methodism's phenomenal growth. In his many writings, Wesley created a highly original theological synthesis both Western and Eastern, sacramental and revivalistic, Arminian in emphasizing on free grace and radical in its demand for holiness.

John died on this date in 1791 in his house next to the City Road Chapel and is buried there. In his life he had preached more than 40,000 times, published about 500 books, sermons, tracts, and pamphlets, and covered more than 250,000 miles on horseback. At his death there were 79,000 Methodists in England and 40,000 in North America.

* For All the Saints

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT: JOHN WESLEY**

Almighty God, who raised up your servant John Wesley to proclaim anew the gift of redemption and the life of holiness: Be with us his children, and revive your work among us; that inspired by the same faith and upheld by the same grace in Word and Sacrament, we and all your people may be made one in the unity of your Church on earth, even as in heaven we are made one in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

* For All the Saints

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+ **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 STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

+ PRAYERS FOR TRAVELERS

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who must travel in this time of pandemic; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ PRAYER FOR HEROIC SERVICE

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ COLLECT: Tuesday In The Second Week Of Lent

O God, you willed to redeem us from all iniquity by your Son: Deliver us when we are tempted to regard sin without abhorrence, and let the virtue of his passion come between us and our mortal enemy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

* Holy Women, Holy Men

+ 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.***

***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.***

+ 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.***

+ **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.***

+ **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.***

+ **BLESSING**

¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

Ephesians 3:16-17 NRSV

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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