

Wednesday, March 10, 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 Second Song of Isaiah*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found;
call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the evil ones their thoughts;

And let them turn to the Lord,
and he will have compassion,
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as rain and snow fall from the heavens
and return not again, but water the earth,

Bringing forth life and giving growth,
seed for sowing and bread for eating,

So is my word that goes forth from my mouth;
it will not return to me empty;

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed,
and prosper in that for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:6-11

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

Oh God, The Holy Spirit,
come to us, and among us;
come as the wind, and cleanse us;
come as the fire, and burn;
come as the dew, and refresh;
convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives to
our great good and to your greater glory;
and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

[UM Book of Worship.]

+ **Psalm 119:97-120** CEV

⁹⁷ I deeply love your Law!
I think about it all day.
⁹⁸ Your laws never leave my mind,
and they make me much wiser
than my enemies.
⁹⁹ Thinking about your teachings
gives me better understanding
than my teachers,
¹⁰⁰ and obeying your laws
makes me wiser
than those
who have lived a long time.
¹⁰¹ I obey your word

instead of following a way
that leads to trouble.
¹⁰² You have been my teacher,
and I won't reject
your instructions.
¹⁰³ Your teachings are sweeter
than honey.
¹⁰⁴ They give me understanding
and make me hate all lies.
¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp
that gives light
wherever I walk.
¹⁰⁶ Your laws are fair,
and I have given my word
to respect them all.
¹⁰⁷ I am in terrible pain!
Save me, LORD,
as you said you would.
¹⁰⁸ Accept my offerings of praise
and teach me your laws.
¹⁰⁹ I never forget your teachings,
although my life is always
in danger.
¹¹⁰ Some merciless people

are trying to trap me,
but I never turn my back
on your teachings.

¹¹¹ They will always be
my most prized possession
and my source of joy.

¹¹² I have made up my mind
to obey your laws forever,
no matter what.

¹¹³ I hate anyone
whose loyalty is divided,
but I love your Law.

¹¹⁴ You are my place of safety
and my shield.

Your word is my only hope.

¹¹⁵ All of you worthless people,
get away from me!
I am determined to obey
the commands of my God.

¹¹⁶ Be true to your word, LORD.
Keep me alive and strong;
don't let me be ashamed
because of my hope.

¹¹⁷ Keep me safe and secure,
so that I will always
respect your laws.

¹¹⁸ You reject all deceitful liars
because they refuse
your teachings.

¹¹⁹ As far as you are concerned,
all evil people are ^agarbage,
and so I follow your rules.

¹²⁰ I tremble all over
when I think of you
and the way you judge.

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

+SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** **John 8:12-20** CEV

¹² Jesus spoke to the people again, saying, "I am the light
of the world. Whoever follows me won't walk in darkness
but will have the light of life."

¹³ Then the Pharisees said to him, “Because you are testifying about yourself, your testimony isn’t valid.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Even if I testify about myself, my testimony is true, since I know where I came from and where I’m going. You don’t know where I come from or where I’m going. ¹⁵ You judge according to human standards, but I judge no one. ¹⁶ Even if I do judge, my judgment is truthful, because I’m not alone. My judgments come from me and from the Father who sent me. ¹⁷ In your Law it is written that the witness of two people is true. ¹⁸ I am one witness concerning myself, and the Father who sent me is the other.”

¹⁹ They asked him, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You don’t know me and you don’t know my Father. If you knew me, you would also know my Father.” ²⁰ He spoke these words while he was teaching in the temple area known as the treasury. No one arrested him, because his time hadn’t yet come.

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: HARRIET ROSS TUBMAN

Abolitionist, spy, Underground Railroad conductor, nurse, war hero, and activist, Harriet Tubman was born in Maryland in 1821 as the daughter of slaves. At 13, she intervened to help a runaway slave; the injury she received as punishment caused her blackouts the rest of her life.[cxiv]

In 1827, John Russwurm and the Reverend Mr. Samuel Cornish began to publish Freedom's Journal, the first Black newspaper in the U.S. [cxv] As a result, more and more slaves were taking the risk of fleeing and going North. Tubman herself escaped to Philadelphia in 1849. She found work at a hotel, and began earning money that would support her bringing slaves North. During the next ten years, she made nineteen trips and freed 300 slaves, earning her the nickname, "Moses." She helped John Brown plan the raid on Harper's Ferry in October 1859.

In 1862, she agreed to serve the Union Army, and worked as a spy, scout, and nurse. In 1863, she led a gunboat expedition along the Combahee River during which nearly 800 slaves were brought to safety. Later, she was also active in the fight for women's suffrage. The Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent and Aged Negroes was started in 1896.

* For All the Saints

+SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT:** **HARRIET ROSS TUBMAN**

Pillar of Cloud and Pillar of Fire, you always raise among your imprisoned people leaders of burning vision like Harriet Ross Tubman. Part the dead waters of the past and bring all your people to a new land of promise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 ALL PLACES AND PREDICAMENTS

O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly earnestly request of you for all places and predicaments of people; that you would be pleased to make your ways known unto them, your saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for your holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and

governed by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed, in mind, body, or estate, that it may please you to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

+ PRAYER FOR the President of the United States
and all in Civil Authority

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in your fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

+ PRAYER: Wednesday The Third Week Of Lent

Give ear to our prayers, O Lord, and direct the way of your servants in safety under your protection, that, amid all the changes of our earthly pilgrimage, we may be guarded by your mighty aid; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. 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 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.

+ **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**

I pray that God, the source of all hope, will infuse our lives
with an abundance of joy and peace in the midst of our
faith, so that our hope will overflow through the power of
the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13 *THE VOICE*

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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