

Friday, April 30, 2021

*Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands,
a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear
in the presence of God on our behalf. Hebrews 9:24*

* **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.***

* **CANTICLE OF THE RESURRECTION**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast,
not with the old leaven of malice and evil,

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

***Christ being raised from the dead
will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death he died, he died to sin, once for all,
but the life he lives, he lives to God.***

So consider yourselves dead to sin
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as in Adam all die,
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. * OSL

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

***Dawn from on high,
Your light illumines all our days.
Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day.
Be merciful in us for the sake of others.
Make us fearless when confronting injustice and need,
that we may give you glory in the power of the Spirit.
Amen.***

* For All the Saints

* **WORD:** Wisdom 6:12-23 CEB

¹² Wisdom is bright and unfading. She readily appears to those who love her. She's found by those who keep seeking after her. ¹³ She makes herself known even in advance to those who desire her with all their hearts. ¹⁴ Someone who awakens before dawn to look for her will find her already sitting at the door. ¹⁵ Taking wisdom to heart is the way to bring your thinking to maturity. The one who can't sleep at night because he's consumed with thinking about her will soon be free from worry.

¹⁶ She herself goes about looking for those who are worthy of her. She graciously makes herself known to them as they travel. She comes to them in each of the ideas that they think. ¹⁷ The real beginning of wisdom is to desire instruction with all your heart. ¹⁸ Love for instruction expresses itself in careful reflection. If you love Wisdom, you will keep her laws. If you are attentive to her laws, you can be assured that you will live forever. ¹⁹ If you live forever, you will be near to God. ²⁰ If you desire wisdom with all your heart, you will know what good leadership is. ²¹ So if you, who take charge over peoples, want to keep enjoying the thrones and symbols of power that you presently possess, honor wisdom so that you may rule forever.

²² I'll tell you what Wisdom is and how she came into being. I won't hide these secret matters from you. I'll show you her very origins. I'll lay all that I know of her in the open. I won't skip past the truth. ²³ I won't be selfish or allow jealousy to make me keep this to myself, for jealousy has nothing to do with wisdom.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* **Psalm 40** NRSV

***May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the Lord!"***

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD;

he inclined to me and heard my cry.

² He drew me up from the desolate pit,

out of the miry bog,

and set my feet upon a rock,

making my steps secure.

³ He put a new song in my mouth,

a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear,

and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴ Happy are those who make
the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
⁵ You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.
⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.
⁷ Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
⁸ I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."
⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O LORD.
¹⁰ I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your

faithfulness
from the great congregation.
¹¹ Do not, O LORD, withhold
your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.
¹² For evils have encompassed me
without number;
my iniquities have overtaken me,
until I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.
¹³ Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
¹⁴ Let all those be put to shame and confusion
who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt.
¹⁵ Let those be appalled because of their shame
who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"
¹⁶ But may all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation

say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

¹⁷ As for me, I am poor and needy,

but the Lord takes thought for me.

You are my help and my deliverer;

do not delay, O my God.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,

one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

may those who love your salvation

say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD:** Luke 7:1-17 CEB

After Jesus finished presenting all his words among the people, he entered Capernaum. ² A centurion had a servant who was very important to him, but the servant was ill and about to die. ³ When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to Jesus to ask him to come and heal his servant. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they earnestly pleaded with Jesus. "He deserves to have you do this for

him," they said. ⁵ "He loves our people and he built our synagogue for us."

⁶ Jesus went with them. He had almost reached the house when the centurion sent friends to say to Jesus, "Lord, don't be bothered. I don't deserve to have you come under my roof. ⁷ In fact, I didn't even consider myself worthy to come to you. Just say the word and my servant will be healed. ⁸ I'm also a man appointed under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and the servant does it."

⁹ When Jesus heard these words, he was impressed with the centurion. He turned to the crowd following him and said, "I tell you, even in Israel I haven't found faith like this." ¹⁰ When the centurion's friends returned to his house, they found the servant restored to health.

¹¹ A little later Jesus went to a city called Nain. His disciples and a great crowd traveled with him. ¹² As he approached the city gate, a dead man was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. ¹³ When he saw her, the Lord had compassion for her and said, "Don't cry." ¹⁴ He stepped forward and touched the stretcher on which the dead man

was being carried. Those carrying him stood still. Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, get up." ¹⁵ The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

¹⁶ Awestruck, everyone praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "God has come to help his people." ¹⁷ This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding region.

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.***

* 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)*

* PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to those we pray for this day, the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

* EASTER SEASON INTERCESSION

O God, our Shepherd, our gate, our lamb: in the resurrection of your Son you have brought us into your pasture. Guide us to your clear streams and tame the wolf at our gate; through Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.

* PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

* PRAYER FOR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S CREATION

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of 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.
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.***

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, 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.

* **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,

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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**

Finally, brothers and sisters, keep rejoicing and repair
whatever is broken. Encourage each other, think as one, and
live at peace; and God, the Author of love and peace, will
remain with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11 VOICE

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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