

Monday, April 12, 2021

*On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

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

* OSL

*** CANTICLE OF ACCLAMATION**

You, Christ, reign in glory,
the eternal Chosen One of God.
When you came in the flesh to set us free,

you took our nature on you,
human child of human mother.

***To give us life, you died and broke death's power
making us worthy by your boundless goodness.
You broke the chains that held us captive
and opened wide the gates of eternal life with you.***

O creator God, of majesty unbounded,
your Chosen One, worthy of all worship:
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
save your people, bless your inheritance.

***Complete the work of our salvation;
with grace and judgment,
come and save your people.
And bring us with your Saints
to live with you in God's eternal presence.***

*** 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.)

* **WORD:** Daniel 1:1-21 CEV

In the third year that Jehoiakim was king of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia attacked Jerusalem. ² The Lord let Nebuchadnezzar capture Jehoiakim and take away some of the things used in God's temple. And when the king returned to Babylonia, he put these things in the temple of his own god.

³ One day the king ordered Ashpenaz, his highest palace official, to choose some young men from the royal family of Judah and from other leading Jewish families. ⁴ The king said, "They must be healthy, handsome, smart, wise, educated, and fit to serve in the royal palace. Teach them how to speak and write our language ⁵ and give them the same food and wine that I am served. Train them for three years, and then they can become court officials."

⁶ Four of the young Jews chosen were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, all from the tribe of Judah. ⁷ But the king's chief official gave them Babylonian names: Daniel

became Belteshazzar, Hananiah became Shadrach, Mishael became Meshach, and Azariah became Abednego.

⁸ Daniel made up his mind to eat and drink only what God had approved for his people to eat. And he asked the king's chief official for permission not to eat the food and wine served in the royal palace. ⁹ God had made the official friendly and kind to Daniel. ¹⁰ But the man still told him, "The king has decided what you must eat and drink. And I am afraid he will kill me, if you eat something else and end up looking worse than the other young men."

¹¹ The king's official had put a guard in charge of Daniel and his three friends. So Daniel said to the guard, ¹² "For the next ten days, let us have only vegetables and water at mealtime. ¹³ When the ten days are up, compare how we look with the other young men, and decide what to do with us." ¹⁴ The guard agreed to do what Daniel had asked.

¹⁵ Ten days later, Daniel and his friends looked healthier and better than the young men who had been served food from the royal palace. ¹⁶ After this, the guard let them eat vegetables instead of the rich food and wine.

¹⁷ God made the four young men smart and wise. They read a lot of books and became well educated. Daniel could also tell the meaning of dreams and visions.

4/12/21

¹⁸ At the end of the three-year period set by King Nebuchadnezzar, his chief palace official brought all the young men to him. ¹⁹ The king interviewed them and discovered that none of the others were as outstanding as Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. So they were given positions in the royal court. ²⁰ From then on, whenever the king asked for advice, he found their wisdom was ten times better than that of any of his other advisors and magicians. ²¹ Daniel served there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* **Psalm 1** NRSV

***Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.***

¹ Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;
² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
³ They are like trees

planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

***Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.***

* **Psalm 3** NRSV

***But you, O LORD, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.***

¹ O LORD, how many are my foes!

Many are rising against me;

² many are saying to me,

“There is no help for you in God.” *Selah*

³ But you, O LORD, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.

4/12/21

⁴ I cry aloud to the LORD,
and he answers me from his holy hill. *Selah*

⁵ I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.

⁶ I am not afraid of ten thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

⁷ Rise up, O LORD!

Deliver me, O my God!

For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

⁸ Deliverance belongs to the LORD;
may your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

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

***But you, O LORD, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD:** John 17:1-11 CEV

After Jesus had finished speaking to his disciples, he looked up toward heaven and prayed:

Father, the time has come for you to bring glory to your Son, in order that he may bring glory to you. ² And you gave him power over all people, so that he would give eternal life to everyone you give him. ³ Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent. ⁴ I have brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you gave me to do. ⁵ Now, Father, give me back the glory that I had with you before the world was created.

⁶ You have given me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what you are like. They were yours, but you gave them to me, and they have obeyed you. ⁷ They know that you gave me everything I have. ⁸ I told my followers what you told me, and they accepted it. They know that I came from you, and they believe that you are the one who sent me. ⁹ I am praying for them, but not for those who belong to this world. My followers belong to you, and I am praying for them. ¹⁰ All that I have is yours, and all that you have is mine, and they will bring glory to me.

¹¹ Holy Father, I am no longer in the world. I am coming to you, but my followers are still in the world. So keep them

4/12/21

safe by the power of the name that you have given me. Then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one.

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.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **COMMEMORATION:** Garfield Bromley Oxnam

After studying both business and liberal arts, Oxnam received a degree in Sacred Theology from Boston University in 1915 and was ordained in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1916. The eleven years he spent as a local church pastor were marked by a passion for the social gospel and an emphasis on numerous programs to serve the needs of the community. In 1936 at the age of 44, Oxnam

became the youngest bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He served in the episcopacy for twenty four years in the Omaha, Boston, New York and Washington, D.C. areas.

* For All the Saints

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **COLLECT:** Garfield Bromley Oxnam

Gracious God, our Shepherd, we thank you for raising up Garfield Bromley Oxnam as bishop and pastor in your church. Remembering his faithfulness and care, fill all shepherds of your church with truth in doctrine, fidelity in Word and Sacrament, and boldness and vision in leading the people, 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)*

4/12/21

* EASTER SEASON INTERCESSION

O God, our bread, our milk, and our honey: In the resurrection of your Son you have brought us to your table. Feed us with your plenty, and enlarge our table for all the hungry; through Christ our Lord. **Amen. Alleluia.**

* PRAYER FOR THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; 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;

4/12/21

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.**

*** BLESSING**

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father,
who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and
good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in
every good work and word.. 2 Th. 2:16-17 NRSV

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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