

Monday, April 5, 2021

Easter Season:

*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 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:

**Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a**

***faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

+ **WORD:** Jonah 2:1-9 CEV

From inside the fish, Jonah prayed to the LORD his God:

²When I was in trouble, LORD,

I prayed to you,

and you listened to me.

From deep in the world

of the dead,

I begged for your help,

and you answered my prayer.

³You threw me down

to the bottom of the sea.

The water was churning

all around;

I was completely covered

by your mighty waves.

⁴I thought I was swept away

from your sight,

never again to see

your holy temple.

⁵I was almost drowned

by the swirling waters

that surrounded me.

Seaweed had wrapped

around my head.

⁶I had sunk down below

the underwater mountains;

I knew that forever,

I would be a prisoner there.

But, you, LORD God,

rescued me from that pit.

⁷When my life was slipping away,

I remembered you—

and in your holy temple

you heard my prayer.

⁸All who worship worthless idols

turn from the God

who offers them mercy.

⁹But with shouts of praise,

I will offer a sacrifice

to you, my LORD.

I will keep my promise,

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because you are the one
with power to save.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

+ **Psalm 98** NRSV

***All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.***

***Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.***

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

² The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

⁸ Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy

⁹ at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

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

***All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.***

***Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **WORD:** John 14:1-14 CEV

Jesus said to his disciples, “Don’t be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me. ² There are many rooms in my Father’s house. I wouldn’t tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. ³ After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. ⁴ You know the way to where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said, “Lord, we don’t even know where you are going! How can we know the way?”

⁶ “I am the way, the truth, and the life!” Jesus answered. “Without me, no one can go to the Father. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need.”

⁹ Jesus replied:

Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don’t you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn’t said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

¹¹ Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do. ¹² I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father. ¹³ Ask me, and I will do whatever you ask. This way the Son will bring honor to the Father. ¹⁴ I will do whatever you ask me to do.

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:

George Miller, John Walter, and John Dreisbach

George Miller (1774-1816) and John Walter (1781-1819) were coworkers with Jacob Albright in founding the Evangelische Gemeinschaft (Evangelical Association) in Pennsylvania. Walter was converted through Albright's preaching and became his first assistant in 1802. He published the first hymnbook of the denomination in 1810 with fifty-six hymns including a number he had written. Tuberculosis forced him to stop itinerating in 1813, and he died at his home five years later.

. . . George Miller made a complete surrender to God and began to preach under the direction of Albright and Walter. He was ordained elder at the first conference of the emerging church in 1807, but ill health kept him from accepting any definite appointment after 1809. At the urging of his church, he wrote the original draft of seventy-five pages for the first Discipline of the church, as well as a book of rules for conference business, and a biography of Jacob Albright. He died on this day in 1816.

John Dreisbach (1789-1871) was a charter member of the class established in November 1806 by Jacob Albright and his coworkers. His license to preach, granted in 1807, bears Albright's signature. A probationer only 18 years old, he was left alone on his first field by Albright's death and the

illness of his senior colleague, George Miller. He was elected the first presiding elder in 1814 and presided over most conference sessions of Albright's followers until his health broke in 1821. He dedicated the first church building and established the first printing concern of the Evangelical Association.

* For All the Saints

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **COLLECT:**

George Miller, John Walter, and John Dreisbach

Witnesses in faith, in prayer, and in deed, holy in life, perfected in love, with us on earth, around us in heaven, your faithful witnesses George Miller, John Walter, and John Dreisbach point to the Way: Praise be to God, in living and dying, for saints who are with us, even today. Amen.

* For All the Saints

+ **PRAYERS**

The Holy One be with you,
and also with you.

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Let us pray: *(stop and pray for those on your heart today)*

+ FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ PRAYER FOR RENEWAL OF LIFE

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may,

when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; 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.
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, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live

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with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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,
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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