

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

* **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:

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.***

* **WORD:** Daniel 4:1-18 CEV

King Nebuchadnezzar sent the following letter to the people

of all nations and races on the earth:

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Greetings to all of you!

² I am glad to tell about
the wonderful miracles

God Most High
has done for me.

³ His miracles are mighty
and marvelous.

He will rule forever,
and his kingdom
will never end.

⁴ I was enjoying a time of peace and prosperity, ⁵ when suddenly I had some horrifying dreams and visions. ⁶ Then I commanded every wise man in Babylonia to appear in my court, so they could explain the meaning of my dream. ⁷ After they arrived, I told them my dream, but they were not able to say what it meant. ⁸ Finally, a young man named Daniel came in, and I told him the dream. The holy gods had given him special powers, and I had renamed him Belteshazzar after my own god.

⁹ I said, "Belteshazzar, not only are you the wisest of all advisors and counselors, but the holy gods have given you special powers to solve the most difficult mysteries. So listen to what I dreamed and tell me what it means:

¹⁰ In my sleep I saw
a very tall tree
in the center of the world.

¹¹ It grew stronger and higher,
until it reached to heaven
and could be seen
from anywhere on earth.

¹² It was covered with leaves
and heavy with fruit—
enough for all nations.

Wild animals enjoyed its shade,
birds nested in its branches,
and all creatures on earth
lived on its fruit.

¹³ "While I was in bed, having this vision, a holy angel came down from heaven ¹⁴ and shouted:

'Chop down the tree
and cut off its branches;
strip off its leaves
and scatter its fruit.

Make the animals leave its shade
and send the birds flying
from its branches.

¹⁵ But leave its stump and roots

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in the ground,
surrounded by grass
and held by chains
of iron and bronze.

'Make sure that this ruler
lives like the animals
out in the open fields,
unprotected from the dew.

¹⁶ Give him the mind
of a wild animal
for seven long years.

¹⁷ This punishment is given
at the command
of the holy angels.
It will show to all who live
that God Most High
controls all kingdoms
and chooses for their rulers
persons of humble birth.'

¹⁸ "Daniel, that was the dream that none of the wise men in my kingdom were able to understand. But I am sure that you will understand what it means, because the holy gods have given you some special powers."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* [Psalm 148](#) VOICE

- ¹ Praise the Eternal!
All you in the heavens, praise the Eternal;
praise Him from the highest places!
- ² All you, His messengers and His armies *in heaven*:
praise Him!
- ³ Sun, moon, and all you brilliant stars above:
praise Him!
- ⁴ Highest heavens and *all* you waters above the heavens:
praise Him!
- ⁵ Let all things *join together in a concert of* praise to the name of the Eternal,
for He gave the command and they were created.
- ⁶ He put them in their places *to stay* forever—
He declared it so, and it is final.
- ⁷ Everything on earth, *join in and* praise the Eternal;
sea monsters and *creatures of* the deep,
- ⁸ Lightning and hail, snow and foggy mists,
violent winds all respond to His command.

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⁹ Mountains and hills,
fruit trees and cedar forests,
¹⁰ All you animals both wild and tame,
reptiles and birds who take flight:
praise the Lord.

¹¹ All kings and all nations,
princes and all judges of the earth,
¹² *All people*, young men and women,
old men and children alike,
praise the Lord.

¹³ Let them *all* praise the name of the Eternal!
For His name stands alone above all others.
His glory shines greater than anything above or below.

¹⁴ He has made His people strong;
He is the praise of all who are godly,
the praise of the children of Israel, those whom He holds
close.
Praise the Eternal!

* [Psalm 149](#) VOICE

¹ Praise the Eternal!
Write new songs; sing them to Him with all your might!

Gather with His faithful followers in *joyful* praise;
² Let *all of Israel* celebrate their Maker, *their God, their friend*;
let the children of Zion find great joy in their *true* King.
³ So *let the music begin*; praise His name—dance and sing
to *the rhythm* of the tambourine, and to *the tune* of the
harp.
⁴ For the Eternal *is listening*, and nothing pleases Him more
than His people;
He raises up the poor and endows them with His
salvation.
⁵ Let His faithful followers erupt in praise,
singing triumphantly *wherever they are*, even as they lie
down *for sleep in the evening*.
⁶ With the name of God and praise in their mouths,
with a two-edged sword in their hands,
⁷ Let them take revenge on all nations *who deny God*.
Let them punish the peoples.
⁸ Kings and nobles will be locked up,
and their freedom will be bound in iron shackles.
⁹ This judgment against them, decreed *by a holy God*, will be
carried out.
It's an honor for all His faithful followers *to serve Him*.
Praise the Eternal!

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* **Psalm 150** VOICE

¹ Praise the Eternal!

Praise the True God inside His temple.

Praise Him beneath massive skies, *under moonlit stars and rising sun.*

² Praise Him for His powerful acts, *redeeming His people.*

Praise Him for His greatness that surpasses *our time and understanding.*

³⁻⁴ Praise Him with the blast of trumpets *high into the heavens,*

and praise Him with harps and lyres

and *the rhythm of the tambourines skillfully played by those who love and fear the Eternal.*

Praise Him with singing and dancing;

praise Him with flutes and strings *of all kinds!*

⁵ Praise Him with crashing cymbals,

loud clashing cymbals!

⁶ *No one should be left out;*

Let every man and every beast—

every creature that has the breath *of the Lord*—praise the Eternal!

Praise the Eternal!

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

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

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD:** John 21:15-25 CEV

¹⁵ When Jesus and his disciples had finished eating, he asked, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than the others do?”

Simon Peter answered, “Yes, Lord, you know I do!”

“Then feed my lambs,” Jesus said.

¹⁶ Jesus asked a second time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter answered, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you!”

“Then take care of my sheep,” Jesus told him.

¹⁷ Jesus asked a third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus had asked him three times if he loved him. So he told Jesus, “Lord, you know everything. You know I love you.”

Jesus replied, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ I tell you for certain that when you were a young man, you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old, you will hold out your hands. Then others will wrap your belt around you and lead you where you don’t want to go.”

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¹⁹ Jesus said this to tell how Peter would die and bring honor to God. Then he said to Peter, "Follow me!"

²⁰ Peter turned and saw Jesus' favorite disciple following them. He was the same one who had sat next to Jesus at the meal and had asked, "Lord, who is going to betray you?"

²¹ When Peter saw that disciple, he asked Jesus, "Lord, what about him?"

²² Jesus answered, "What is it to you, if I want him to live until I return? You must follow me." ²³ So the rumor spread among the other disciples that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say he would not die. He simply said, "What is it to you, if I want him to live until I return?"

²⁴ This disciple is the one who told all of this. He wrote it, and we know he is telling the truth.

²⁵ Jesus did many other things. If they were all written in books, I don't suppose there would be room enough in the whole world for all the books.

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

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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 rainbow, our dove, our promised land: In the
resurrection of your Son you have brought us into your
ark. Protect us from storms, and ferry us to your
welcoming shore; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Alleluia.***

* A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. **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 blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith,

that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.**

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* **BLESSING**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus the Anointed, the love of God *the Father*, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit remain with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14 VOICE

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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