Tuesday, April 27, 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.

* 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 OF PRAISE

Come, let us sing to the <u>Ho</u>-ly *One*; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-*vation*.

Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,*
and raise a loud shout with psalms.

For you, O God, <u>are a great God</u>,*
you are great a-<u>bove</u> all gods.

In your hand are the <u>caverns</u> of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills <u>are</u> yours also.

The sea is yours, <u>for</u> you made it,*
and your hands have molded <u>the</u> dry land. **Come, let us bow down and <u>bend</u> the knee,***and kneel before God, our Maker.

For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep <u>of</u> your hand.*

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

PSALM 95:1-7

* 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.]

* 1st READING: Wisdom 3:1-9 CEB

The souls of those who do what is right are in God's hand. They won't feel the pain of torment. ² To those who don't know any better, it seems as if they have died. Their departure from this life was considered their misfortune. ³ Their leaving us seemed to be their destruction, but in reality they are at peace. ⁴ It may look to others as if they have been punished, but they have the hope of living forever. ⁵ They were disciplined a little, but they will be rewarded with abundant good things, because God tested them and found that they deserve to be with him. ⁶ He tested them like gold in the furnace; he accepted them like an entirely burned offering. ⁷ Then, when the time comes

for judgment, the godly will burst forth and run about like fiery sparks among dry straw. ⁸ The godly will judge nations and hold power over peoples, even as the Lord will rule over them forever. ⁹ Those who trust in the Lord will know the truth. Those who are faithful will always be with him in love. Favor and mercy belong to the holy ones. God watches over God's chosen ones.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

- * Psalm 45 (A wedding song) NRSV
- My heart overflows with a goodly theme;
 I address my verses to the king;
 my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- ² You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.
- ³ Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.

- ⁴ In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth and to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds.
- 5 Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you.
- ⁶ Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;
- you love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

8 your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

- daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- ¹⁰ Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty.

Since he is your lord, bow to him;

the people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people ¹³ with all kinds of wealth. The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;

- in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.
- ¹⁵ With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- ¹⁶ In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.
- ¹⁷ I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;

therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* WORD: Luke 6:12-26 CEV

¹² During that time, Jesus went out to the mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night long. ¹³ At daybreak, he called together his disciples. He chose twelve of them whom he called apostles: ¹⁴ Simon, whom he named Peter; his brother Andrew; James; John; Philip; Bartholomew; ¹⁵ Matthew; Thomas; James the son of

Alphaeus; Simon, who was called a zealot; ¹⁶ Judas the son of James; and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

¹⁷ Jesus came down from the mountain with them and stood on a large area of level ground. A great company of his disciples and a huge crowd of people from all around Judea and Jerusalem and the area around Tyre and Sidon joined him there. ¹⁸ They came to hear him and to be healed from their diseases, and those bothered by unclean spirits were healed. ¹⁹ The whole crowd wanted to touch him, because power was going out from him and he was healing everyone.

²⁰ Jesus raised his eyes to his disciples and said:

"Happy are you who are poor, because God's kingdom is yours.

²¹ Happy are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied.

Happy are you who weep now, because you will laugh.

²² Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and condemn your name as evil because of the Human One. ^[a] ²³ Rejoice when that happens! Leap for joy because you have a great reward in heaven. Their ancestors did the same things to the prophets.

- ²⁴ But how terrible for you who are rich, because you have already received your comfort.
- ²⁵ How terrible for you who have plenty now, because you will be hungry.

How terrible for you who laugh now, because you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ How terrible for you when all speak well of you. Their ancestors did the same things to the false prophets.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

We bless you, Adonai, <u>God</u> of *Israel*, for you come to visit us and ransom <u>us</u> from *bondage*. You have brought forth a <u>strong</u> De-*liverer* in the house of <u>your</u> child *David*.

This is what your holy <u>prophets</u> an-nounced: deliverance from enemies

and from the hand of <u>all</u> who hate *us*; mercy a-<u>mong</u> our *ancestors*, and remembrance of your <u>ho</u>-ly *covenant*.

This is the promise you swore to our <u>an</u>-cestor, *Abraham*,

to make us <u>un</u>-a-fraid, to rescue us <u>from</u> 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, <u>God</u> our *God*, the dawn from on <u>high</u> shall *visit us*, to shine on those kept in dungeons and the <u>shadows</u> of *death* and to guide our feet onto the <u>path</u> of *peace*.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, 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: PETER BOEHLER

Peter Boehler, a Moravian leader, is most known to United Methodists for the influence he had upon John and Charles Wesley in the days immediately preceding the Aldersgate experience. We are most accustomed to hearing the account from their perspective, particularly Boehler's words to an uncertain Wesley to, "Preach faith till you have it; and then, because you have it, you will preach faith."

Four things stand out in Boehler's mentoring activity. (1) He took advantage of the opportunity at hand. (2) He acknowledged that any success he had was through grace given by Christ. (3) He did not fear to work with others, i.e., he was not jealous of the influence of others. (4) He was not possessive of the relationship in which Wesley "was like a child toward" him, but was willing to let it go into God's care after he had done what opportunity afforded; he did not even go to hear Wesley preach!

* For All the Saints

* COLLECT: PETER BOEHLER

Witnesses in faith, in prayer, and in deed, holy in life, perfected in love, with us on earth, around us in heaven, your faithful witness Peter Boehler points 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.

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

* PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Gracious God, as your son wept with Mary and Martha at the tomb of Lazarus, look with compassion this day on those who grieve. Grant them the assurance of your presence now and faith in your eternal goodness, that in them may be fulfilled the promise that those who mourn shall be comforted; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

United Methodist Hymnal - adapted

* 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 UNITY OF THE CHURCH

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and harmony; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* FOR THE RIGHT USE OF GOD'S GIFTS

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, 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, 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,
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 the God who brought us peace by raising from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ so that he would be the Great Shepherd of his flock; and by the power of the blood of the eternal covenant may he work perfection into every part of you giving you all that you need to fulfill your destiny. *Amen*.

Hebrews 13:20-21a Passion Translation

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at Elwood United Methodist Church

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