

Friday, May 21, 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: Ezekiel 34:17-31** CEB

<sup>17</sup> As for you, my flock, the LORD God proclaims: I will judge between the rams and the bucks among the sheep and the goats. <sup>18</sup> Is feeding in good pasture or drinking clear water such a trivial thing that you should trample and muddy what is left with your feet? <sup>19</sup> But now my flock must feed on what your feet have trampled and drink water that your feet have muddied.

<sup>20</sup> So the LORD God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. <sup>22</sup> But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! <sup>23</sup> I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken. <sup>25</sup> I will make a covenant of peace for them, and I will banish the wild animals from the land. Then they will safely live in the desert and sleep in the forest. <sup>26</sup> I will give them and those around my hill a blessing by sending the rain in its season. They will be rains of blessing. <sup>27</sup> The trees in the field will bear fruit, and the earth will yield its harvest. They will be safe on their fertile land, and they will know that I am the LORD when I break the bars of their yoke

and deliver them from those who enslaved them. <sup>28</sup> The nations will no longer prey on them, and wild animals will no longer devour them. They will live in safety, with no one to trouble them. <sup>29</sup> I will establish for them a place famous for what it grows. No longer will they experience famine in the land, nor will they bear the disgrace of the nations. <sup>30</sup> They will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and they, the house of Israel, are my people. This is what the LORD God says. <sup>31</sup> You are my flock, the flock of my pasture. You are human, and I am your God. This is what the LORD God says.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* **Psalm 102** NRSV

***Incline your ear to me;***

***answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

<sup>1</sup> Hear my prayer, O LORD;  
let my cry come to you.

<sup>2</sup> Do not hide your face from me  
in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;  
answer me speedily in the day when I call.

<sup>3</sup> For my days pass away like smoke,  
and my bones burn like a furnace.

<sup>4</sup> My heart is stricken and withered like grass;  
I am too wasted to eat my bread.

<sup>5</sup> Because of my loud groaning  
my bones cling to my skin.

<sup>6</sup> I am like an owl of the wilderness,  
like a little owl of the waste places.

<sup>7</sup> I lie awake;  
I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

<sup>8</sup> All day long my enemies taunt me;  
those who deride me use my name for a curse.

<sup>9</sup> For I eat ashes like bread,  
and mingle tears with my drink,

<sup>10</sup> because of your indignation and anger;  
for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

<sup>11</sup> My days are like an evening shadow;  
I wither away like grass.

<sup>12</sup> But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;  
your name endures to all generations.

<sup>13</sup> You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,  
for it is time to favor it;  
the appointed time has come.

<sup>14</sup> For your servants hold its stones dear,  
and have pity on its dust.

<sup>15</sup> The nations will fear the name of the LORD,  
and all the kings of the earth your glory.

<sup>16</sup> For the LORD will build up Zion;  
he will appear in his glory.

<sup>17</sup> He will regard the prayer of the destitute,  
and will not despise their prayer.

<sup>18</sup> Let this be recorded for a generation to come,  
so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

<sup>19</sup> that he looked down from his holy height,  
from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

<sup>20</sup> to hear the groans of the prisoners,  
to set free those who were doomed to die;

<sup>21</sup> so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,  
and his praise in Jerusalem,

<sup>22</sup> when peoples gather together,  
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> He has broken my strength in midcourse;  
he has shortened my days.

<sup>24</sup> "O my God," I say, "do not take me away  
at the midpoint of my life,  
you whose years endure  
throughout all generations."

<sup>25</sup> Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup> They will perish, but you endure;  
they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

<sup>27</sup> but you are the same, and your years have no end.

<sup>28</sup> The children of your servants shall live secure;  
their offspring shall be established in your presence.

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

***Incline your ear to me;  
answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD:** Luke 10:38-42 CEB

<sup>38</sup> While Jesus and his disciples were traveling, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him as a guest. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his message. <sup>40</sup> By contrast, Martha was preoccupied with getting everything ready for their meal. So Martha came to him and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to prepare the table all by myself? Tell her to help me."

<sup>41</sup> The Lord answered, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. <sup>42</sup> One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part. It won't be taken away from her."

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, Holy One, our alter, our cloud: In the resurrection of your Son you have brought us into your temple. Accept the sacrifices we offer, and draw us into the fire of your spirit; through Christ our Lord. **Amen. Alleluia.**

\* PRAYER FOR PEACE AMONG THE NATIONS

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

\* FOR SOUND GOVERNMENT

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

**Lord, keep this nation under your care.**

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative

authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

**Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

**Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

**Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.

**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 FOR FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things:

Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **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**

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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