

Monday, May 31, 2021

\* **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 THANKSGIVING**

It is good to give thanks to the *LORD*,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most *High*;  
**to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithful-ness by night,**  
to the music of the lute and the *harp*,  
to the melody of the lyre.

**For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are ver-y deep!

Psalm 92:1-5

\* **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.]

\* **WORD: Deuteronomy 11:13-19** CEB

<sup>13</sup> Now, if you completely obey God's commandments that I am giving you right now, by loving the LORD your God and by serving him with all your heart and all your being, <sup>14</sup> then he

will provide rain for your land at the right time—early rain and late rain—so you can stock up your grain, wine, and oil. <sup>15</sup> He will also make your fields lush for your livestock, and you will eat and be satisfied. <sup>16</sup> But watch yourselves! Otherwise, your heart might be led astray so you stray away, serving other gods and worshipping them. <sup>17</sup> Then the LORD's anger would burn against you. He will close the sky up tight. There won't be any rain, and the ground won't yield any of its crops. You will quickly disappear off the wonderful land the LORD is giving to you.

<sup>18</sup> Place these words I'm speaking on your heart and in your very being. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. <sup>19</sup> Teach them to your children, by talking about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* **Psalm 52** NRSV

***In the presence of the faithful***

***I will proclaim your name, for it is good.***

<sup>1</sup> Why do you boast, O mighty one,  
of mischief done against the godly?  
All day long <sup>2</sup> you are plotting destruction.

Your tongue is like a sharp razor,  
you worker of treachery.

<sup>3</sup> You love evil more than good,  
and lying more than speaking the truth. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> You love all words that devour,  
O deceitful tongue.

<sup>5</sup> But God will break you down forever;  
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;  
he will uproot you from the land of the living. *Selah*

<sup>6</sup> The righteous will see, and fear,  
and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,

<sup>7</sup> "See the one who would not take  
refuge in God,  
but trusted in abundant riches,  
and sought refuge in wealth!"

<sup>8</sup> But I am like a green olive tree  
in the house of God.

I trust in the steadfast love of God  
forever and ever.

<sup>9</sup> I will thank you forever,  
because of what you have done.

In the presence of the faithful

I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

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

***In the presence of the faithful***

***I will proclaim your name, for it is good.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: Luke 17:1-10** CEB

Jesus said to his disciples, “Things that cause people to trip and fall into sin must happen, but how terrible it is for the person through whom they happen. <sup>2</sup> It would be better for them to be thrown into a lake with a large stone hung around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to trip and fall into sin. <sup>3</sup> Watch yourselves! If your brother or sister sins, warn them to stop. If they change their hearts and lives, forgive them. <sup>4</sup> Even if someone sins against you seven times in one day and returns to you seven times and says, ‘I am changing my ways,’ you must forgive that person.”

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

<sup>6</sup> The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup> “Would any of you say to your servant, who had just come in from the field after plowing or tending sheep, ‘Come! Sit down for dinner’? <sup>8</sup> Wouldn’t you say instead, ‘Fix my dinner. Put on the clothes of a table servant and wait on me while I eat and drink. After that, you can eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup> You won’t thank the servant because the servant did what you asked, will you? <sup>10</sup> In the same way, when you have done everything required of you, you should say, ‘We servants deserve no special praise. We have only done our duty.’”

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*.

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **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: The Visitation**

Mary's first act after learning that she was to bear the Messiah was to hurry to the home of her cousin Elizabeth (Lk 1: 39-56). She knew Elizabeth also was bearing a miracle child. Elizabeth, who was far beyond childbearing years, had been pregnant for six months. The angel had told Mary so (v. 36); she must see for herself. She rushed to the hill country and stayed for three months until the child John (the Baptist) was born.

When Mary arrived to embrace Elizabeth, the fetus leaped in Elisabeth's womb (v. 41): instant recognition and confirmation of the angel's message, women's experience validating the experience of women.

Some scholars think that the Magnificat (vv. 47-55) was originally the song of Elizabeth; in fact one manuscript has her name, not Mary's, in v. 46. It is a song of reversal. The eternal God has taken notice of a humble maiden, who will now be called blessed by future generations. God has elevated a woman and scattered to the winds those who are important in their own minds. God has brought down the dominant and lifted the lowly. God has fed the hungry with rich

food and sent the rich away empty. The patriarchal pyramid has been upended.

For three months the two women -- cousins, sisters -- share their secret. God is at work in the wombs of the earth, making all things new.

The celebration of the Visitation entered the Christian calendar in the thirteenth century. It was originally commemorated on July 2 until the Roman Catholic Church revised its calendar in 1969.

\* 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)*

\* **COLLECT: The Visitation**

Ever-living God, you have made us one people through new birth in Christ: With Mary and Elizabeth prompt us and your whole Church to always delight in common worship and to rejoice greatly in our common destiny in Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
***Amen.***

\* For All the Saints

\* 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*

\* PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Almighty God, before whom stand the living and the dead, we your children, whose mortal life is but a hand's breath, give thanks to you:

For all those through whom you have blessed our pilgrimage, whose lives that have empowered us, whose influence is a healing grace,  
***We lift up thankful hearts.***

For dear friends and family members whose faces we see no more, but whose love is with us forever,  
***We lift up thankful hearts.***

For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth, and for the members of our household of faith who worship you now in heaven,  
***We lift up thankful hearts.***

For those who sacrificed themselves, our brothers and sisters who have given their lives for the sake of others,  
***We lift up thankful hearts.***

That we may hold them in all continual remembrance, and ever think of them as with you in that city whose gates are not shut by day and where there is no light,  
***We lift up thankful hearts.***

That we may now be dedicated to working for a world where labor is rewarded, fear dispelled, and the nations made one,

***O Lord, save your people and bless your heritage. Day by day we magnify you, and worship your name, forever and ever. Amen.***

Reprinted from the United Methodist Book of Worship

\* **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, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, 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**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. ***Amen***

# Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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