

Tuesday, May 25, 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 Ho-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, are a great God,\*

you are great a-bove all gods.

***In your hand are the caverns of the earth,\****

***and the heights of the hills are yours also.***

The sea is yours, for you made it,\*

and your hands have molded the dry land.

***Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,\****

***and kneel before God, our Maker.***

For you are our God,

and we are the people of your pasture

and the sheep of 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.]

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Deuteronomy 4:15-24** CEB

<sup>15</sup> So watch your conduct closely, because you didn't see any form on the day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the very fire itself. <sup>16</sup> Don't ruin everything and make an idol for yourself: a form of any image, any likeness—male or female— <sup>17</sup> or any likeness whatsoever, whether of a land animal, a bird that flies in the sky, <sup>18</sup> an insect that crawls on the earth, or a fish that lives in the sea. <sup>19</sup> Don't look to the skies, to the sun or the moon or the stars, all the heavenly bodies, and be led astray, worshipping and serving them. The LORD your God has granted these things to all the nations who live under heaven. <sup>20</sup> But the LORD took you and brought you out of that iron furnace,

out of Egypt, so that you might be his own treasured people, which is what you are right now.

<sup>21</sup> The LORD was angry with me because of your deeds and swore that I couldn't cross the Jordan River or enter the wonderful land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance. <sup>22</sup> I will die here in this land. I won't cross the Jordan River. But you will, and you will take possession of that wonderful land. <sup>23</sup> So all of you, watch yourselves! Don't forget the covenant that the LORD your God made with you by making an idol or an image of any kind or anything the LORD your God forbids, <sup>24</sup> because the LORD your God is an all-consuming fire. He is a passionate God.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **Psalm 26** NRSV

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.***

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Vindicate me, O LORD,  
for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

<sup>2</sup> Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is before my eyes,  
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

<sup>4</sup> I do not sit with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with hypocrites;

<sup>5</sup> I hate the company of evildoers,  
and will not sit with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup> I wash my hands in innocence,  
and go around your altar, O LORD,

<sup>7</sup> singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

<sup>8</sup> O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,  
and the place where your glory abides.

<sup>9</sup> Do not sweep me away with sinners,  
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,

<sup>10</sup> those in whose hands are evil devices,  
and whose right hands are full of bribes.

<sup>11</sup> But as for me, I walk in my integrity;  
redeem me, and be gracious to me.

<sup>12</sup> My foot stands on level ground;  
in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.

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

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING:** Luke 15:1-10 CEB

15 All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders.

<sup>6</sup> When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because

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I've found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

<sup>8</sup> "Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' <sup>10</sup> In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

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.***

\* **COMMEMORATION: The Venerable Bede**

Bede was the greatest scholar of his time in the Western Church. He wrote commentaries on the Scriptures based on patristic interpretations. His treatise on chronology was standard for a long time. He also wrote on orthography, poetic meter, and especially on history. His most famous work, *The Ecclesiastical History of England*, written in Latin, remains the primary source for the period 597 to 731, when Anglo-Saxon culture developed and Christianity triumphed. In this work, Bede was clearly ahead of his time. He consulted many documents, carefully evaluated their reliability, and cited his sources. His interpretations were balanced and judicious. He also wrote the *History of the Abbots* (of Wearmouth and Jarrow), and a notable biography of Cuthbert, both in prose and verse.

\* Holy Women, Holy Men

\* **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 Venerable Bede**

Heavenly Father, you called your servant Bede, while still a child, to devote his life to your service in the disciplines of religion and scholarship: Grant that as he labored in the Spirit to bring the riches of your truth to his generation, so we, in our various vocations, may strive to make you known in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

\* Holy Women, Holy Men

\* 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 THE MISSION of the CHURCH

***Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

\* A COLLECT FOR THE 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

Almighty God, on Pentecost Day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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