

Thursday, June 24, 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.

PSALM 90:14

* **MORNING CANTICLE OF JOY**

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;

serve the LORD with gladness

and come before God's presence with a song.

Know this: The LORD is God; the LORD has made us,

and we belong to the One who created us;

we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving;

go into God's courts with praise;

give thanks to God and call upon God's Name.

For the LORD is good;

God's mercy is everlasting;

and God's faithfulness endures from age to age.

PSALM 100

* **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

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* **1st READING: 1 Samuel 8:1-22** CEV

¹⁻² Samuel had two sons. The older one was Joel, and the younger one was Abijah. When Samuel was getting old, he let them be leaders at Beersheba. ³ But they were not like their father. They were dishonest and accepted bribes to give unfair decisions.

⁴ One day the nation's leaders came to Samuel at Ramah ⁵ and said, "You are an old man. You set a good example for your sons, but they haven't followed it. Now we want a king to be our leader, just like all the other nations. Choose one for us!"

⁶ Samuel was upset to hear the leaders say they wanted a king, so he prayed about it. ⁷ The LORD answered:

Samuel, do everything they want you to do. I am really the one they have rejected as their king. ⁸ Ever since the day I rescued my people from Egypt, they have turned from me to worship idols. Now they are turning away from you.

⁹ Do everything they ask, but warn them and tell them how a king will treat them.

¹⁰ Samuel told the people who were asking for a king what the LORD had said:

¹¹ If you have a king, this is how he will treat you. He will force your sons to join his army. Some of them will ride in his chariots, some will serve in the cavalry, and others will run ahead of his own chariot. ¹² Some of them will be officers in charge of a thousand soldiers, and others will be in charge of fifty. Still others will have to farm the king's land and harvest his crops, or make weapons and parts for his chariots. ¹³ Your daughters will have to make perfume or do his cooking and baking.

¹⁴ The king will take your best fields, as well as your vineyards, and olive orchards and give them to his own officials. ¹⁵ He will also take a tenth of your grain and grapes and give it to his officers and officials.

¹⁶ The king will take your slaves and your best young men and your donkeys and make them do his work. ¹⁷ He will also take a tenth of your sheep and goats. You will become the king's slaves, ¹⁸ and you will finally cry out for the LORD to save you from the king you wanted. But the LORD won't answer your prayers.

¹⁹⁻²⁰ The people would not listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want to be like other nations. We want a king to rule us and lead us in battle."

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²¹ Samuel listened to them and then told the LORD exactly what they had said. ²² “Do what they want,” the LORD answered. “Give them a king.”

Samuel told the people to go back to their homes.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* [Psalm 105:1-22](#) NRSV

He is the LORD our God;

his judgments are in all the earth.

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.

³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,

his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

⁷ He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

⁸ He is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded, for a thousand
generations,

⁹ the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,

¹⁰ which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,

¹¹ saying, “To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance.”

¹² When they were few in number,
of little account, and strangers in it,

¹³ wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people,

¹⁴ he allowed no one to oppress them;
he rebuked kings on their account,

¹⁵ saying, “Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm.”

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¹⁶ When he summoned famine against the land,
and broke every staff of bread,
¹⁷ he had sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
¹⁸ His feet were hurt with fetters,
his neck was put in a collar of iron;
¹⁹ until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the LORD kept testing him.
²⁰ The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
²¹ He made him lord of his house,
and ruler of all his possessions,
²² to instruct his officials at his pleasure,
and to teach his elders wisdom.

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

***He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: Luke 22:24-30** CEV

²⁴ The apostles got into an argument about which one of them was the greatest. ²⁵ So Jesus told them:

Foreign kings order their people around, and powerful rulers call themselves everyone's friends. ²⁶ But don't be like them. The most important one of you should be like the least important, and your leader should be like a servant. ²⁷ Who do people think is the greatest, a person who is served or one who serves? Isn't it the one who is served? But I have been with you as a servant.

²⁸ You have stayed with me in all my troubles. ²⁹ So I will give you the right to rule as kings, just as my Father has given me the right to rule as a king. ³⁰ You will eat and drink with me in my kingdom, and you will each sit on a throne to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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* **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,***

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***the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **COMMEMORATION:**

The Nativity of John the Baptist

The feast of the nativity of John the Baptist is an irregularity in the liturgical calendar because we commemorate John's birth day rather than the day of his death (the only other exceptions being Christ and Mary). Six months in advance of the birth of Jesus, we remember the birth of the baby that leapt in the womb of Elizabeth at the approach of the newly pregnant Mary.

We honor the story of John's nativity because of its importance in the opening of the Gospel of Luke. There John's birth to Elizabeth and Zechariah is portrayed not only as God's blessing to a childless, elderly couple but also as the start of God's plan of salvation through Christ.

* 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 Nativity of John the Baptist**

Most High God, you sent John the Baptist as a prophet and as a witness to the Light: Evermore prepare in us hearts ready to bear the fruit of repentance and to welcome the fire of the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

* For All the Saints

* 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.***

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* PRAYERS FOR THE GREATER NJ CONFERENCE

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Greater New Jersey Conference to a sizable fellowship of faith. Bless Bishop Schol, our District Superintendents, other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP - adapted

* PRAYERS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may So move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; 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 Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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* 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**

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, will be ours who live in truth and love. **Amen.**

2 JOHN 3 CEB

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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