

Thursday, July 22, 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

7/22/21

* **1st READING: 1 Samuel 28:3-20** NRSV

³ Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. Saul had expelled the mediums and the wizards from the land.

⁴ The Philistines assembled, and came and encamped at Shunem. Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. ⁵ When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶ When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, not by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets. ⁷ Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, so that I may go to her and inquire of her." His servants said to him, "There is a medium at Endor."

⁸ So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes and went there, he and two men with him. They came to the woman by night. And he said, "Consult a spirit for me, and bring up for me the one whom I name to you." ⁹ The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the wizards from the land. Why then are you laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?" ¹⁰ But Saul swore to her by the LORD, "As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." ¹¹ Then the woman said, "Whom shall I

bring up for you?" He answered, "Bring up Samuel for me." ¹² When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice; and the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!" ¹³ The king said to her, "Have no fear; what do you see?" The woman said to Saul, "I see a divine being coming up out of the ground." ¹⁴ He said to her, "What is his appearance?" She said, "An old man is coming up; he is wrapped in a robe." So Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground, and did obeisance.

¹⁵ Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams; so I have summoned you to tell me what I should do." ¹⁶ Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the LORD has turned from you and become your enemy? ¹⁷ The LORD has done to you just as he spoke by me; for the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand, and given it to your neighbor, David. ¹⁸ Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD, and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you today. ¹⁹ Moreover the LORD will give Israel along with you into

7/22/21

the hands of the Philistines; and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me; the LORD will also give the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines.”

²⁰ Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel; and there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* [Psalm 50](#) NRSV

Call on me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

¹ The mighty one, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

² Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.

³ Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.

⁴ He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

⁵ “Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

⁶ The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge. *Selah*

⁷ “Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.

⁸ Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.

⁹ I will not accept a bull from your house,
or goats from your folds.

¹⁰ For every wild animal of the forest is mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹ I know all the birds of the air,
and all that moves in the field is mine.

¹² “If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and all that is in it is mine.

¹³ Do I eat the flesh of bulls,

7/22/21

or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴ Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High.

¹⁵ Call on me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

¹⁶ But to the wicked God says:
“What right have you to recite my statutes,
or take my covenant on your lips?

¹⁷ For you hate discipline,
and you cast my words behind you.

¹⁸ You make friends with a thief when you see one,
and you keep company with adulterers.

¹⁹ “You give your mouth free rein for evil,
and your tongue frames deceit.

²⁰ You sit and speak against your kin;
you slander your own mother’s child.

²¹ These things you have done and I have been silent;
you thought that I was one just like yourself.

But now I rebuke you, and lay the charge before you.

²² “Mark this, then, you who forget God,
or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to
deliver.

²³ Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor

me;

to those who go the right way
I will show the salvation of God.”

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

***Call on me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: Mark 5:1-20** NRSV

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ² And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. ³ He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; ⁴ for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him.

⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones.

⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; ⁷ and he shouted at the top of his voice,

7/22/21

“What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.”⁸ For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!”⁹ Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion; for we are many.”¹⁰ He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country.¹¹ Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding;¹² and the unclean spirits begged him, “Send us into the swine; let us enter them.”¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

¹⁴ The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened.¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid.¹⁶ Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it.¹⁷ Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood.¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him.¹⁹ But Jesus refused, and said to him, “Go home to your friends, and

tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.”²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

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*,

7/22/21

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.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **COMMEMORATION: Mary Magdalene**

Although the figure of Mary Magdalene has a rich history in the art and literature of the church, historical knowledge of her is scant. She first appears in the Gospels of Mark and Matthew observing the crucifixion of Jesus "from far off" with other women who had ministered to Jesus (Mk 15: 40,

7/22/21

Mt 27: 56). The absence of Jesus' disciples at the cross makes the women's presence all the more significant. In the Gospel of Luke, Mary Magdalene is described as one from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons (Lk 8: 2). According to Luke, she then accompanied Jesus, along with the disciples and several other women, as he traveled throughout the cities and villages.

* 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: Mary Magdalene**

Holy God, whose risen Son called Mary by name to be a witness of his resurrection: Call us also by name that we may know you and bear witness, and grant that those who remain in grief and confusion may hear her words of new life in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.

* PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PRAYER FOR the President of the United States
and all in Civil Authority

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your

7/22/21

peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in your fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
Amen.

* FOR GUIDANCE

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; 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, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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-***

7/22/21

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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