

Thursday, July 8, 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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\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 1 Samuel 16:14-17:11** NRSV

<sup>14</sup> Now the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. <sup>15</sup> And Saul's servants said to him, "See now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. <sup>16</sup> Let our lord now command the servants who attend you to look for someone who is skillful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will feel better." <sup>17</sup> So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me someone who can play well, and bring him to me." <sup>18</sup> One of the young men answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the LORD is with him." <sup>19</sup> So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David who is with the sheep." <sup>20</sup> Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. <sup>21</sup> And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. <sup>22</sup> Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight." <sup>23</sup> And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

<sup>17</sup> Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim. <sup>2</sup> Saul and the Israelites gathered and encamped in the valley of Elah, and formed ranks against the Philistines. <sup>3</sup> The Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. <sup>4</sup> And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. <sup>5</sup> He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. <sup>6</sup> He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. <sup>7</sup> The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. <sup>8</sup> He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." <sup>10</sup> And the Philistine said, "Today I

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defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together.”<sup>11</sup> When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* [Psalm 18:1-20](#) NRSV

***In my distress I called upon the LORD;  
to my God I cried for help.  
From his temple he heard my voice,  
and my cry to him reached his ears.***

I love you, O LORD, my strength.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,  
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,  
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

<sup>3</sup> I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,  
so I shall be saved from my enemies.

<sup>4</sup> The cords of death encompassed me;  
the torrents of perdition assailed me;

<sup>5</sup> the cords of Sheol entangled me;  
the snares of death confronted me.

<sup>6</sup> In my distress I called upon the LORD;  
to my God I cried for help.  
From his temple he heard my voice,  
and my cry to him reached his ears.

<sup>7</sup> Then the earth reeled and rocked;  
the foundations also of the mountains trembled  
and quaked, because he was angry.

<sup>8</sup> Smoke went up from his nostrils,  
and devouring fire from his mouth;  
glowing coals flamed forth from him.

<sup>9</sup> He bowed the heavens, and came down;  
thick darkness was under his feet.

<sup>10</sup> He rode on a cherub, and flew;  
he came swiftly upon the wings of the wind.

<sup>11</sup> He made darkness his covering around him,  
his canopy thick clouds dark with water.

<sup>12</sup> Out of the brightness before him  
there broke through his clouds  
hailstones and coals of fire.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD also thundered in the heavens,  
and the Most High uttered his voice.

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<sup>14</sup> And he sent out his arrows, and scattered them;  
he flashed forth lightnings, and routed them.

<sup>15</sup> Then the channels of the sea were seen,  
and the foundations of the world were laid bare  
at your rebuke, O LORD,  
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

<sup>16</sup> He reached down from on high, he took me;  
he drew me out of mighty waters.

<sup>17</sup> He delivered me from my strong enemy,  
and from those who hated me;  
for they were too mighty for me.

<sup>18</sup> They confronted me in the day of my calamity;  
but the LORD was my support.

<sup>19</sup> He brought me out into a broad place;  
he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

<sup>20</sup> The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;  
according to the cleanness of my hands he  
recompensed me.

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

***In my distress I called upon the LORD;  
to my God I cried for help.***

***From his temple he heard my voice,  
and my cry to him reached his ears.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Luke 24:36-53** NRSV

<sup>36</sup> While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood  
among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and terrified, and thought that they  
were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “Why are you  
frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?

<sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself.  
Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and  
bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup> And when he had said  
this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> While in  
their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he

said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They  
gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate  
in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke  
to you while I was still with you—that everything written

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about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,<sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.<sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.<sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.<sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;<sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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*.

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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.***

\* **FOR THOSE WHO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

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\* FOR YOUNG PERSONS

***God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; 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 God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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.***

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\* **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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