

Tuesday, July 27, 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 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:  
***Almighty and everlasting God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are  
restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such***

***piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

St. Augustine

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 2 Samuel 3:6-21** NRSV

<sup>6</sup> While there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul. <sup>7</sup> Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah daughter of Aiah. And Ishbaal said to Abner, “Why have you gone in to my father’s concubine?” <sup>8</sup> The words of Ishbaal made Abner very angry; he said, “Am I a dog’s head for Judah? Today I keep showing loyalty to the house of your father Saul, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not given you into the hand of David; and yet you charge me now with a crime concerning this woman. <sup>9</sup> So may God do to Abner and so may he add to it! For just what the LORD has sworn to David, that will I accomplish for him, <sup>10</sup> to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beer-sheba.” <sup>11</sup> And Ishbaal

could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him.

<sup>12</sup> Abner sent messengers to David at Hebron, saying, “To whom does the land belong? Make your covenant with me, and I will give you my support to bring all Israel over to you.” <sup>13</sup> He said, “Good; I will make a covenant with you. But one thing I require of you: you shall never appear in my presence unless you bring Saul’s daughter Michal when you come to see me.” <sup>14</sup> Then David sent messengers to Saul’s son Ishbaal, saying, “Give me my wife Michal, to whom I became engaged at the price of one hundred foreskins of the Philistines.” <sup>15</sup> Ishbaal sent and took her from her husband Paltiel the son of Laish. <sup>16</sup> But her husband went with her, weeping as he walked behind her all the way to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, “Go back home!” So he went back.

<sup>17</sup> Abner sent word to the elders of Israel, saying, “For some time past you have been seeking David as king over you. <sup>18</sup> Now then bring it about; for the LORD has promised David: Through my servant David I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines, and from all their enemies.” <sup>19</sup> Abner also spoke directly to the Benjaminites; then Abner went to tell David at Hebron all

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that Israel and the whole house of Benjamin were ready to do.

<sup>20</sup> When Abner came with twenty men to David at Hebron, David made a feast for Abner and the men who were with him. <sup>21</sup> Abner said to David, "Let me go and rally all Israel to my lord the king, in order that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your heart desires." So David dismissed Abner, and he went away in peace.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* [Psalm 61](#) NRSV

***Hear my cry, O God;***

***listen to my prayer.***

<sup>1</sup> Hear my cry, O God;  
listen to my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> From the end of the earth I call to you,  
when my heart is faint.

Lead me to the rock

that is higher than I;

<sup>3</sup> for you are my refuge,  
a strong tower against the enemy.

<sup>4</sup> Let me abide in your tent forever,  
find refuge under the shelter of your wings. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> For you, O God, have heard my vows;  
you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

<sup>6</sup> Prolong the life of the king;  
may his years endure to all generations!

<sup>7</sup> May he be enthroned forever before God;  
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!

<sup>8</sup> So I will always sing praises to your name,  
as I pay my vows day after day.

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

***Hear my cry, O God;***

***listen to my prayer.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Mark 6:30-46** NRSV

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup> And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup> Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup> When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; <sup>36</sup> send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.” <sup>37</sup> But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?” <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” <sup>39</sup> Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.

<sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> And all ate and were filled; <sup>43</sup> and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup> Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

<sup>45</sup> Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

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:**

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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.*

\* 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 of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

\* PRAYERS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Almighty God our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold office in this State of New Jersey, the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

\* PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

***Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. 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.***

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\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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.***

\* **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 now and  
always. **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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