

Monday, August 16, 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 THANKSGIVING**

It is good to give thanks to the *LORD*,
to sing praises to your name, O Most *High*;
***to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithful-ness by night,***
to the music of the lute and the *harp*,
to the melody of the lyre.

***For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.***

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are ver-y deep!

Psalm 92:1-5

* **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***

* **WORD: 2 Samuel 17:24-18:8** NRSV

²⁴ Then David came to Mahanaim, while Absalom crossed the Jordan with all the men of Israel. ²⁵ Now Absalom had set

Amasa over the army in the place of Joab. Amasa was the son of a man named Ithra the Ishmaelite, who had married Abigail daughter of Nahash, sister of Zeruah, Joab's mother.

²⁶ The Israelites and Absalom encamped in the land of Gilead.

²⁷ When David came to Mahanaim, Shobi son of Nahash from Rabbah of the Ammonites, and Machir son of Ammiel from Lo-debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim,

²⁸ brought beds, basins, and earthen vessels, wheat, barley, meal, parched grain, beans and lentils, ²⁹ honey and curds, sheep, and cheese from the herd, for David and the people with him to eat; for they said, "The troops are hungry and weary and thirsty in the wilderness."

¹⁸ Then David mustered the men who were with him, and set over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. ² And David divided the army into three groups: one third under the command of Joab, one third under the command of Abishai son of Zeruah, Joab's brother, and one third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. The king said to the men, "I myself will also go out with you." ³ But the men said, "You shall not go out. For if we flee, they will not care about us. If half of us die, they will not care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us; therefore it is better that you send us help from the city." ⁴ The king said to them,

"Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood at the side of the gate, while all the army marched out by hundreds and by thousands. ⁵ The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷ The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸ The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **Psalm 106:1-18** NRSV

Praise the LORD!

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD,
or declare all his praise?
³ Happy are those who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times.
⁴ Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your
people;
help me when you deliver them;
⁵ that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,
that I may glory in your heritage.
⁶ Both we and our ancestors have sinned;
we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.
⁷ Our ancestors, when they were in Egypt,
did not consider your wonderful works;
they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love,
but rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.
⁸ Yet he saved them for his name's sake,
so that he might make known his mighty power.
⁹ He rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry;
he led them through the deep as through a desert.
¹⁰ So he saved them from the hand of the foe,
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.
¹¹ The waters covered their adversaries;
not one of them was left.

¹² Then they believed his words;
they sang his praise.
¹³ But they soon forgot his works;
they did not wait for his counsel.
¹⁴ But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness,
and put God to the test in the desert;
¹⁵ he gave them what they asked,
but sent a wasting disease among them.
¹⁶ They were jealous of Moses in the camp,
and of Aaron, the holy one of the LORD.
¹⁷ The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan,
and covered the faction of Abiram.
¹⁸ Fire also broke out in their company;
the flame burned up the wicked.
Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,
one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD: Mark 11:12-26** NRSV

¹² On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he
was hungry. ¹³ Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he

went to see whether perhaps he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.

¹⁵ Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves; ¹⁶ and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. ¹⁷ He was teaching and saying, "Is it not written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?

But you have made it a den of robbers."

¹⁸ And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.

¹⁹ And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

²⁰ In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. ²¹ Then Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." ²² Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God.

²³ Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up

and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you. ²⁴ So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

²⁵ "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."

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*.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 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: Charles Grandison Finney**

Ordained Presbyterian, pastored as a Congregationalist, and teaching a Methodist theology, Charles G. Finney is quite likely the most influential figure in nineteenth-century American Christianity. He would be most surprised to be called a liturgical reformer but Finney has had more influence on North American worship than any other individual.

After a spectacular ministry in New York, Finney became professor and then president at Oberlin. Here women were first admitted as college students and Oberlin became a center of the crusades against slavery and for temperance. Finney's latter day writings were distinctly Arminian and foreshadowed much of the holiness movement. His most important contribution was in domesticating the frontier revival methods in American Christianity and this shifted much of the shape of worship in the Reformed, Puritan, and Methodist traditions and even impacted the Lutheran and Quaker traditions. Today the frontier tradition is the most prevalent in this country and is rapidly being exported overseas.

* 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: Charles Grandison Finney**

Holy and merciful God, in your love for the world you raised Charles Grandison Finney to be an evangelist, a herald of the good news: strengthen and guide those entrusted with the proclamation of your Word that as they make known your redeeming love we may heed and receive their glad tidings, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

* For All the Saints

* PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with those deep in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* FOR TRAVELERS

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving

care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

* PRAYER FOR THE AGED

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of 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, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

* 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

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of
God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with
you always. **Amen**

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