

Saturday, August 21, 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 WISDOM**

Wisdom has built her house, setting up seven pillars.  
She has prepared the food and wine and set her table.

***She has sent out her servants  
to call out from the Heights above the city:***

"Let those who want enlightenment come.  
Come, taste my bread and drink my spiced wine.

***Give up your foolishness and live,  
And walk the path of understanding."***

If you are wise, your reward is wisdom;  
If you teach the just, they grow in understanding.  
***Wisdom begins with reverence for God,  
and knowledge of the holy one is insight.***

\* OSL

\* **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One\* be with you;  
***And also with you.***

Let us pray:

***New every morning is your love, great God of light,  
and all day long you are working for good in the  
world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live  
peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day  
to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.***

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 2 Samuel 23:1-7,13-17** NRSV

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,  
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,

the anointed of the God of Jacob,

the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,  
his word is upon my tongue.

<sup>3</sup> The God of Israel has spoken,  
the Rock of Israel has said to me:

One who rules over people justly,  
ruling in the fear of God,

<sup>4</sup> is like the light of morning,  
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,  
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

<sup>5</sup> Is not my house like this with God?  
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,  
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper  
all my help and my desire?

<sup>6</sup> But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;  
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

<sup>7</sup> to touch them one uses an iron bar  
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

<sup>13</sup> Towards the beginning of harvest three of the thirty  
chiefs went down to join David at the cave of Adullam,

while a band of Philistines was encamped in the valley of  
Rephaim. <sup>14</sup> David was then in the stronghold; and the  
garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. <sup>15</sup> David  
said longingly, "O that someone would give me water to  
drink from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!"  
<sup>16</sup> Then the three warriors broke through the camp of the  
Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that  
was by the gate, and brought it to David. But he would not  
drink of it; he poured it out to the LORD, <sup>17</sup> for he said, "The  
LORD forbid that I should do this. Can I drink the blood of  
the men who went at the risk of their lives?" Therefore he  
would not drink it. The three warriors did these things.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* [Psalm 137:1-6](#) NRSV

***How could we sing the LORD's song  
in a foreign land?***

By the rivers of Babylon—

there we sat down and there we wept  
when we remembered Zion.

<sup>2</sup> On the willows there  
we hung up our harps.

<sup>3</sup> For there our captors  
asked us for songs,  
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,  
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

<sup>4</sup> How could we sing the LORD’s song  
in a foreign land?

<sup>5</sup> If I forget you, O Jerusalem,  
let my right hand wither!

<sup>6</sup> Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,  
if I do not remember you,  
if I do not set Jerusalem  
above my highest joy.

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

***How could we sing the LORD’s song  
in a foreign land?***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: Mark 13:1-13** NRSV

<sup>13</sup> As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” <sup>2</sup> Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>3</sup> When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup> “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?”

<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

<sup>9</sup> “As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you

will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. <sup>10</sup> And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. <sup>11</sup> When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. <sup>12</sup> Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>13</sup> and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

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: Georgia Harkness** (1974)

Harkness was a systematic theologian and a product of the Social Gospel of the 1920' s and early 1930' s. She was the first woman to teach in a mainline Protestant seminary in the United States. She combined her early training in philosophy with a spirituality nurtured by prayer, poetry, hymns, and devotional writings.

\* 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: Georgia Harkness**

God our Teacher, from whom comes all true knowledge:  
So bind your words to our lives and write them on the  
tablets of our hearts, that we may not be swayed by false  
winds; and grant us faithful guides like your servant

Georgia Harkness, that our path to you be made straight and sure 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 STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

***Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

\* FOR VOCATION IN DAILY WORK

Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; for

the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

\* OF THE REIGN OF CHRIST

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

\* A COLLECT FOR SATURDAYS

Almighty God, who after the creation of the world rested from all your works and sanctified a day of rest for all your creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; 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, 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.*

\* **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 road rise to meet you,  
may the wind be always at your back,  
may the sun shine warm upon your face,  
may the rains fall soft upon your fields,  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of his hand. **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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