

Tuesday, August 3, 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

* **1st READING: 2 Samuel 7:18-29** NRSV

¹⁸ Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and said, “Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? ¹⁹ And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord GOD; you have spoken also of your servant’s house for a great while to come. May this be instruction for the people, O Lord GOD! ²⁰ And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Lord GOD! ²¹ Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have wrought all this greatness, so that your servant may know it. ²² Therefore you are great, O LORD God; for there is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. ²³ Who is like your people, like Israel? Is there another nation on earth whose God went to redeem it as a people, and to make a name for himself, doing great and awesome

things for them, by driving out before his people nations and their gods? ²⁴ And you established your people Israel for yourself to be your people forever; and you, O LORD, became their God. ²⁵ And now, O LORD God, as for the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, confirm it forever; do as you have promised. ²⁶ Thus your name will be magnified forever in the saying, ‘The LORD of hosts is God over Israel’; and the house of your servant David will be established before you. ²⁷ For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house’; therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. ²⁸ And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant; ²⁹ now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you; for you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever.”

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

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* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* [Psalm 78:1-39](#) NRSV

***He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.***

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
² I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
³ things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.
⁵ He established a decree in Jacob,
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children;
⁶ that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,

⁷ so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;
⁸ and that they should not be like their ancestors,
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
whose spirit was not faithful to God.

***He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.***

⁹ The Ephraimites, armed with the bow,
turned back on the day of battle.
¹⁰ They did not keep God's covenant,
but refused to walk according to his law.
¹¹ They forgot what he had done,
and the miracles that he had shown them.
¹² In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.
¹³ He divided the sea and let them pass through it,
and made the waters stand like a heap.
¹⁴ In the daytime he led them with a cloud,
and all night long with a fiery light.
¹⁵ He split rocks open in the wilderness,
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

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¹⁶ He made streams come out of the rock,
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

***He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.***

¹⁷ Yet they sinned still more against him,
rebellious against the Most High in the desert.

¹⁸ They tested God in their heart
by demanding the food they craved.

¹⁹ They spoke against God, saying,
“Can God spread a table in the wilderness?”

²⁰ Even though he struck the rock so that water gushed
out and torrents overflowed,
can he also give bread, or provide meat for his people?”

²¹ Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of rage;
a fire was kindled against Jacob,
his anger mounted against Israel,

²² because they had no faith in God,
and did not trust his saving power.

²³ Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;

²⁴ he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.

²⁵ Mortals ate of the bread of angels;

he sent them food in abundance.

²⁶ He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;

²⁷ he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;

²⁸ he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.

²⁹ And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

³⁰ But before they had satisfied their craving,
while the food was still in their mouths,

³¹ the anger of God rose against them
and he killed the strongest of them,
and laid low the flower of Israel.

³² In spite of all this they still sinned;
they did not believe in his wonders.

³³ So he made their days vanish like a breath,
and their years in terror.

³⁴ When he killed them, they sought for him;
they repented and sought God earnestly.

³⁵ They remembered that God was their rock,
the Most High God their redeemer.

³⁶ But they flattered him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.

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³⁷ Their heart was not steadfast toward him;
they were not true to his covenant.

³⁸ Yet he, being compassionate,
forgave their iniquity,
and did not destroy them;

often he restrained his anger,
and did not stir up all his wrath.

³⁹ He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.

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

***He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING:** **Mark 8:22-33** NRSV

²² They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. ²³ He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on

him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?" ²⁴ And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵ Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

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*.

* **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.***

* FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

* PRAYERS FOR UNITY OF THE CHURCH

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and harmony; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of

us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; 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**

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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:

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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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