

Tuesday, August 31, 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: 1 Kings 8:65-9:9** NRSV

⁶⁵ So Solomon held the festival at that time, and all Israel with him—a great assembly, people from Lebo-hamath to the Wadi of Egypt—before the LORD our God, seven days.

⁶⁶ On the eighth day he sent the people away; and they blessed the king, and went to their tents, joyful and in good spirits because of all the goodness that the LORD had shown to his servant David and to his people Israel.

⁹ When Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, ² the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. ³ The LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea, which you made before me; I have consecrated this house that you have built, and put my name there forever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time. ⁴ As for you, if you will

walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, ⁵ then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised your father David, saying, 'There shall not fail you a successor on the throne of Israel.'

⁶ "If you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not keep my commandments and my statutes that I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, ⁷ then I will cut Israel off from the land that I have given them; and the house that I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight; and Israel will become a proverb and a taunt among all peoples. ⁸ This house will become a heap of ruins; everyone passing by it will be astonished, and will hiss; and they will say, 'Why has the LORD done such a thing to this land and to this house?' ⁹ Then they will say, 'Because they have forsaken the LORD their God, who brought their ancestors out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, worshiping them and serving them; therefore the LORD has brought this disaster upon them.'"

Holy wisdom, holy word. ***Thanks be to God!***

8/31/21

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* [Psalm 26](#) NRSV

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and mind.***

Vindicate me, O LORD,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

² Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and mind.

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

⁴ I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;

⁵ I hate the company of evildoers,
and will not sit with the wicked.

⁶ I wash my hands in innocence,
and go around your altar, O LORD,

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

⁸ O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,
and the place where your glory abides.

⁹ Do not sweep me away with sinners,
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,

¹⁰ those in whose hands are evil devices,
and whose right hands are full of bribes.

¹¹ But as for me, I walk in my integrity;
redeem me, and be gracious to me.

¹² My foot stands on level ground;
in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.

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

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and mind.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING:** **Mark 14:66-72** NRSV

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You

also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.⁶⁹ And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.”⁷⁰ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.”⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

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: John Bunyan** (1688)

A puritan preacher and writer, Bunyan is best remembered for *The Pilgrim's Progress*, an extended allegory about the Christian pilgrimage.

Born into an Anglican family in 1628, Bunyan experienced a dramatic conversion when he married Margaret Bentley, a member of a Puritan sect, in 1648. Starting shortly after his conversion and continuing to the end of his life, he engaged in a ministry of preaching, teaching, and writing. After the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 following the English Civil War, his activities as a lay preacher landed him in jail on more than one occasion. During an early imprisonment he wrote his famous spiritual autobiography, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*. Most scholars agree that much, if not most, of *Pilgrim's Progress* was also composed while he was in jail.

* 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: John Bunyan**

Gracious God, by the holy example of John Bunyan you have drawn us more deeply into the mystery of your way with the world: Grant that as living members of the family of saints we might be made perfect in love and join their ceaseless life of praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

* For All the Saints

* 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 OUR ENEMIES

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to

truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* FOR SOUND GOVERNMENT

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. ***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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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.***

8/31/21

* **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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