

Friday, October 1, 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** - *The First Song of Isaiah*

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
and he will be my Savior.***

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.

***And on that day you shall say,***

***Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;***  
Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
***Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great  
things, and this is known in all the world.***  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
for the great one in the midst of you  
is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12:2-6

\* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

***Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy  
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which  
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no  
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us  
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,  
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a  
faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*** (SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH  
CENT.)

***Incline your ear to me;***

***answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

<sup>1</sup> Hear my prayer, O LORD;

let my cry come to you.

<sup>2</sup> Do not hide your face from me

in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

<sup>3</sup> For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like a furnace.

<sup>4</sup> My heart is stricken and withered like grass;

I am too wasted to eat my bread.

<sup>5</sup> Because of my loud groaning

my bones cling to my skin.

<sup>6</sup> I am like an owl of the wilderness,

like a little owl of the waste places.

<sup>7</sup> I lie awake;

I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

<sup>8</sup> All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

<sup>9</sup> For I eat ashes like bread,

and mingle tears with my drink,

<sup>10</sup> because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

<sup>11</sup> My days are like an evening shadow;

I wither away like grass.

<sup>12</sup> But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;

your name endures to all generations.

<sup>13</sup> You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,

for it is time to favor it;

the appointed time has come.

<sup>14</sup> For your servants hold its stones dear,

and have pity on its dust.

<sup>15</sup> The nations will fear the name of the LORD,

and all the kings of the earth your glory.

<sup>16</sup> For the LORD will build up Zion;

he will appear in his glory.

<sup>17</sup> He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

and will not despise their prayer.

<sup>18</sup> Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

<sup>19</sup> that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

<sup>20</sup> to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

<sup>21</sup> so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

<sup>22</sup> when peoples gather together,  
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> He has broken my strength in midcourse;  
he has shortened my days.

<sup>24</sup> “O my God,” I say, “do not take me away  
at the midpoint of my life,  
you whose years endure  
throughout all generations.”

<sup>25</sup> Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup> They will perish, but you endure;  
they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

<sup>27</sup> but you are the same, and your years have no end.

<sup>28</sup> The children of your servants shall live secure;  
their offspring shall be established in your presence.

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

***Incline your ear to me;  
answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27** NRSV

<sup>16</sup> If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup> For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup> What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup> For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup> To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup> I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

<sup>24</sup> Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. <sup>25</sup> Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they

do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. <sup>26</sup> So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; <sup>27</sup> but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: Matthew 8:1-17** NRSV

When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; <sup>2</sup> and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean." <sup>3</sup> He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

<sup>5</sup> When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him <sup>6</sup> and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress." <sup>7</sup> And he said to him, "I

will come and cure him." <sup>8</sup> The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup> For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup> I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup> while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." <sup>13</sup> And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith." And the servant was healed in that hour.

<sup>14</sup> When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; <sup>15</sup> he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. <sup>16</sup> That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. <sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."

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*. LUKE 1:68-79

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)*

\* FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe,

and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY

***Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly pray to you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

\* PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in

harmony around your heavenly throne; 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 FOR FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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**

“But blessed are those who trust in the Lord  
and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.  
They are like trees planted along a riverbank,  
with roots that reach deep into the water.  
Such trees are not bothered by the heat  
or worried by long months of drought.  
Their leaves stay green,  
and they never stop producing fruit.” **Amen.** Jeremiah 17:7-8

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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