

Friday, September 24, 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.)

***O LORD, God of my salvation,  
at night, I cry out in your presence.***

O LORD, God of my salvation,  
when, at night, I cry out in your presence,  
<sup>2</sup> let my prayer come before you;  
incline your ear to my cry.  
<sup>3</sup> For my soul is full of troubles,  
and my life draws near to Sheol.  
<sup>4</sup> I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;  
I am like those who have no help,  
<sup>5</sup> like those forsaken among the dead,  
like the slain that lie in the grave,  
like those whom you remember no more,  
for they are cut off from your hand.  
<sup>6</sup> You have put me in the depths of the Pit,  
in the regions dark and deep.  
<sup>7</sup> Your wrath lies heavy upon me,  
and you overwhelm me with all your waves. *Selah*  
<sup>8</sup> You have caused my companions to shun me;  
you have made me a thing of horror to them.  
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;  
<sup>9</sup> my eye grows dim through sorrow.  
Every day I call on you, O LORD;

I spread out my hands to you.

<sup>10</sup> Do you work wonders for the dead?

Do the shades rise up to praise you? *Selah*

<sup>11</sup> Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,  
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?

<sup>12</sup> Are your wonders known in the darkness,  
or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?

<sup>13</sup> But I, O LORD, cry out to you;  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.

<sup>14</sup> O LORD, why do you cast me off?  
Why do you hide your face from me?

<sup>15</sup> Wretched and close to death from my youth up,  
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.

<sup>16</sup> Your wrath has swept over me;  
your dread assaults destroy me.

<sup>17</sup> They surround me like a flood all day long;  
from all sides they close in on me.

<sup>18</sup> You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;  
my companions are in darkness.

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

***O LORD, God of my salvation,  
at night, I cry out in your presence.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: 1 Corinthians 7:1-9** NRSV

Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: "It is well for a man not to touch a woman." <sup>2</sup> But because of cases of sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. <sup>3</sup> The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup> For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. <sup>5</sup> Do not deprive one another except perhaps by agreement for a set time, to devote yourselves to prayer, and then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. <sup>6</sup> This I say by way of concession, not of command. <sup>7</sup> I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has a particular gift from God, one having one kind and another a different kind.

<sup>8</sup> To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is well for them to remain unmarried as I am. <sup>9</sup> But if they are not practicing self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to be aflame with passion.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **WORD: Matthew 6:7-15** NRSV

<sup>7</sup> "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> "Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And do not bring us to the time of trial,  
but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive 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*. 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.***

\* **FOR GUIDANCE**

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light *rises* up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what *you would* have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

\* **A PRAYER OF SELF-DEDICATION**

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ***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

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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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