

Monday, September 27, 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 THANKSGIVING**

It is good to give thanks to the *LORD*,
to sing praises to your name, O Most *High*;
**to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithful-ness by night,**
to the music of the lute and the *harp*,
to the melody of the lyre.

**For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are ver-y deep!

Psalm 92:1-5

* **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One* be with you;

And also with you.

Let us pray:

**Oh God, The Holy Spirit,
come to us, and among us;
come as the wind, and cleanse us;
come as the fire, and burn;
come as the dew, and refresh;
convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives
to our great good and to your greater glory;
and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen**

* **PSALM 89:1-18** NRSV

Righteousness and justice

are the foundation of your throne;

steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

- ¹ I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
- ² I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
- ³ You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:
- ⁴ ‘I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.’” *Selah*
- ⁵ Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.
- ⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,
- ⁷ a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome above all that are around him?
- ⁸ O LORD God of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.
- ⁹ You rule the raging of the sea;
when its waves rise, you still them.
- ¹⁰ You crushed Rahab like a carcass;
you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.

- ¹¹ The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;
the world and all that is in it—you have founded them.
- ¹² The north and the south — you created them;
Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.
- ¹³ You have a mighty arm;
strong is your hand, high your right hand.
- ¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.
- ¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance;
- ¹⁶ they exult in your name all day long,
and extol your righteousness.
- ¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.
- ¹⁸ For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

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

Righteousness and justice

are the foundation of your throne;

steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31** NRSV

²⁵ Now concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ I think that, in view of the impending crisis, it is well for you to remain as you are. ²⁷ Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸ But if you marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin marries, she does not sin. Yet those who marry will experience distress in this life, and I would spare you that. ²⁹ I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰ and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹ and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD: Matthew 6:25-34** NRSV

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

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: Alejo Hernandez**

Hernandez traveled an unlikely road to become known as the father of Hispanic Methodism. Born in 1842 in Mexico to upper-class Catholic parents, he abandoned his studies for the priesthood — as well as his faith — when the Church's hierarchy endorsed the 1862 French invasion of Mexico. While serving in the resistance army, Hernandez stumbled upon an anti-papist tract. Instead of fortifying his atheism as he hoped, the pamphlet challenged him to read and interpret

God's Word first-hand. The search for a copy of the scriptures took him to Brownsville, Texas where a sudden rainstorm drove him into the midst of a service of worship. His description of this life-changing moment is reminiscent of John Wesley's Aldersgate experience:

I felt that God's spirit was there, although I could not understand a word that was being said, I felt my heart strangely warmed. Never did I hear an organ play so sweetly, never did human voices sound so lovely to me, never did people look so beautiful as on that occasion. I went away weeping for joy.

In 1870, Hernandez joined the church of a Methodist family who befriended him in Corpus Christi, and he soon began a career of sharing the gospel with his Hispanic brothers and sisters. He became the first Mexican ordained in the Methodist Church in 1871. After brief service in Texas, he was sent to Mexico City in 1874 where he organized the first Methodist church south of the U.S. border. Within 18 months, his missionary work was cut short by a debilitating stroke. He died on September 27, 1875.

* 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: Alejo Hernandez**

Holy and merciful God, in your love for the world you raised Alejo Hernandez to be an evangelist, a herald of the good news: strengthen and guide those entrusted with the proclamation of your Word that as they make known your redeeming love we may heed and receive their glad tidings, 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 THOSE WHO MOURN**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with those deep in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.***

* **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

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**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **Amen**

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

Unless otherwise noted, prayers used in morning prayer recordings are from the *Book of Common Prayer* under public domain.

All biographical information and prayers cited * **For All the Saints** are;
“Reprinted from *For All the Saints: A Calendar of Commemorations for United Methodists*, 2nd edition, editor Heather Josselyn-Cranson, © 2013 by the Order of Saint Luke. Used by permission.”

All prayers cited * **OSL** are;
“Reprinted from *The Book of OFFICES and SERVICES of The Order of Saint Luke*, © 2012 by The Order of Saint Luke. Used by permission of OSL Publications.”

All collects cited * **Holy Women, Holy Men** are reprinted from
Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints
Copyright © 2010 by The Church Pension Fund

All collects cited * **Lesser Feasts and Fasts** are reprinted from
Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006
Copyright © 2010 by The Church Pension Fund