

Tuesday, December 14, 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 salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence
with thanksgiving,
and raise a loud shout with psalms.**

For you, O God, are a great God,
you are great above 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:
**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 48](#) NRSV

***Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.***

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.

His holy mountain, ² beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great King.

³ Within its citadels God
has shown himself a sure defense.

⁴ Then the kings assembled,
they came on together.

⁵ As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
they were in panic, they took to flight;

⁶ trembling took hold of them there,
pains as of a woman in labor,

⁷ as when an east wind shatters

the ships of Tarshish.

⁸ As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the LORD of hosts,
in the city of our God,
which God establishes forever. *Selah*

⁹ We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
in the midst of your temple.

¹⁰ Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.
Your right hand is filled with victory.

¹¹ Let Mount Zion be glad,
let the towns of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments.

¹² Walk about Zion, go all around it,
count its towers,

¹³ consider well its ramparts;
go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation

¹⁴ that this is God,
our God forever and ever.
He will be our guide forever.

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

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***Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING: Revelation 3:14-22** NRSV

¹⁴ “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin^[a] of God’s creation:

¹⁵ “I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ For you say, ‘I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.’ You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

¹⁸ Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

¹⁹ I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. ²⁰ Listen! I am standing at the door,

knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. ²¹ To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.”

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: Matthew 24:32-44** NRSV

³² “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁴ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

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³⁶ “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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*.

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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)*

* **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 ALL CHRISTIANS IN THEIR VOCATION**

***Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the
whole body of your faithful people is governed and
sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers,
which we offer before you for all members of your holy
Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may***

truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

* FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Almighty God, who created us in your image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for 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

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***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**

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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