

Monday, January 17, 2022

* **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.

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**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 25** NRSV

**Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all day long.

⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast

love,

for they have been from of old.

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my

transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD;

therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,

and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and

faithfulness,

for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

¹¹ For your name's sake, O LORD,

pardon my guilt, for it is great.

¹² Who are they that fear the LORD?

He will teach them the way that they should choose.

¹³ They will abide in prosperity,

and their children shall possess the land.

¹⁴ The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him,

and he makes his covenant known to them.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me,

for I am lonely and afflicted.

¹⁷ Relieve the troubles of my heart,

and bring me out of my distress.

¹⁸ Consider my affliction and my trouble,

and forgive all my sins.

¹⁹ Consider how many are my foes,

and with what violent hatred they hate me.

²⁰ O guard my life, and deliver me;

do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

²¹ May integrity and uprightness preserve me,

for I wait for you.

²² Redeem Israel, O God,
out of all its troubles.

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

***Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: Hebrews 4:14-5:6** CEB

¹⁴ Also, let's hold on to the confession since we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens, who is Jesus, God's Son; ¹⁵ because we don't have a high priest who can't sympathize with our weaknesses but instead one who was tempted in every way that we are, except without sin.

¹⁶ Finally, let's draw near to the throne of favor with confidence so that we can receive mercy and find grace when we need help.

⁵ Every high priest is taken from the people and put in charge of things that relate to God for their sake, in order to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² The high priest is able to deal gently with the ignorant and those who are misled since

he himself is prone to weakness. ³ Because of his weakness, he must offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as for the people. ⁴ No one takes this honor for themselves but takes it only when they are called by God, just like Aaron.

⁵ In the same way Christ also didn't promote himself to become high priest. Instead, it was the one who said to him,
You are my Son.

Today I have become your Father,

⁶ as he also says in another place,

You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING: John 2:23-3:15** CEB

²³ While Jesus was in Jerusalem for the Passover Festival, many believed in his name because they saw the miraculous signs that he did. ²⁴ But Jesus didn't trust himself to them because he knew all people. ²⁵ He didn't need anyone to tell

him about human nature, for he knew what human nature was.

³ There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader.

² He came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him.”

³ Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it’s not possible to see God’s kingdom.”

⁴ Nicodemus asked, “How is it possible for an adult to be born? It’s impossible to enter the mother’s womb for a second time and be born, isn’t it?”

⁵ Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom.

⁶ Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Don’t be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ ⁸ God’s Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. It’s the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus said, “How are these things possible?”

¹⁰ “Jesus answered, “You are a teacher of Israel and you don’t know these things? ¹¹ I assure you that we speak about

what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don’t receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

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: Antony, Abbot of Egypt (356)**

Antony was born to affluent Christian parents who farmed along the Nile river village of Coma in Upper Egypt. At age twenty, shortly after the death of his parents, he entered a village church and heard the saying of Jesus to the rich man: "If you would be perfect, go and sell all that you have and give to the poor, come, follow me and you will have treasure in heaven." Seized by these words, he sold the farm, gave his money to the poor, and moved to the edge of town to live among local hermits and ascetics.

. . . During the middle ages, Antony became the embodiment of the spirit of early monasticism. He was a patriarch to monks and was very popular among medieval Christians. Sayings attributed to Antony were collected and taught.

. . . Antony died in 356, well over 100 years of age. According to the legend, he left his only possessions, his mantle and a sheepskin tunic, to his favorite student, Athanasius.

* 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: Antony, Abbot of Egypt**

Gracious God, by the holy example of Antony, Abbot of Egypt, 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

* 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 THE VICTIMS OF ADDICTION

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of

your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. **Amen.**

* FOR ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, 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 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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