Thursday, January 20, 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. * OSI Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

PSALM 90:14

* MORNING CANTICLE OF JOY

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness and come before God's presence with a song.

Know this: The LORD is God; the LORD has made us,

and we belong to the One who created us; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving; go into God's courts with praise; give thanks to God and call upon God's Name. For the LORD is good; God's mercy is everlasting; and God's faithfulness endures from age to age.

PSALM 100

* MORNING PRAYER

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

Let us pray:

Dawn from on high, Your light illumines all our days. Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day. Be merciful in us for the sake of others. Make us fearless when confronting injustice and need, that we may give you glory in the power of the Spirit. Amen.

* Psalm 37:1-18 NRSV

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- ¹ Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,
- ² for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.
- ³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
- ⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.
- 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
 Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

- ¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- ¹² The wicked plot against the righteous, and gnash their teeth at them;
- ¹³ but the LORD laughs at the wicked, for he sees that their day is coming.
- ¹⁴ The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to kill those who walk uprightly;
- ¹⁵ their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.
- ¹⁶ Better is a little that the righteous person has than the abundance of many wicked.
- ¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.
- ¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;
- Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-ever, A-*men*.

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 1st READING: Hebrews 6:13-20 CEB

¹³ When God gave Abraham his promise, he swore by himself since he couldn't swear by anyone greater. ¹⁴ He said, I will certainly bless you and multiply your descendants. ¹⁵ So Abraham obtained the promise by showing patience. ¹⁶ People pledge by something greater than themselves. A solemn pledge guarantees what they say and shuts down any argument. ¹⁷ When God wanted to further demonstrate to the heirs of the promise that his purpose doesn't change, he guaranteed it with a solemn pledge. ¹⁸ So these are two things that don't change, because it's impossible for God to lie. He did this so that we, who have taken refuge in him, can be encouraged to grasp the hope that is lying in front of us. ¹⁹ This hope, which is a safe and secure anchor for our whole being, enters the sanctuary behind the curtain. ²⁰ That's where Jesus went in advance and entered for us, since he

became a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 2nd READING: John 4:1-15 CEB

Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (² although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). ³ Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

⁴ Jesus had to go through Samaria. ⁵ He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." ⁸ His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food. 1/20/22

⁹ The Samaritan woman asked, "Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (Jews and Samaritans didn't associate with each other.)

¹⁰ Jesus responded, "If you recognized God's gift and who is saying to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would be asking him and he would give you living water."

¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you don't have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? ¹² You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!"

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

We bless you, Adonai, <u>God</u> of *Israel*, for you come to visit us and ransom <u>us</u> from *bondage*. You have brought forth a <u>strong</u> De-*liverer* in the house of <u>your</u> child *David*.

This is what your holy <u>prophets</u> an-nounced: deliverance from enemies and from the hand of <u>all</u> who hate *us*; mercy a-mong our *ancestors*, and remembrance of your <u>ho</u>-ly *covenant*.

This is the promise you swore
to our <u>an</u>-cestor, *Abraham*,
to make us <u>un</u>-a-*fraid*,
to rescue us <u>from</u> our *enemies*,
to serve before you, holy and just,
all the days <u>of</u> our *lives*.

And this, my little child, shall be called prophet of <u>the Most High</u>, going before you, Adonai, to pre-<u>pare</u> your *paths*,

1/20/22

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 <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.

* THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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)

* PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to those we pray for this day, the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* PRAYERS FOR GUIDANCE

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen..

* A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *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*.

1/20/22

* 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.

* 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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