

Thursday, January 27, 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.

\* OSL

***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.***

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\* [Psalm 50](#) NRSV

***Call on me in the day of trouble;***

***I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.***

- <sup>1</sup> The mighty one, God the LORD,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- <sup>2</sup> Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.
- <sup>3</sup> Our God comes and does not keep silence,  
before him is a devouring fire,  
and a mighty tempest all around him.
- <sup>4</sup> He calls to the heavens above  
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
- <sup>5</sup> “Gather to me my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”
- <sup>6</sup> The heavens declare his righteousness,  
for God himself is judge. *Selah*
- <sup>7</sup> “Hear, O my people, and I will speak,  
O Israel, I will testify against you.  
I am God, your God.
- <sup>8</sup> Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;  
your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- <sup>9</sup> I will not accept a bull from your house,

or goats from your folds.

- <sup>10</sup> For every wild animal of the forest is mine,  
the cattle on a thousand hills.
- <sup>11</sup> I know all the birds of the air,  
and all that moves in the field is mine.
- <sup>12</sup> “If I were hungry, I would not tell you,  
for the world and all that is in it is mine.
- <sup>13</sup> Do I eat the flesh of bulls,  
or drink the blood of goats?
- <sup>14</sup> Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and pay your vows to the Most High.
- <sup>15</sup> Call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”
- <sup>16</sup> But to the wicked God says:  
“What right have you to recite my statutes,  
or take my covenant on your lips?
- <sup>17</sup> For you hate discipline,  
and you cast my words behind you.
- <sup>18</sup> You make friends with a thief when you see one,  
and you keep company with adulterers.
- <sup>19</sup> “You give your mouth free rein for evil,  
and your tongue frames deceit.
- <sup>20</sup> You sit and speak against your kin;

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you slander your own mother's child.

<sup>21</sup> These things you have done and I have been silent;  
you thought that I was one just like yourself.

But now I rebuke you, and lay the charge before you.

<sup>22</sup> "Mark this, then, you who forget God,  
or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to  
deliver.

<sup>23</sup> Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor  
me;

to those who go the right way  
I will show the salvation of God."

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

***Call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Hebrews 10:1-10** CEB

The Law is a shadow of the good things that are coming,  
not the real things themselves. It never can perfect the  
ones who are trying to draw near to God through the

same sacrifices that are offered continually every year.

<sup>2</sup> Otherwise, wouldn't they have stopped being offered? If  
the people carrying out their religious duties had been  
completely cleansed once, no one would have been  
aware of sin anymore. <sup>3</sup> Instead, these sacrifices are a  
reminder of sin every year, <sup>4</sup> because it's impossible for  
the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore, when he comes into the world he says,

*You didn't want a sacrifice or an offering,  
but you prepared a body for me;*

<sup>6</sup> *you weren't pleased with entirely burned offerings or a  
sin offering.*

<sup>7</sup> So then I said,

*"Look, I've come to do your will, God.*

*This has been written about me in the scroll."*

<sup>8</sup> He says above, *You didn't want and you weren't pleased  
with a sacrifice or an offering or with entirely burned  
offerings or a purification offering*, which are offered  
because the Law requires them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said, *Look, I've  
come to do your will*. He puts an end to the first to  
establish the second. <sup>10</sup> We have been made holy by  
God's will through the offering of Jesus Christ's body once  
for all.

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Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: John 5:30-47** CEB

<sup>30</sup> I can't do anything by myself. Whatever I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just. I don't seek my own will but the will of the one who sent me.

<sup>31</sup> "If I testify about myself, my testimony isn't true.

<sup>32</sup> There is someone else who testifies about me, and I know his testimony about me is true. <sup>33</sup> You sent a delegation to John, and he testified to the truth.

<sup>34</sup> Although I don't accept human testimony, I say these things so that you can be saved. <sup>35</sup> John was a burning and shining lamp, and, at least for a while, you were willing to celebrate in his light.

<sup>36</sup> "I have a witness greater than John's testimony. The Father has given me works to do so that I might complete them. These works I do testify about me that the Father sent me. <sup>37</sup> And the Father who sent me testifies about

me. You have never even heard his voice or seen his form, <sup>38</sup> and you don't have his word dwelling with you because you don't believe the one whom he has sent.

<sup>39</sup> Examine the scriptures, since you think that in them you have eternal life. They also testify about me, <sup>40</sup> yet you don't want to come to me so that you can have life.

<sup>41</sup> "I don't accept praise from people, <sup>42</sup> but I know you, that you don't have God's love in you. <sup>43</sup> I have come in my Father's name, and you don't receive me. If others come in their own name, you receive them. <sup>44</sup> How can you believe when you receive praise from each other but don't seek the praise that comes from the only God?

<sup>45</sup> "Don't think that I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, the one in whom your hope rests.

<sup>46</sup> If you believed Moses, you would believe me, because Moses wrote about me. <sup>47</sup> If you don't believe the writings of Moses, how will you believe my words?"

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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\* **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*.

\* **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,***

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***the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **COMMEMORATION: JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

John was called "Chrysostom" ("Golden Mouth") because of his eloquence. He was a priest of Antioch, and an outstanding preacher. (Audiences were warned not to carry large sums of money when they went to hear him speak, since pickpockets found it very easy to rob his hearers -- they were too intent on his words to notice what was happening.) His sermons are mostly straightforward expositions of Holy Scripture (he has extensive commentaries on both Testaments, with special attention to the Epistles of Paul), and he emphasizes the literal meaning, whereas the style popular at Alexandria tended to read allegorical meanings into the text.

He loved the city and people of Antioch, and they loved him. However, he became so famous that the Empress at Constantinople decided that she must have him for her

court preacher, and she had him kidnapped and brought to Constantinople and there made bishop. This was a failure all around. His sermons against corruption in high places earned him powerful enemies (including the Empress), and he was sent into exile, where he died.

Along with Athanasius of Alexandria, Basil the Great, and Gregory of Nazianzus, he is counted as one of the Four Great Eastern (or Greek) Doctors of the Ancient Church. The Four Great Western (or Latin) Doctors are Ambrose, Jerome, Augustine, and Gregory the Great.

*[by James Kiefer](#)*

\* **PRAYERS**

The Holy One be with you,  
***and also with you.***

Let us pray: *(stop and pray for those on your heart today)*

\* **COLLECT: JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

O God, who gave to your servant John Chrysostom grace eloquently to proclaim your righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honor of your Name: Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellency in preaching, and fidelity in

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ministering your Word, that your people shall be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[\*by James Kiefer\*](#)

\* 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.**

\* FOR PEACE

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

\* PRAYERS FOR CONGRESS

***O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth: We implore you so to guide and bless our Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled and in the Legislature of this State, that they may enact such laws as shall please you, to the glory of your Name and the welfare of this people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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,***

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***and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.***

\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; 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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