

Tuesday, January 4, 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.**

* **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 85** NRSV

***Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.***

LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin. *Selah*

³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

⁶ Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. [\[a\]](#)

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

¹² The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.

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

***Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

1/04/22

* **1st READING: Ephesians 5:1-20** NRSV

¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,
² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up
for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³ But fornication and impurity of any kind, or greed, must
not even be mentioned among you, as is proper among
saints. ⁴ Entirely out of place is obscene, silly, and vulgar
talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving. ⁵ Be sure of
this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is
greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the
kingdom of Christ and of God.

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of
these things the wrath of God comes on those who are
disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be associated with them.

⁸ For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you
are light. Live as children of light—⁹ for the fruit of the light
is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find
out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the
unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do
secretly; ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes
visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but
as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days
are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the
will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is
debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing
psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves,
singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts,
²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for
everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: John 9:1-12, 35-38** NRSV

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His
disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his
parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered,

1/04/22

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen

him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

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*.

* 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: JOHN SEYBERT

John Seybert was born in 1791 near Manheim, Pennsylvania. He joined the Albright People in 1810, entered the ministry ten years later, and was elected the first bishop of the Evangelical Association in 1839.

Bishop Seybert had an enormous impact on the early growth of the denomination. He was particularly interested

1/04/22

in missions, especially in the German settlements of the Northwest Territory. In 1842, Bishop Seybert ordered over 23,000 volumes from the denominational publishing house in New Berlin, Pennsylvania, and hand-delivered them to German-speaking ministers in Ohio and westward.

He traveled extensively, some 175,000 total miles, and visited Flat Rock on numerous occasions. In 1860 Bishop Seybert died in the Parker home, built by one of the pioneer Evangelical families and a preaching place for ministers. The bishop's funeral was held at the Old Stone Church and he was buried in a nearby cemetery.

* [General Commission on Archives and History](#)

* 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)*

* **COLLECT: JOHN SEYBERT**

Good Shepherd of the flock, we thank you for faithful bishops, pastors, and abbatial leaders like John Seybert who teach and defend the faith. By your Word call them from maintenance to mission, from ease to vision, and from fear to courageous leadership. 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.

* **PRAYERS FOR TOWNS and RURAL AREAS**

Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns, and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas especially here in Atlantic County;

1/04/22

and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink and all other bodily necessities of life, respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and the water from which these good things come. All this we ask in your holy Name. **Amen.**

* FOR RAIN

O God, heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has promised to all those who seek your kingdom and its righteousness all things necessary to sustain their life: Send us, we pray, in this time of need in the western part of our country, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth, to our comfort and to thy honor; 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,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.***

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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:***

1/04/22

***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

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