

Friday, February 11, 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** - *The First Song of Isaiah*

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.***
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
***Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great
things, and this is known in all the world.***
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12:2-6

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

***Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a
faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

***O LORD, God of my salvation,
at night, I cry out in your presence.***

O LORD, God of my salvation,
when, at night, I cry out in your presence,
² let my prayer come before you;
incline your ear to my cry.
³ For my soul is full of troubles,
and my life draws near to Sheol.
⁴ I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
I am like those who have no help,
⁵ like those forsaken among the dead,
like the slain that lie in the grave,
like those whom you remember no more,
for they are cut off from your hand.
⁶ You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
in the regions dark and deep.
⁷ Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
and you overwhelm me with all your waves. *Selah*
⁸ You have caused my companions to shun me;
you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;
⁹ my eye grows dim through sorrow.
Every day I call on you, O LORD;

I spread out my hands to you.

- ¹⁰ Do you work wonders for the dead?
Do the shades rise up to praise you? *Selah*
¹¹ Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
¹² Are your wonders known in the darkness,
or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?
¹³ But I, O LORD, cry out to you;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
¹⁴ O LORD, why do you cast me off?
Why do you hide your face from me?
¹⁵ Wretched and close to death from my youth up,
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.
¹⁶ Your wrath has swept over me;
your dread assaults destroy me.
¹⁷ They surround me like a flood all day long;
from all sides they close in on me.
¹⁸ You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;
my companions are in darkness.

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

***O LORD, God of my salvation,
at night, I cry out in your presence.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: Romans 13:1-14** CEB

Every person should place themselves under the authority of the government. There isn't any authority unless it comes from God, and the authorities that are there have been put in place by God. ² So anyone who opposes the authority is standing against what God has established. People who take this kind of stand will get punished. ³ The authorities don't frighten people who are doing the right thing. Rather, they frighten people who are doing wrong. Would you rather not be afraid of authority? Do what's right, and you will receive its approval. ⁴ It is God's servant given for your benefit. But if you do what's wrong, be afraid because it doesn't have weapons to enforce the law for nothing. It is God's servant put in place to carry out his punishment on those who do what is wrong. ⁵ That is why it is necessary to place yourself under the government's authority, not only to avoid God's punishment but also for the sake of your conscience. ⁶ You should also pay taxes for the same reason, because the authorities are God's assistants, concerned with this very thing. ⁷ So pay everyone what you owe them. Pay the taxes you owe, pay the duties you are

charged, give respect to those you should respect, and honor those you should honor.

⁸ Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. ⁹ The commandments, *Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have*, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: *You must love your neighbor as yourself.* ¹⁰ Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law.

¹¹ As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. ¹² The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³ Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. ¹⁴ Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING: John 8:33-47** CEB

³³ They responded, “We are Abraham’s children; we’ve never been anyone’s slaves. How can you say that we will be set free?”

³⁴ Jesus answered, “I assure you that everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ A slave isn’t a permanent member of the household, but a son is. ³⁶ Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you really will be free. ³⁷ I know that you are Abraham’s children, yet you want to kill me because you don’t welcome my teaching. ³⁸ I’m telling you what I’ve seen when I am with the Father, but you are doing what you’ve heard from your father.”

³⁹ They replied, “Our father is Abraham.”

Jesus responded, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do Abraham’s works. ⁴⁰ Instead, you want to kill me, though I am the one who has spoken the truth I heard from God. Abraham didn’t do this. ⁴¹ You are doing your father’s works.”

They said, “Our ancestry isn’t in question! The only Father we have is God!”

⁴² Jesus replied, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God. Here I am. I haven’t come on my own. God sent me. ⁴³ Why don’t you understand what I’m saying? It’s because you can’t really hear my words. ⁴⁴ Your father is the devil. You are his children, and you want to do what your father wants. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has never stood for the truth, because there’s no truth in him. Whenever that liar speaks, he speaks according to his own nature, because he’s a liar and the father of liars. ⁴⁵ Because I speak the truth, you don’t believe me. ⁴⁶ Who among you can show I’m guilty of sin? Since I speak the truth, why don’t you believe me? ⁴⁷ God’s children listen to God’s words. You don’t listen to me because you aren’t God’s children.”

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*. LUKE 1:68-79

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:** Fanny Crosby

Fanny Crosby, born in 1820, went blind at six weeks of age but her disability did not prevent her from becoming the most prolific writer of hymns in American history. A precocious child who began writing verse at age eight, she eventually became a teacher of grammar, rhetoric, and history at the New York School for the Blind. Her hymnody, which is well represented in The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), continues to be a powerful influence on the worship experience of United Methodists.

.....

Her most enduring and beloved hymns speak of a personal and heartfelt devotion to Christ: "To God be the glory, great things He hath done!" (UMH 98), "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" (UMH 301), "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" (UMH 351), "Close to Thee" (UMH 407), and "I Am Thine, O Lord" (UMH 419). Her deep roots in Wesleyan spirituality are evident in her beloved hymn, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine" (UMH 369):

* For All the Saints pg 93

* **PRAYERS**

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

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

* **COLLECT:** Fanny Crosby

God of sound and sense, as we commemorate Fanny Jane Crosby who glorified you in the gift of music, so may we fix our faith and affections upon you, and make melody and song our delight in your majesty and mercy. Amen.

* For All the Saints

* **FOR A SICK PERSON**

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe,

and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; 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; 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.**

* PRAYER AGAINST DEPRESSION by St. Ignatius of Loyola

O Christ Jesus
When all is darkness
And we feel our weakness and helplessness,
Give us the sense of Your Presence,
Your Love and Your Strength.
Help us to have perfect trust

In Your protecting love
And strengthening power,
So that nothing may frighten or worry us,
For, living close to You,
We shall see Your Hand,
Your Purpose, Your Will through all things. **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 FOR FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
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