

Friday, February 25, 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.)

* **Psalm 142** NRSV

***I cry to you, O LORD, I say, “You are my refuge,
When my spirit is faint, you know my way.***

¹ With my voice I cry to the LORD;
with my voice I make supplication to the LORD.

² I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.

³ When my spirit is faint,
you know my way.

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴ Look on my right hand and see—
there is no one who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for me.

⁵ I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, “You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.”

⁶ Give heed to my cry,
for I am brought very low.

Save me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me.

⁷ Bring me out of prison,
so that I may give thanks to your name.

The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

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

***I cry to you, O LORD, I say, “You are my refuge,
When my spirit is faint, you know my way.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: Philemon 1-25** CEB

¹ From Paul, who is a prisoner for the cause of Christ Jesus,
and our brother Timothy.

To Philemon our dearly loved coworker, ² Apphia our sister,
Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church that meets in
your house.

³ May the grace and peace from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

⁴ Philemon, I thank my God every time I mention you in my
prayers ⁵ because I’ve heard of your love and faithfulness,
which you have both for the Lord Jesus and for all God’s
people. ⁶ I pray that your partnership in the faith might

become effective by an understanding of all that is good among us in Christ. ⁷ I have great joy and encouragement because of your love, since the hearts of God's people are refreshed by your actions, my brother.

⁸ Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ I would rather appeal to you through love. I, Paul—an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰ appeal to you for my child Onesimus. I became his father in the faith during my time in prison. ¹¹ He was useless to you before, but now he is useful to both of us. ¹² I'm sending him back to you, which is like sending you my own heart. ¹³ I considered keeping him with me so that he might serve me in your place during my time in prison because of the gospel. ¹⁴ However, I didn't want to do anything without your consent so that your act of kindness would occur willingly and not under pressure.

¹⁵ Maybe this is the reason that Onesimus was separated from you for a while so that you might have him back forever— ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave—that is, as a dearly loved brother. He is especially a dearly loved brother to me. How much more can he become a brother to you, personally and spiritually in the Lord!

¹⁷ So, if you really consider me a partner, welcome Onesimus as if you were welcoming me. ¹⁸ If he has harmed

you in any way or owes you money, charge it to my account. ¹⁹ I, Paul, will pay it back to you (I'm writing this with my own hand). Of course, I won't mention that you owe me your life.

²⁰ Yes, brother, I want this favor from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ I'm writing to you, confident of your obedience and knowing that you will do more than what I ask. ²² Also, one more thing—prepare a guest room for me. I hope that I will be released from prison to be with you because of your prayers.

²³ Epaphras, who is in prison with me for the cause of Christ Jesus, greets you, ²⁴ as well as my coworkers Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke.

²⁵ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING: John 12:9-19** CEB

Many Jews learned that he was there. They came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had

raised from the dead. ¹⁰ The chief priests decided that they would kill Lazarus too. ¹¹ It was because of Lazarus that many of the Jews had deserted them and come to believe in Jesus.

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him. They shouted, “Hosanna!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the king of Israel!”

¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ *Don't be afraid, Daughter Zion.*

*Look! Your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt.*

¹⁶ His disciples didn't understand these things at first. After he was glorified, they remembered that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him.

¹⁷ The crowd who had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead were testifying about him. ¹⁸ That's why the crowd came to meet him, because they had heard about this miraculous sign that he

had done. ¹⁹ Therefore, the Pharisees said to each other, “See! You've accomplished nothing! Look! The whole world is following 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*. 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: AMANDA BERRY SMITH**

Former slave and washerwoman, Amanda Berry Smith achieved international acclaim as a holiness preacher, evangelist, and "singing pilgrim" who traveled throughout the United States, Europe, India, and Africa.

Born January 23, 1837, about 20 miles north of Baltimore, she was freed during childhood when her father purchased his family and moved them north to Pennsylvania. Denied an education because of local race prejudice, the Berry children learned the alphabet from their parents. She went to work as a domestic, and while praying in the basement of the home where she worked, was converted to the Christian faith. She remained a lifelong member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

* 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: AMANDA BERRY SMITH**

Holy and merciful God, in your love for the world you raised Amanda Berry Smith to be an evangelist, a herald of the good news: strengthen and guide those entrusted with the proclamation of your Word that as they make known your redeeming love we may heed and receive their glad tidings,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.**

* **FOR VOCATION IN DAILY WORK**

Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; for the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son

Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. 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

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing; Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and 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

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