Monday, February 21, 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.

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 THANKSGIVING

It is good to give thanks to the *LORD*,
to sing praises to your name, O Most *High*;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithful-ness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad <u>by</u> your work; at the works of your hands I <u>sing</u> for joy.

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are ver-y deep!

Psalm 92:1-5

* MORNING PRAYER

The Holy One* be with you;

And also with you.

Let us pray:

* OSL

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 106:1-18 NRSV

Praise the LORD!

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

- ² Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD, or declare all his praise?
- ³ Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
- ⁴ Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people;

help me when you deliver them;

- ⁵ that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.
- ⁶ Both we and our ancestors have sinned; we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.
- ⁷ Our ancestors, when they were in Egypt, did not consider your wonderful works;
- they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love, but rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.
- 8 Yet he saved them for his name's sake, so that he might make known his mighty power.
- ⁹ He rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry; he led them through the deep as through a desert.
- ¹⁰ So he saved them from the hand of the foe, and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.
- ¹¹ The waters covered their adversaries; not one of them was left.

- ¹² Then they believed his words; they sang his praise.
- ¹³ But they soon forgot his works; they did not wait for his counsel.
- ¹⁴ But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness, and put God to the test in the desert;
- he gave them what they asked, but sent a wasting disease among them.
- ¹⁶ They were jealous of Moses in the camp, and of Aaron, the holy one of the LORD.
- ¹⁷ The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the faction of Abiram.
- ¹⁸ Fire also broke out in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.
- Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 1ST READING: 1 John 3:18-4:6 CEB

Little children, let's not love with words or speech but with action and truth. ¹⁹ This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence.

²⁰ Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have confidence in relationship to God. ²² We receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love each other as he commanded us. ²⁴ Those who keep his commandments dwell in God and God dwells in them. This is how we know that he dwells in us, because of the Spirit he has given us.

4 Dear friends, don't believe every spirit. Test the spirits to see if they are from God because many false prophets have gone into the world. ² This is how you know if a spirit comes from God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come as a human is from God, ³ and every spirit that doesn't confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is now already in the world. ⁴ You are from God, little children, and you have defeated these people because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world. So they speak from the world's point of view and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. The person who knows God listens to us. Whoever is not from God doesn't listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* GOSPEL READING: John 11:17-29 CEB

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was a little less than two miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Many Jews had come to comfort Martha and Mary after their brother's death. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary remained in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died. ²² Even now I know that whatever you ask God, God will give you."

- ²³ Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."
- ²⁴ Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day."
- ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.
 Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die.
 ²⁶ Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, the one who is coming into the world."

²⁸ After she said this, she went and spoke privately to her sister Mary, "The teacher is here and he's calling for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to Jesus.

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 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, <u>God</u> our <u>God</u>, the dawn from on <u>high</u> shall *visit us*, to shine on those kept in dungeons and the <u>shadows</u> of <u>death</u> and to guide our feet onto the path of <u>peace</u>.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, 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

* PRAYERS

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

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

* 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 A PERSON IN TROUBLE

O merciful Father, who has taught us in your holy Word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: Look with pity upon the sorrows of you servants for whom our prayers are offered. Remember them, O Lord, in mercy, nourish their souls with patience, comfort them with a sense of your goodness, lift up your countenance upon them, and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains,

and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for all future generations. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. **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 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

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

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