Thursday, March 3, 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.

* Psalm 37:1-18 NRSV

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- ¹ Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,
- ² for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.
- ³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
- ⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.
- 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
 Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

- ¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- ¹² The wicked plot against the righteous, and gnash their teeth at them;
- ¹³ but the LORD laughs at the wicked, for he sees that their day is coming.
- ¹⁴ The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to kill those who walk uprightly;
- ¹⁵ their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.
- ¹⁶ Better is a little that the righteous person has than the abundance of many wicked.
- ¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.
- ¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;
- Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-ever, A-*men*.

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 1st READING: Philippians 3:12-21 CEB

¹² It's not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this purpose. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me.
¹⁴ The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ So all of us who are spiritually mature should think this way, and if anyone thinks differently, God will reveal it to him or her. ¹⁶ Only let's live in a way that is consistent with whatever level we have reached.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, become imitators of me and watch those who live this way—you can use us as models. ¹⁸ As I have told you many times and now say with deep sadness, many people live as enemies of the cross. ¹⁹ Their lives end with destruction. Their god is their stomach, and they take pride in their disgrace because

their thoughts focus on earthly things. ²⁰ Our citizenship is in heaven. We look forward to a savior that comes from there—the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform our humble bodies so that they are like his glorious body, by the power that also makes him able to subject all things to himself.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* 2nd READING: John 17:1-8 CEB

When Jesus finished saying these things, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that the Son can glorify you. ² You gave him authority over everyone so that he could give eternal life to everyone you gave him. ³ This is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent. ⁴ I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ Now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I shared with you before the world was created.

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⁶ "I have revealed your name to the people you gave me from this world. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ This is because I gave them the words that you gave me, and they received them. They truly understood that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

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 <u>path</u> of <u>peace</u>.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> 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 Wesley

Founder of the Methodist movement, priest of the Church of England, keen scholar, brilliant organizer, social reformer, and tireless preacher of the gospel, John Wesley (b. 1703) was the fifteenth of the nineteen children born to Susanna and Samuel. His providential rescue from a fire at the Epworth rectory in 1709 led his deeply religious mother to take even more seriously the task of forming in him the religious and personal habits which made his later work so effective. He was schooled at Charterhouse in London and Christ Church College, Oxford and became a fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. There he began with Charles the now famous "Holy Club" known for its strict devotion and ministries of compassion. The works of William Law, Bishop Taylor, and Thomas à Kempis deeply shaped his understanding of Christianity as a call to a practical holiness.

* 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)

Amen.

* COLLECT: John Wesley

Almighty God, who raised up your servant John Wesley to proclaim anew the gift of redemption and the life of holiness: Be with us his children, and revive your work among us; that inspired by the same faith and upheld by the same grace in Word and Sacrament, we and all your people may be made one in the unity of your Church on earth, even as in heaven we are made one in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

* For All the Saints

* 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 SOCIAL SERVICE

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps,

give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

* Prayer of Saint Ephrem (306-373)

O Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of apathy and meddling, of idle chatter and love of power. Instead, grant to me, your servant, the spirit of integrity and humility, of patience and love. Yes, O Lord and God, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge others, for you are blessed, now and ever and forever. *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. 3/03/22

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 before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.

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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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