

Tuesday, February 15, 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 Holy 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:

***Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and
move and have our being, you created us for
yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they
find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and***

strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Augustine

* [Psalm 97](#) NRSV

***Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!***

¹ The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad!

² Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;

righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

³ Fire goes before him,

and consumes his adversaries on every side.

⁴ His lightnings light up the world;

the earth sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,

before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ The heavens proclaim his righteousness;

and all the peoples behold his glory.

⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame,
those who make their boast in worthless idols;
all gods bow down before him.

⁸ Zion hears and is glad,
and the towns of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O God.

⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ The LORD loves those who hate evil;
he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.

¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

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

***Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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* **1st READING: 1 John 2:1-11** CEB

My little children, I'm writing these things to you so that you don't sin. But if you do sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. ² He is God's way of dealing with our sins, not only ours but the sins of the whole world. ³ This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. ⁴ The one who claims, "I know him," while not keeping his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in this person. ⁵ But the love of God is truly perfected in whoever keeps his word. This is how we know we are in him. ⁶ The one who claims to remain in him ought to live in the same way as he lived. ⁷ Dear friends, I'm not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the message you heard. ⁸ On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light already shines. ⁹ The one who claims to be in the light while hating a brother or sister is in the darkness even now. ¹⁰ The person loving a brother and sister stays in the light, and there is nothing in the light that causes a person to stumble. ¹¹ But the person who hates a brother or sister

is in the darkness and lives in the darkness, and doesn't know where to go because the darkness blinds the eyes.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: John 9:18-41** CEB

¹⁸ The Jewish leaders didn't believe the man had been blind and received his sight until they called for his parents. ¹⁹ The Jewish leaders asked them, "Is this your son? Are you saying he was born blind? How can he now see?"

²⁰ His parents answered, "We know he is our son. We know he was born blind. ²¹ But we don't know how he now sees, and we don't know who healed his eyes. Ask him. He's old enough to speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they feared the Jewish authorities. This is because the Jewish authorities had already decided that whoever confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be

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expelled from the synagogue. ²³ That's why his parents said, "He's old enough. Ask him."

²⁴ Therefore, they called a second time for the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know this man is a sinner."

²⁵ The man answered, "I don't know whether he's a sinner. Here's what I do know: I was blind and now I see."

²⁶ They questioned him: "What did he do to you? How did he heal your eyes?"

²⁷ He replied, "I already told you, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

²⁸ They insulted him: "You are his disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. ²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses, but we don't know where this man is from."

³⁰ The man answered, "This is incredible! You don't know where he is from, yet he healed my eyes! ³¹ We know that God doesn't listen to sinners. God listens to anyone who is devout and does God's will. ³² No one has ever heard of a healing of the eyes of someone born blind. ³³ If this man wasn't from God, he couldn't do this."

³⁴ They responded, "You were born completely in sin! How is it that you dare to teach us?" Then they expelled him.

³⁵ Jesus heard they had expelled the man born blind. Finding him, Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Human One?"

³⁶ He answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him."

³⁷ Jesus said, "You have seen him. In fact, he is the one speaking with you."

³⁸ The man said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped Jesus.

³⁹ Jesus said, "I have come into the world to exercise judgment so that those who don't see can see and those who see will become blind."

⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard what he said and asked, "Surely we aren't blind, are we?"

⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you wouldn't have any sin, but now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

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* 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

* **PRAYERS**

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

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

* PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their

strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

* PRAYERS FOR Prisons and Correctional Institutions

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remembering all prisoners, bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.

* PRAYERS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; 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, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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.*

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* **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 LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his
face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD
turn his face toward you and give you peace. **Amen.**”

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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