# Wednesday, February 16, 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 Second Song of Isaiah
 Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; call upon him when he draws near.
 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the evil ones their thoughts; And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as rain and snow fall from the heavens and return not again, but water the earth, Bringing forth life and giving growth, seed for sowing and bread for eating, So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; it will not return to me empty; But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, and prosper in that for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:6-11

#### \* MORNING PRAYER

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

Let us pray:

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We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto you. Amen.

#### \* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* PSALM 101 NRSV

# I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, so that they may live with me;

- <sup>1</sup> I will sing of loyalty and of justice; to you, O LORD, I will sing.
- <sup>2</sup> I will study the way that is blameless. When shall I attain it?
- I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;
- <sup>3</sup> I will not set before my eyes anything that is base.
- I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

- <sup>4</sup> Perverseness of heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.
- <sup>5</sup> One who secretly slanders a neighbor I will destroy.
- A haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not tolerate.
- <sup>6</sup> I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, so that they may live with me;
  whoever walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.
- <sup>7</sup> No one who practices deceit shall remain in my house;
  no one who utters lies shall continue in my presence.
- <sup>8</sup> Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land,
  cutting off all evildoers from the city of the LORD.
- Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.
- I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, so that they may live with me;

#### **\*** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

#### \* 1<sup>st</sup> READING: 1 John 2:12-17 СЕВ

<sup>12</sup> Little children, I'm writing to you because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus' name. <sup>13</sup> Parents, I'm writing to you because you have known the one who has existed from the beginning. Young people, I'm writing to you because you have conquered the evil one. <sup>14</sup> Little children, I write to you because you know the Father. Parents, I write to you because you have known the one who has existed from the beginning. Young people, I write to you because you are strong, the word of God remains in you, and you have conquered the evil one.

<sup>15</sup> Don't love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in them.

<sup>16</sup> Everything that is in the world—the craving for whatever the body feels, the craving for whatever the eyes see and the arrogant pride in one's possessions—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world and its cravings are passing away, but the person who does the will of God remains forever.

> Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God!

#### **\*** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

#### \* GOSPEL: John 10:1-18 CEB

<sup>1</sup> I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." <sup>6</sup> Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying.

<sup>7</sup> So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

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<sup>11</sup> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. That's because he isn't the shepherd; the sheep aren't really his. So the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He's only a hired hand and the sheep don't matter to him.

<sup>14</sup> "I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I give up my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that don't belong to this sheep pen. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice and there will be one flock, with one shepherd.

<sup>17</sup> "This is why the Father loves me: I give up my life so that I can take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I give it up because I want to. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it up again. I received this commandment from my Father."

> 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 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

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and the <u>shadows</u> of *death* and to guide our feet onto the <u>path</u> of *peace*. Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-ever, A-*men*. 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)

## \* FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL

For those we have lifted up today, may God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**.

#### \* 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,

# \* FOR THE RIGHT USE OF GOD'S GIFTS

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

# 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.

## \* <u>A PRAYER OF SELF-DEDICATION</u>

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and 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.

# \* 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 wellbeloved 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*.

# **Morning Prayer**

A ministry of the faithful at Elwood United Methodist Church

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# \* **BLESSING**

The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, and the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you. *Amen.*