

Wednesday, March 2, 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:

***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 143** NRSV

***Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,  
for in you I put my trust.***

Hear my prayer, O LORD;

give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;  
answer me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> Do not enter into judgment with your servant,  
for no one living is righteous before you.

<sup>3</sup> For the enemy has pursued me,  
crushing my life to the ground,  
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

<sup>4</sup> Therefore my spirit faints within me;  
my heart within me is appalled.

<sup>5</sup> I remember the days of old,  
I think about all your deeds,  
I meditate on the works of your hands.

<sup>6</sup> I stretch out my hands to you;  
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. *Selah*

<sup>7</sup> Answer me quickly, O LORD;  
my spirit fails.

Do not hide your face from me,  
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

<sup>8</sup> Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,  
for in you I put my trust.

Teach me the way I should go,  
for to you I lift up my soul.

<sup>9</sup> Save me, O LORD, from my enemies;  
I have fled to you for refuge.

<sup>10</sup> Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God.

Let your good spirit lead me  
on a level path.

<sup>11</sup> For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life.  
In your righteousness bring me out of trouble.

<sup>12</sup> In your steadfast love cut off my enemies,

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and destroy all my adversaries,  
for I am your servant.

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

***Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,  
for in you I put my trust.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Hebrews 12:1-14** CEB

So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, <sup>2</sup> and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne.

<sup>3</sup> Think about the one who endured such opposition from sinners so that you won't be discouraged and you won't give up. <sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin, you haven't resisted yet to the point of shedding blood, <sup>5</sup> and you have forgotten

the encouragement that addresses you as sons and daughters:

*My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline  
or give up when you are corrected by him,*

<sup>6</sup> *because the Lord disciplines whomever he loves,  
and he punishes every son or daughter whom he  
accepts.*

<sup>7</sup> Bear hardship for the sake of discipline. God is treating you like sons and daughters! What child isn't disciplined by his or her father? <sup>8</sup> But if you don't experience discipline, which happens to all children, then you are illegitimate and not real sons and daughters. <sup>9</sup> What's more, we had human parents who disciplined us, and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> Our human parents disciplined us for a little while, as it seemed best to them, but God does it for our benefit so that we can share his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline is fun while it lasts, but it seems painful at the time. Later, however, it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup> So strengthen your drooping hands and weak knees!

<sup>13</sup> Make straight paths for your feet so that if any part is lame, it will be healed rather than injured more seriously.

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<sup>14</sup> Pursue the goal of peace along with everyone—and holiness as well, because no one will see the Lord without it.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14** CEB

<sup>9</sup> Jesus told this parable to certain people who had convinced themselves that they were righteous and who looked on everyone else with disgust: <sup>10</sup> “Two people went up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself with these words, ‘God, I thank you that I’m not like everyone else—crooks, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of everything I receive.’ <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector stood at a distance. He wouldn’t even lift his eyes to look toward heaven. Rather, he struck his chest and said, ‘God, show

mercy to me, a sinner.’ <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this person went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee. All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.”

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*,

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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.***

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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.***

\* FOR JOY IN GOD'S CREATION

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

\* PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

***Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of your servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of***

***this mortal life, they may ever be defended by your gracious and ready help; 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 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

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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 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.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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