

Friday, April 1, 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 First Song of Isaiah*

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great
things, and this is known in all the world.**
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12:2-6

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

**Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts, which
no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts, which no
unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us
also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a
faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

* [Psalm 102](#) NRSV

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

¹ Hear my prayer, O LORD;

let my cry come to you.

² Do not hide your face from me

in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

³ For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like a furnace.

⁴ My heart is stricken and withered like grass;

I am too wasted to eat my bread.

⁵ Because of my loud groaning

my bones cling to my skin.

⁶ I am like an owl of the wilderness,

like a little owl of the waste places.

⁷ I lie awake;

I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

⁸ All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

⁹ For I eat ashes like bread,

and mingle tears with my drink,

¹⁰ because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

¹¹ My days are like an evening shadow;

I wither away like grass.

¹² But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;

your name endures to all generations.

¹³ You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,

for it is time to favor it;

the appointed time has come.

¹⁴ For your servants hold its stones dear,

and have pity on its dust.

¹⁵ The nations will fear the name of the LORD,

and all the kings of the earth your glory.

¹⁶ For the LORD will build up Zion;

he will appear in his glory.

¹⁷ He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

and will not despise their prayer.

¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

¹⁹ that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

²¹ so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

²² when peoples gather together,
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

²³ He has broken my strength in midcourse;
he has shortened my days.

²⁴ "O my God," I say, "do not take me away
at the midpoint of my life,
you whose years endure
throughout all generations."

²⁵ Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

²⁶ They will perish, but you endure;
they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

²⁷ but you are the same, and your years have no end.

²⁸ The children of your servants shall live secure;
their offspring shall be established in your presence.

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

***Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: 1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3** CEB

²⁷ You are the body of Christ and parts of each other. ²⁸ In the church, God has appointed first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, the ability to help others, leadership skills, different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ All aren't apostles, are they? All aren't prophets, are they? All aren't teachers, are they? All don't perform miracles, do they? ³⁰ All don't have gifts of healing, do they? All don't speak in different tongues, do they? All don't interpret, do they? ³¹ Use your ambition to try to get the greater gifts. And I'm going to show you an even better way.

¹³ If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal.

² If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. ³ If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:2-13** CEB

² Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain where they were alone. He was transformed in front of them, ³ and his clothes were amazingly bright, brighter than if they had been bleached white. ⁴ Elijah and Moses appeared and were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, “Rabbi, it’s good that we’re here. Let’s make three shrines—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶ He said this because he didn’t know how to respond, for the three of them were terrified.

⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice spoke from the cloud, “This is my Son, whom I dearly love. Listen to him!” ⁸ Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Human One had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ So they kept it to themselves, wondering, “What’s this ‘rising from the dead’?”

¹¹ They asked Jesus, “Why do the legal experts say that Elijah must come first?”

¹² He answered, “Elijah does come first to restore all things. Why was it written that the Human One would suffer many

things and be rejected? ¹³ In fact, I tell you that Elijah has come, but they did to him whatever they wanted, just as it was written about him.”

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,
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*. LUKE 1:68-79

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

* FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* IN THE MORNING

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

* PRAYER FOR THOSE WE LOVE

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; 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 FOR FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; 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 grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Amen.

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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