

Friday, March 11, 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 54** NRSV

**Hear my prayer, O God;**

**give ear to the words of my mouth.**

Save me, O God, by your name,  
and vindicate me by your might.

<sup>2</sup> Hear my prayer, O God;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.

<sup>3</sup> For the insolent have risen against me,  
the ruthless seek my life;  
they do not set God before them. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> But surely, God is my helper;  
the Lord is the upholder of my life.

<sup>5</sup> He will repay my enemies for their evil.  
In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

<sup>6</sup> With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;  
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

<sup>7</sup> For he has delivered me from every trouble,  
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

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

**Hear my prayer, O God;**

**give ear to the words of my mouth.**

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>ST</sup> READING: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23** CEB

<sup>16</sup> Don't you know that you are God's temple and God's Spirit lives in you? <sup>17</sup> If someone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person, because God's temple is holy, which is what you are.

<sup>18</sup> Don't fool yourself. If some of you think they are worldly-wise, then they should become foolish so that they can become wise. <sup>19</sup> This world's wisdom is foolishness to God. As it's written, *He catches the wise in their cleverness.*

<sup>20</sup> And also, *The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are silly.* <sup>21</sup> So then, no one should brag about human beings. Everything belongs to you— <sup>22</sup> Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life, death, things in the present, things in the future— everything belongs to you, <sup>23</sup> but you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL READING: Mark 2:13-22** CEB

<sup>13</sup> Jesus went out beside the lake again. The whole crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. <sup>14</sup> As he continued along, he saw Levi, Alphaeus' son, sitting at a kiosk for collecting taxes. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Levi got up and followed him.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus sat down to eat at Levi's house. Many tax collectors and sinners were eating with Jesus and his disciples. Indeed, many of them had become his followers. <sup>16</sup> When some of the legal experts from among the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples, "Why is he eating with sinners and tax collectors?"

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. I didn't come to call righteous people, but sinners."

<sup>18</sup> John's disciples and the Pharisees had a habit of fasting. Some people asked Jesus, "Why do John's disciples and the Pharisees' disciples fast, but yours don't?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus said, "The wedding guests can't fast while the groom is with them, can they? As long as they have the groom with them, they can't fast. <sup>20</sup> But the days will come when the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

<sup>21</sup> "No one sews a piece of new, unshrunk cloth on old clothes; otherwise, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and makes a worse tear. <sup>22</sup> No one pours new wine into old leather wineskins; otherwise, the wine would burst the wineskins and the wine would be lost and the wineskins destroyed. But new wine is for new wineskins."

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.**

\* PRAYERS FOR OUR ENEMIES

***O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

\* FOR SOUND GOVERNMENT

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

***Lord, keep this nation under your care.***

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

***Give grace to your servants, O Lord.***

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

***Give grace to your servants, O Lord.***

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

***Give grace to your servants, O Lord.***

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully

in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.  
**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**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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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