

Friday, March 18, 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 69:1-18](#) NRSV

***O God, you know my folly;  
the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.***

Save me, O God,

for the waters have come up to my neck.

<sup>2</sup> I sink in deep mire,

where there is no foothold;

I have come into deep waters,

and the flood sweeps over me.

<sup>3</sup> I am weary with my crying;

my throat is parched.

My eyes grow dim

with waiting for my God.

<sup>4</sup> More in number than the hairs of my head

are those who hate me without cause;

many are those who would destroy me,

my enemies who accuse me falsely.

What I did not steal

must I now restore?

<sup>5</sup> O God, you know my folly;

the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.

<sup>6</sup> Do not let those who hope in you be put to shame because  
of me,

O Lord GOD of hosts;

do not let those who seek you be dishonored because of me,  
O God of Israel.

<sup>7</sup> It is for your sake that I have borne reproach,  
that shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup> I have become a stranger to my kindred,  
an alien to my mother's children.

<sup>9</sup> It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;  
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.

<sup>10</sup> When I humbled my soul with fasting,<sup>[a]</sup>  
they insulted me for doing so.

<sup>11</sup> When I made sackcloth my clothing,  
I became a byword to them.

<sup>12</sup> I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate,  
and the drunkards make songs about me.

<sup>13</sup> But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD.

At an acceptable time, O God,

in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.

With your faithful help <sup>14</sup> rescue me

from sinking in the mire;

let me be delivered from my enemies

and from the deep waters.

<sup>15</sup> Do not let the flood sweep over me,

or the deep swallow me up,

or the Pit close its mouth over me.

<sup>16</sup> Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good;  
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

<sup>17</sup> Do not hide your face from your servant,  
for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.

<sup>18</sup> Draw near to me, redeem me,  
set me free because of my enemies.

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

***O God, you know my folly;  
the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>ST</sup> READING: 1 Corinthians 7:1-9** CEB

Now, about what you wrote: “It’s good for a man not to have sex with a woman.” <sup>2</sup> Each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband because of sexual immorality. <sup>3</sup> The husband should meet his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should do the same for her husband. <sup>4</sup> The wife doesn’t have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise, the husband doesn’t

have authority over his own body, but the wife does. <sup>5</sup> Don’t refuse to meet each other’s needs unless you both agree for a short period of time to devote yourselves to prayer. Then come back together again so that Satan might not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. <sup>6</sup> I’m saying this to give you permission; it’s not a command. <sup>7</sup> I wish all people were like me, but each has a particular gift from God: one has this gift, and another has that one.

<sup>8</sup> I’m telling those who are single and widows that it’s good for them to stay single like me. <sup>9</sup> But if they can’t control themselves, they should get married, because it’s better to marry than to burn with passion.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL READING: Mark 4:35-41** CEB

<sup>35</sup> Later that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the lake.” <sup>36</sup> They left the crowd and took him in the boat just as he was. Other boats followed along.

<sup>37</sup> Gale-force winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat so that the boat was swamped. <sup>38</sup> But Jesus was in the rear of the boat, sleeping on a pillow. They woke him up and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?"

<sup>39</sup> He got up and gave orders to the wind, and he said to the lake, "Silence! Be still!" The wind settled down and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup> Jesus asked them, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?"

<sup>41</sup> Overcome with awe, they said to each other, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey 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.**

\* PRAYERS FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

***O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, and especially administrators and teachers continuing to adapt in this time of pandemic recovery, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that***

*those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\* PRAYER FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; 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

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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.***

\* **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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