

Saturday, April 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 OF WISDOM**

Wisdom has built her house, setting up seven pillars.
She has prepared the food and wine and set her table.

**She has sent out her servants
to call out from the Heights above the city:**

"Let those who want enlightenment come.
Come, taste my bread and drink my spiced wine.

**Give up your foolishness and live,
And walk the path of understanding."**

If you are wise, your reward is wisdom;
If you teach the just, they grow in understanding.
**Wisdom begins with reverence for God,
and knowledge of the holy one is insight.**

* OSL

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

**New every morning is your love, great God of light,
and all day long you are working for good in the
world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live
peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day
to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

* **Psalm 107:33-43** NRSV

**Whoever is wise will pay attention to these things,
carefully considering the LORD's faithful love.**

³³ God turns rivers into desert,
waterly springs into thirsty ground,
³⁴ fruitful land into unproductive dirt,
when its inhabitants are wicked.
³⁵ But God can also turn the desert into watery pools,
thirsty ground into watery springs,
³⁶ where he settles the hungry.
They even build a city and live there!
³⁷ They plant fields and vineyards
and obtain a fruitful harvest.
³⁸ God blesses them, and they become many.
God won't even let their cattle diminish.
³⁹ But when they do diminish—
when they're brought down by oppression, trouble, and
grief—
⁴⁰ God pours contempt on their leaders,
making them wander aimlessly in the wastelands.
⁴¹ But God raises the needy from their suffering;
he makes their families as numerous as sheep!
⁴² Those who do right see it and celebrate,
but every wicked person shuts their mouth.
⁴³ Whoever is wise will pay attention to these things,
carefully considering the LORD's faithful love.

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

***Whoever is wise will pay attention to these things,
carefully considering the LORD's faithful love.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13** CEB

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.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't
brag, it isn't arrogant, ⁵ it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own
advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of
complaints, ⁶ it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy
with the truth. ⁷ Love puts up with all things, trusts in all
things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. ⁹ We know in part and we prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. ¹² Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. ¹³ Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL: Mark 9:14-29** CEB

¹⁴ When Jesus, Peter, James, and John approached the other disciples, they saw a large crowd surrounding them

and legal experts arguing with them. ¹⁵ Suddenly the whole crowd caught sight of Jesus. They ran to greet him, overcome with excitement. ¹⁶ Jesus asked them, "What are you arguing about?"

¹⁷ Someone from the crowd responded, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, since he has a spirit that doesn't allow him to speak. ¹⁸ Wherever it overpowers him, it throws him into a fit. He foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and stiffens up. So I spoke to your disciples to see if they could throw it out, but they couldn't."

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "You faithless generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."

²⁰ They brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a fit. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been going on?"

He said, "Since he was a child. ²² It has often thrown him into a fire or into water trying to kill him. If you can do anything, help us! Show us compassion!"

²³ Jesus said to him, "If you can do anything? All things are possible for the one who has faith."

²⁴ At that the boy's father cried out, "I have faith; help my lack of faith!"

²⁵ Noticing that the crowd had surged together, Jesus spoke harshly to the unclean spirit, "Mute and deaf spirit, I command you to come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶ After screaming and shaking the boy horribly, the spirit came out. The boy seemed to be dead; in fact, several people said that he had died. ²⁷ But Jesus took his hand, lifted him up, and he arose.

²⁸ After Jesus went into a house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we throw this spirit out?"

²⁹ Jesus answered, "Throwing this kind of spirit out requires prayer."

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*.

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 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 GUIDANCE**

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and
light *rises* up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all

our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* FOR FRUITFUL SEASONS

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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

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**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **Amen**

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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