

Wednesday, March 9, 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 119:49-72](#) NRSV

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes.***

Remember your word to your servant,  
in which you have made me hope.

<sup>50</sup> This is my comfort in my distress,  
that your promise gives me life.

<sup>51</sup> The arrogant utterly deride me,  
but I do not turn away from your law.

<sup>52</sup> When I think of your ordinances from of old,  
I take comfort, O LORD.

<sup>53</sup> Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked,  
those who forsake your law.

<sup>54</sup> Your statutes have been my songs

wherever I make my home.

<sup>55</sup> I remember your name in the night, O LORD,  
and keep your law.

<sup>56</sup> This blessing has fallen to me,  
for I have kept your precepts.

<sup>57</sup> The LORD is my portion;  
I promise to keep your words.

<sup>58</sup> I implore your favor with all my heart;  
be gracious to me according to your promise.

<sup>59</sup> When I think of your ways,  
I turn my feet to your decrees;

<sup>60</sup> I hurry and do not delay  
to keep your commandments.

<sup>61</sup> Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,  
I do not forget your law.

<sup>62</sup> At midnight I rise to praise you,  
because of your righteous ordinances.

<sup>63</sup> I am a companion of all who fear you,  
of those who keep your precepts.

<sup>64</sup> The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;  
teach me your statutes.

<sup>65</sup> You have dealt well with your servant,  
O LORD, according to your word.

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- <sup>66</sup> Teach me good judgment and knowledge,  
for I believe in your commandments.
- <sup>67</sup> Before I was humbled I went astray,  
but now I keep your word.
- <sup>68</sup> You are good and do good;  
teach me your statutes.
- <sup>69</sup> The arrogant smear me with lies,  
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.
- <sup>70</sup> Their hearts are fat and gross,  
but I delight in your law.
- <sup>71</sup> It is good for me that I was humbled,  
so that I might learn your statutes.
- <sup>72</sup> The law of your mouth is better to me  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

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

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;  
teach me your statutes.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13** CEB

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I didn't come preaching God's secrets to you like I was an expert in speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> I had made up my mind not to think about anything while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and to preach him as crucified. <sup>3</sup> I stood in front of you with weakness, fear, and a lot of shaking. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching weren't presented with convincing wise words but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power. <sup>5</sup> I did this so that your faith might not depend on the wisdom of people but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> What we say is wisdom to people who are mature. It isn't a wisdom that comes from the present day or from today's leaders who are being reduced to nothing. <sup>7</sup> We talk about God's wisdom, which has been hidden as a secret. God determined this wisdom in advance, before time began, for our glory. <sup>8</sup> It is a wisdom that none of the present-day rulers have understood, because if they did understand it, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory! <sup>9</sup> But this is precisely what is written: *God has prepared things for those who love him that no eye has seen, or ear has heard, or that haven't crossed the mind of any human being.* <sup>10</sup> God has revealed these things to us through the

Spirit. The Spirit searches everything, including the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> Who knows a person's depths except their own spirit that lives in them? In the same way, no one has known the depths of God except God's Spirit. <sup>12</sup> We haven't received the world's spirit but God's Spirit so that we can know the things given to us by God. <sup>13</sup> These are the things we are talking about—not with words taught by human wisdom but with words taught by the Spirit—we are interpreting spiritual things to spiritual people.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-45** CEB

<sup>29</sup> After leaving the synagogue, Jesus, James, and John went home with Simon and Andrew. <sup>30</sup> Simon's mother-in-law was in bed, sick with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He went to her, took her by the hand,

and raised her up. The fever left her, and she served them.

<sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, people brought to Jesus those who were sick or demon-possessed. <sup>33</sup> The whole town gathered near the door. <sup>34</sup> He healed many who were sick with all kinds of diseases, and he threw out many demons. But he didn't let the demons speak, because they recognized him.

<sup>35</sup> Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer. <sup>36</sup> Simon and those with him tracked him down.

<sup>37</sup> When they found him, they told him, "Everyone's looking for you!"

<sup>38</sup> He replied, "Let's head in the other direction, to the nearby villages, so that I can preach there too. That's why I've come." <sup>39</sup> He traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and throwing out demons.

<sup>40</sup> A man with a skin disease approached Jesus, fell to his knees, and begged, "If you want, you can make me clean."

<sup>41</sup> Incensed, Jesus reached out his hand, touched him, and said, "I do want to. Be clean." <sup>42</sup> Instantly, the skin

disease left him, and he was clean. <sup>43</sup> Sternly, Jesus sent him away, <sup>44</sup> saying, “Don’t say anything to anyone. Instead, go and show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifice for your cleansing that Moses commanded. This will be a testimony to them.” <sup>45</sup> Instead, he went out and started talking freely and spreading the news so that Jesus wasn’t able to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, but people came to him from everywhere.

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*.

\* **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.**

\* PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* PRAYER FOR THE MISSION of the CHURCH

***Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

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.***

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\* **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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