

Thursday, April 7, 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.***

PSALM 90:14

\* **MORNING CANTICLE OF JOY**

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;

serve the LORD with gladness

and come before God's presence with a song.

***Know this: The LORD is God; the LORD has made us,***

***and we belong to the One who created us;***

***we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.***

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving;

go into God's courts with praise;

give thanks to God and call upon God's Name.

***For the LORD is good;***

***God's mercy is everlasting;***

***and God's faithfulness endures from age to age.***

PSALM 100

\* **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One\* be with you;

***And also with you.***

Let us pray:

***Dawn from on high,***

***Your light illumines all our days.***

***Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day.***

***Be merciful in us for the sake of others. Make us fearless when confronting injustice and need, that we may give you glory in the power of the Spirit. Amen.***

4/07/22

\* [Psalm 131](#) NRSV

***O Israel, hope in the LORD***

***from this time on and forevermore.***

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up,  
my eyes are not raised too high;

I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvelous for me.

<sup>2</sup> But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother;  
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.

<sup>3</sup> O Israel, hope in the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.

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

***O Israel, hope in the LORD***

***from this time on and forevermore.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 2 Corinthians 3:7-18** CEB

<sup>7</sup> The ministry that brought death was carved in letters on stone tablets. It came with such glory that the Israelites couldn't look for long at Moses' face because his face was shining with glory, even though it was a fading glory.

<sup>8</sup> Won't the ministry of the Spirit be much more glorious?

<sup>9</sup> If the ministry that brought condemnation has glory, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness? <sup>10</sup> In fact, what was glorious isn't glorious now, because of the glory that is brighter. <sup>11</sup> If the glory that fades away was glorious, how much more glorious is the one that lasts!

<sup>12</sup> So, since we have such a hope, we act with great confidence. <sup>13</sup> We aren't like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the Israelites couldn't watch the end of what was fading away. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were closed. Right up to the present day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. The veil is not removed because it is taken away by Christ. <sup>15</sup> Even today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts.

<sup>16</sup> But whenever someone turns back to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Lord's Spirit is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> All of us are looking with unveiled faces at the glory of the Lord as if we were looking in a mirror. We are being transformed into that

4/07/22

same image from one degree of glory to the next degree of glory. This comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Mark 10:17-31** CEB

<sup>17</sup> As Jesus continued down the road, a man ran up, knelt before him, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to obtain eternal life?”

<sup>18</sup> Jesus replied, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except the one God. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: *Don’t commit murder. Don’t commit adultery. Don’t steal. Don’t give false testimony. Don’t cheat. Honor your father and mother.*”

<sup>20</sup> “Teacher,” he responded, “I’ve kept all of these things since I was a boy.”

<sup>21</sup> Jesus looked at him carefully and loved him. He said, “You are lacking one thing. Go, sell what you own, and

give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me.” <sup>22</sup> But the man was dismayed at this statement and went away saddened, because he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup> Looking around, Jesus said to his disciples, “It will be very hard for the wealthy to enter God’s kingdom!” <sup>24</sup> His words startled the disciples, so Jesus told them again, “Children, it’s difficult to enter God’s kingdom! <sup>25</sup> It’s easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter God’s kingdom.”

<sup>26</sup> They were shocked even more and said to each other, “Then who can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them carefully and said, “It’s impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God.”

<sup>28</sup> Peter said to him, “Look, we’ve left everything and followed you.”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus said, “I assure you that anyone who has left house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, or farms because of me and because of the good news <sup>30</sup> will receive one hundred times as much now in this life—houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and farms

4/07/22

(with harassment)—and in the coming age, eternal life.

<sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last. And many who are last will be first.”

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,***

4/07/22

***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)*

\* PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to those we pray for this day, the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* PRAYERS FOR GUIDANCE

***Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen..***

\* A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood

4/07/22

as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **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, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to

love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ 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:

4/07/22

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**

“But blessed are those who trust in the Lord  
and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.  
They are like trees planted along a riverbank,  
with roots that reach deep into the water.  
Such trees are not bothered by the heat  
or worried by long months of drought.  
Their leaves stay green,  
and they never stop producing fruit.” **Amen.** Jeremiah 17:7-8

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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