

Wednesday, April 27, 2022:

*Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through
our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57*

* **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.**

* **CANTICLE OF THE RESURRECTION**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*therefore let us keep the feast,
not with the old leaven of malice and evil,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

Christ being raised from the dead

will never die again;

death no longer has dominion over him.

**The death he died, he died to sin, once for all,
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

*So consider yourselves dead to sin
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

For as in Adam all die,

so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Alleluia!

* OSL

* **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**

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the perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto you. Amen.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **PSALM 119:1-24** NRSV

***With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.***

¹ Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.

² Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart,

³ who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways.

⁴ You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.

⁵ O that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!

⁶ Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

⁷ I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

⁸ I will observe your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

⁹ How can young people keep their way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.

¹¹ I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.

¹² Blessed are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes.

¹³ With my lips I declare
all the ordinances of your mouth.

¹⁴ I delight in the way of your decrees
as much as in all riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on your precepts,
and fix my eyes on your ways.

¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

¹⁷ Deal bountifully with your servant,
so that I may live and observe your word.

¹⁸ Open my eyes, so that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.

¹⁹ I live as an alien in the land;

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do not hide your commandments from me.

²⁰ My soul is consumed with longing
for your ordinances at all times.

²¹ You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones,
who wander from your commandments;

²² take away from me their scorn and contempt,
for I have kept your decrees.

²³ Even though princes sit plotting against me,
your servant will meditate on your statutes.

²⁴ Your decrees are my delight,
they are my counselors.

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

With my whole heart I seek you;

do not let me stray from your commandments.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING:** 1 Peter 2:1-10 CEB

Therefore, get rid of all ill will and all deceit, pretense,
envy, and slander. ² Instead, like a newborn baby, desire
the pure milk of the word. Nourished by it, you will grow

into salvation, ³ since you have tasted that the Lord is
good.

⁴ Now you are coming to him as to a living stone. Even
though this stone was rejected by humans, from God's
perspective it is chosen, valuable. ⁵ You yourselves are
being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You
are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual
sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus
Christ. ⁶ Thus it is written in scripture, *Look! I am laying a
cornerstone in Zion, chosen, valuable. The person who
believes in him will never be shamed.* ⁷ So God honors
you who believe. For those who refuse to believe, though,
the stone the builders tossed aside has become the
capstone. ⁸ This is a stone that makes people stumble and
a rock that makes them fall. Because they refuse to
believe in the word, they stumble. Indeed, this is the end
to which they were appointed. ⁹ But you are a chosen
race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are
God's own possession. You have become this people so
that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who
called you out of darkness into his amazing light. ¹⁰ Once
you weren't a people, but now you are God's people.
Once you hadn't received mercy, but now you have
received mercy.

.Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL:** John 15:1-11 CEB

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father

is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

⁹ "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete.

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*;**

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**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 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

* **THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God,

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* **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 THE GOOD USE OF LEISURE

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PRAYER FOR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S CREATION

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of 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.***

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* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, 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 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.**

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Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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