

Friday, June 3, 2022

*Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands,
a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear
in the presence of God on our behalf. Hebrews 9:24*

* **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**

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. * OSL

* **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 102](#) NRSV

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

¹ Hear my prayer, O LORD;

let my cry come to you.

² Do not hide your face from me

in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

³ For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like a furnace.

⁴ My heart is stricken and withered like grass;

I am too wasted to eat my bread.

⁵ Because of my loud groaning

my bones cling to my skin.

⁶ I am like an owl of the wilderness,

like a little owl of the waste places.

⁷ I lie awake;

I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

⁸ All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

⁹ For I eat ashes like bread,

and mingle tears with my drink,

¹⁰ because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

¹¹ My days are like an evening shadow;

I wither away like grass.

¹² But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;

your name endures to all generations.

¹³ You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,

for it is time to favor it;

the appointed time has come.

¹⁴ For your servants hold its stones dear,

and have pity on its dust.

¹⁵ The nations will fear the name of the LORD,

and all the kings of the earth your glory.

¹⁶ For the LORD will build up Zion;

he will appear in his glory.

¹⁷ He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

and will not despise their prayer.

¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

¹⁹ that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

²¹ so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

²² when peoples gather together,
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

²³ He has broken my strength in midcourse;
he has shortened my days.

²⁴ “O my God,” I say, “do not take me away
at the midpoint of my life,
you whose years endure
throughout all generations.”

²⁵ Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

²⁶ They will perish, but you endure;
they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

²⁷ but you are the same, and your years have no end.

²⁸ The children of your servants shall live secure;
their offspring shall be established in your presence.

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

***Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: Ephesians 5:1-20** CEB

Therefore, imitate God like dearly loved children. ² Live your life with love, following the example of Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. He was a sacrificial offering that smelled sweet to God.

³ Sexual immorality, and any kind of impurity or greed, shouldn't even be mentioned among you, which is right for holy persons. ⁴ Obscene language, silly talk, or vulgar jokes aren't acceptable for believers. Instead, there should be thanksgiving. ⁵ Because you know for sure that persons who are sexually immoral, impure, or greedy—which happens when things become gods—those persons won't inherit the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶ Nobody should deceive you with stupid ideas. God's anger comes down on those who are disobedient because of this kind of thing. ⁷ So you shouldn't have anything to do with them. ⁸ You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord, so live your life as children of light. ⁹ Light produces fruit that consists of every sort of goodness, justice, and truth. ¹⁰ Therefore, test everything to see what's pleasing to the Lord, ¹¹ and don't participate in the unfruitful actions of darkness. Instead, you should reveal the truth about them.

¹² It's embarrassing to even talk about what certain persons

do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed to the light is revealed by the light. ¹⁴ Everything that is revealed by the light is light. Therefore, it says, *Wake up, sleeper! Get up from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

¹⁵ So be careful to live your life wisely, not foolishly. ¹⁶ Take advantage of every opportunity because these are evil times.

¹⁷ Because of this, don't be ignorant, but understand the Lord's will. ¹⁸ Don't get drunk on wine, which produces depravity. Instead, be filled with the Spirit in the following ways: ¹⁹ speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts; ²⁰ always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING:** **Matthew 9:9-17** CEB

⁹ As Jesus continued on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at a kiosk for collecting taxes. He said to him, "Follow me," and he got up and followed him. ¹⁰ As Jesus sat

down to eat in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners joined Jesus and his disciples at the table.

¹¹ But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹² When Jesus heard it, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: *I want mercy and not sacrifice.* I didn't come to call righteous people, but sinners."

¹⁴ At that time John's disciples came and asked Jesus, "Why do we and the Pharisees frequently fast, but your disciples never fast?"

¹⁵ Jesus responded, "The wedding guests can't mourn while the groom is still with them, can they? But the days will come when the groom will be taken away from them, and then they'll fast.

¹⁶ "No one sews a piece of new, unshrunk cloth on old clothes because the patch tears away the cloth and makes a worse tear. ¹⁷ No one pours new wine into old wineskins. If they did, the wineskins would burst, the wine would spill, and the wineskins would be ruined. Instead, people pour new wine into new wineskins so that both are kept safe."

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 OF THE WEEK**

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **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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