

Saturday, May 21, 2022

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

* **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:

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 76](#) NRSV

***But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.***

¹ In Judah God is known;

his name is great in Israel.

² His abode has been established in Salem,

his dwelling place in Zion.

³ There he broke the flashing arrows,

the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war. *Selah*

⁴ Glorious are you, more majestic

than the everlasting mountains.

⁵ The courageous were stripped of their spoil;

they sank into sleep;

none of the troops

was able to lift a hand.

⁶ At your rebuke, O God of Jacob,

both rider and horse lay stunned.

⁷ But you indeed are awesome!

Who can stand before you

when your anger is roused?

⁸ From the heavens you uttered judgment;

the earth feared and was still

⁹ when God rose up to establish judgment,

to save all the oppressed of the earth. *Selah*

¹⁰ Human wrath serves only to praise you,

when you bind the last bit of your wrath around you.

¹¹ Make vows to the LORD your God and perform them;

let all who are around him bring gifts

to the one who is awesome,

¹² who cuts off the spirit of princes,

who inspires fear in the kings of the earth.

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

***But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1ST READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18** CEB

Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us so that the Lord's message will spread quickly and be honored, just like it happened with you. ² Pray too that we will be rescued from inappropriate and evil people since everyone that we meet won't respond with faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful and will give you strength and protect you from the evil one. ⁴ We are confident about you in the Lord—that you are doing and will keep doing what we tell you to do. ⁵ May the Lord lead your hearts to express God's love and Christ's endurance.

⁶ Brothers and sisters, we command you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to stay away from every brother or sister who lives an undisciplined life that is not in line with the traditions that you received from us. ⁷ You yourselves know how you need to imitate us because we were not undisciplined when we were with you. ⁸ We didn't eat anyone's food without paying for it. Instead, we worked night and day with effort and hard work so that we would not impose on you. ⁹ We did this to give you an example to imitate, not because we didn't have a right to insist on financial support. ¹⁰ Even when we were with you we were giving you this command: "If anyone doesn't want to work,

they shouldn't eat." ¹¹ We hear that some of you are living an undisciplined life. They aren't working, but they are meddling in other people's business. ¹² By the Lord Jesus Christ, we command and encourage such people to work quietly and put their own food on the table. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, don't get discouraged in doing what is right.

¹⁴ Take note of anyone who doesn't obey what we have said in this letter. Don't associate with them so they will be ashamed of themselves. ¹⁵ Don't treat them like enemies, but warn them like you would do for a brother or sister.

¹⁶ May the Lord of peace himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with all of you. ¹⁷ I, Paul, am writing this greeting with my own hand. This verifies that the letter is from me, as in every letter of mine. This is how I write. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 7:13-21** CEB

¹³ “Go in through the narrow gate. The gate that leads to destruction is broad and the road wide, so many people enter through it. ¹⁴ But the gate that leads to life is narrow and the road difficult, so few people find it.

¹⁵ “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you dressed like sheep, but inside they are vicious wolves.

¹⁶ You will know them by their fruit. Do people get bunches of grapes from thorny weeds, or do they get figs from thistles? ¹⁷ In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, and every rotten tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree can’t produce bad fruit. And a rotten tree can’t produce good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that doesn’t produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore, you will know them by their fruit.

²¹ “Not everybody who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will get into the kingdom of heaven. Only those who do the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter.

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)*

* PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

*Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort
and relieve your sick servants, and give your power
of healing to those who minister to their needs, that
those for whom our prayers are offered may be
strengthened in their weakness and have confidence
in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

* FOR PEACE

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

* PRAYERS FOR CONGRESS

O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth: We implore you so to guide and bless our Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled and in the Legislature of this State, that they may enact such laws as shall please you, to the glory of your Name and the welfare of this people; 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

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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**

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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