

**Thursday, May 26, 2022**

**Ascension Day**

*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1*

**\* 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.  
**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

\* OS�

**\* 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!*

\* OS�

**\* 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.***

\* **Psalm 47** NRSV

***Sing praises to God! Sing praises!  
Sing praises to our king.***

Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

<sup>2</sup> For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,  
a great king over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup> He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup> He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises;

sing praises to our King, sing praises.

<sup>7</sup> For God is the king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm. <sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> God is king over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.

<sup>9</sup> The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted.

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

***Sing praises to God! Sing praises!  
Sing praises to our king.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Hebrews 2:5-18** CEB

<sup>5</sup> God didn't put the world that is coming (the world we are talking about) under the angels' control. <sup>6</sup> Instead, someone declared somewhere,

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*What is humanity that you think about them?*

*Or what are the human beings that you care about them?*

<sup>7</sup> *For a while you made them lower than angels.*

*You crowned the human beings with glory and honor.*

<sup>8</sup> *You put everything under their control.*

When he puts everything under their control, he doesn't leave anything out of control. But right now, we don't see everything under their control yet. <sup>9</sup> However, we do see the one who was made lower in order than the angels for a little while—it's Jesus! He's the one who is now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of his death. He suffered death so that he could taste death for everyone through God's grace.

<sup>10</sup> It was appropriate for God, for whom and through whom everything exists, to use experiences of suffering to make perfect the pioneer of salvation. This salvation belongs to many sons and daughters whom he's leading to glory.

<sup>11</sup> This is because the one who makes people holy and the people who are being made holy all come from one source. That is why Jesus isn't ashamed to call them brothers and sisters when he says,

<sup>12</sup> *I will publicly announce your name to my brothers and sisters.*

*I will praise you in the middle of the assembly.*

<sup>13</sup> He also says,

*I will rely on him.*

And also,

*Here I am with the children whom God has given to me.*

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he also shared the same things in the same way. He did this to destroy the one who holds the power over death—the devil—by dying. <sup>15</sup> He set free those who were held in slavery their entire lives by their fear of death. <sup>16</sup> Of course, he isn't trying to help angels, but rather he's helping Abraham's descendants. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers and sisters in every way. This was so that he could become a merciful and faithful high priest in things relating to God, in order to wipe away the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> He's able to help those who are being tempted, since he himself experienced suffering when he was tempted.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

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\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Matthew 28:16-20** CEB

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Jesus came near and spoke to them, “I’ve received all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to obey everything that I’ve commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age.”

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*.**

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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)*

\* **PRAYER FOR ASCENSION DAY**

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your  
only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have  
ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind  
there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives  
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever  
and ever. ***Amen.***

\* **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 OUR ENEMIES**

*O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, 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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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,

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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**

“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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