

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

*Alleluia! Christ is risen.*

*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

\* **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:

***Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and***

***move and have our being, you created us for***

***yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they***

***find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and***

***strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

St. Augustine

\* [Psalm 26](#) NRSV

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.***

Vindicate me, O LORD,  
for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

<sup>2</sup> Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is before my eyes,  
and I walk in faithfulness to you. <sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>4</sup> I do not sit with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with hypocrites;

<sup>5</sup> I hate the company of evildoers,  
and will not sit with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup> I wash my hands in innocence,  
and go around your altar, O LORD,  
<sup>7</sup> singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

<sup>8</sup> O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,  
and the place where your glory abides.

<sup>9</sup> Do not sweep me away with sinners,  
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,  
<sup>10</sup> those in whose hands are evil devices,  
and whose right hands are full of bribes.

<sup>11</sup> But as for me, I walk in my integrity;  
redeem me, and be gracious to me.

<sup>12</sup> My foot stands on level ground;  
in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.

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

***Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Colossians 1:1-14** CEB

<sup>1</sup> From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, and Timothy our brother.

<sup>2</sup> To the holy and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. <sup>4</sup> We've done this since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all God's people. <sup>5</sup> You have this faith and love because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You previously heard about this hope through the true message, the good news, <sup>6</sup> which has come to you. This message has been bearing fruit and growing among you since the day you heard and truly understood God's grace, in the same way that it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world. <sup>7</sup> You learned it from Epaphras, who is the fellow slave we love and Christ's faithful minister for your sake. <sup>8</sup> He informed us of your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> Because of this, since the day we heard about you, we haven't stopped praying for you and asking for you to be

filled with the knowledge of God's will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding. <sup>10</sup> We're praying this so that you can live lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way: by producing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> by being strengthened through his glorious might so that you endure everything and have patience; <sup>12</sup> and by giving thanks with joy to the Father. He made it so you could take part in the inheritance, in light granted to God's holy people. <sup>13</sup> He rescued us from the control of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. <sup>14</sup> He set us free through the Son and forgave our sins.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Matthew 3:7-12** CEB

<sup>7</sup> Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, “You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. <sup>9</sup> And don’t even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham’s children from these stones. <sup>10</sup> The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn’t produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. <sup>11</sup> I baptize with water those of you who have changed your hearts and lives. The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I’m not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup> The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can’t be put out.”

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-*fr*aid,  
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,  
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 of heavenly powers, by the might of your command  
you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all  
infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift  
today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their  
strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all  
may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

\* PRAYERS FOR Prisons and Correctional Institutions

*Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remembering all prisoners, bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. Amen.*

\* PRAYERS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; 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, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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:  
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 LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. **Amen.**”

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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