

Wednesday, May 11, 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 119:49-72](#) NRSV

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes.***

Remember your word to your servant,  
in which you have made me hope.

<sup>50</sup> This is my comfort in my distress,  
that your promise gives me life.

<sup>51</sup> The arrogant utterly deride me,  
but I do not turn away from your law.

<sup>52</sup> When I think of your ordinances from of old,  
I take comfort, O LORD.

<sup>53</sup> Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked,  
those who forsake your law.

<sup>54</sup> Your statutes have been my songs  
wherever I make my home.

<sup>55</sup> I remember your name in the night, O LORD,  
and keep your law.

<sup>56</sup> This blessing has fallen to me,  
for I have kept your precepts.

<sup>57</sup> The LORD is my portion;  
I promise to keep your words.

<sup>58</sup> I implore your favor with all my heart;  
be gracious to me according to your promise.

<sup>59</sup> When I think of your ways,  
I turn my feet to your decrees;

<sup>60</sup> I hurry and do not delay  
to keep your commandments.

<sup>61</sup> Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,  
I do not forget your law.

<sup>62</sup> At midnight I rise to praise you,  
because of your righteous ordinances.

<sup>63</sup> I am a companion of all who fear you,  
of those who keep your precepts.

<sup>64</sup> The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;  
teach me your statutes.

<sup>65</sup> You have dealt well with your servant,  
O LORD, according to your word.

<sup>66</sup> Teach me good judgment and knowledge,  
for I believe in your commandments.

<sup>67</sup> Before I was humbled I went astray,

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but now I keep your word.

<sup>68</sup> You are good and do good;  
teach me your statutes.

<sup>69</sup> The arrogant smear me with lies,  
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.

<sup>70</sup> Their hearts are fat and gross,  
but I delight in your law.

<sup>71</sup> It is good for me that I was humbled,  
so that I might learn your statutes.

<sup>72</sup> The law of your mouth is better to me  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

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

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;  
teach me your statutes.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING:** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 CEB

As you yourselves know, brothers and sisters, our visit with you wasn't a waste of time. <sup>2</sup> On the contrary, we had the courage through God to speak God's good news in

spite of a lot of opposition, although we had already suffered and were publicly insulted in Philippi, as you know. <sup>3</sup> Our appeal isn't based on false information, the wrong motives, or deception. <sup>4</sup> Rather, we have been examined and approved by God to be trusted with the good news, and that's exactly how we speak. We aren't trying to please people, but we are trying to please God, who continues to examine our hearts. <sup>5</sup> As you know, we never used flattery, and God is our witness that we didn't have greedy motives. <sup>6</sup> We didn't ask for special treatment from people—not from you or from others— <sup>7</sup> although we could have thrown our weight around as Christ's apostles. Instead, we were gentle with you like a nursing mother caring for her own children. <sup>8</sup> We were glad to share not only God's good news with you but also our very lives because we cared for you so much. <sup>9</sup> You remember, brothers and sisters, our efforts and hard work. We preached God's good news to you, while we worked night and day so we wouldn't be a burden on any of you. <sup>10</sup> You and God are witnesses of how holy, just, and blameless we were toward you believers. <sup>11</sup> Likewise, you know how we treated each of you like a father treats his own children. <sup>12</sup> We appealed to you, encouraged you, and

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pleaded with you to live lives worthy of the God who is calling you into his own kingdom and glory.

.Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL:** **Matthew 5:17-20** CEB

<sup>17</sup> “Don’t even begin to think that I have come to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I haven’t come to do away with them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> I say to you very seriously that as long as heaven and earth exist, neither the smallest letter nor even the smallest stroke of a pen will be erased from the Law until everything there becomes a reality. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever ignores one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the lowest in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever keeps these commands and teaches people to keep them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> I say to you that unless your righteousness is greater

than the righteousness of the legal experts and the Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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*,

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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*)

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\* 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.**

\* FOR GUIDANCE

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* FOR FRUITFUL SEASONS

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are

constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know

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him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, 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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