

Wednesday, May 18, 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**

***the perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto you. Amen.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* [Psalm 72](#) NRSV

***Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.***

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice.
- <sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.
- <sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth.

- <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- <sup>8</sup> May he have dominion from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> May his foes bow down before him,  
and his enemies lick the dust.
- <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
render him tribute,  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba  
bring gifts.
- <sup>11</sup> May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations give him service.
- <sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.
- <sup>13</sup> He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.
- <sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their life;  
and precious is their blood in his sight.
- <sup>15</sup> Long may he live!  
May gold of Sheba be given to him.  
May prayer be made for him continually,  
and blessings invoked for him all day long.
- <sup>16</sup> May there be abundance of grain in the land;

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may it wave on the tops of the mountains;  
may its fruit be like Lebanon;  
and may people blossom in the cities  
like the grass of the field.

<sup>17</sup> May his name endure forever,  
his fame continue as long as the sun.

May all nations be blessed in him;  
may they pronounce him happy.

<sup>18</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.

<sup>19</sup> Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

<sup>20</sup> The prayers of David son of Jesse are ended.

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

***Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28** CEB

<sup>12</sup> Brothers and sisters, we ask you to respect those who are working with you, leading you, and instructing you.

<sup>13</sup> Think of them highly with love because of their work.

Live in peace with each other. <sup>14</sup> Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are disorderly. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone.

<sup>15</sup> Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else.

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always. <sup>17</sup> Pray continually. <sup>18</sup> Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. <sup>19</sup> Don't suppress the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Don't brush off Spirit-inspired messages, <sup>21</sup> but examine everything carefully and hang on to what is good. <sup>22</sup> Avoid every kind of evil. <sup>23</sup> Now, may the God of peace himself cause you to be completely dedicated to him; and may your spirit, soul, and body be kept intact and blameless at our Lord Jesus Christ's coming. <sup>24</sup> The one who is calling you is faithful and will do this.

<sup>25</sup> Brothers and sisters, pray for us. <sup>26</sup> Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. <sup>27</sup> By the Lord's authority, I order all of you to have this letter read aloud to

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all the brothers and sisters. <sup>28</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

.Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL:** **Matthew 6:19-24** CEB

<sup>19</sup> “Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. <sup>20</sup> Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don’t eat them and where thieves don’t break in and steal them. <sup>21</sup> Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup> “The eye is the lamp of the body. Therefore, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light. <sup>23</sup> But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how terrible that darkness will be! <sup>24</sup> No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be

loyal to the one and have contempt for the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

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,

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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 SOCIAL SERVICE

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

\* Prayer of Saint Ephrem (306-373)

O Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of apathy and meddling, of idle chatter and love of power. Instead, grant to me, your servant, the spirit of integrity and

humility, of patience and love. Yes, O Lord and God, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge others, for you are blessed, now and ever and forever. **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

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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**

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.**

## Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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