

Wednesday, May 25, 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 119:97-120](#) NRSV

***Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.***

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!

It is my meditation all day long.

⁹⁸ Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is always with me.

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.

¹⁰¹ I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

¹⁰² I do not turn away from your ordinances,
for you have taught me.

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

¹⁰⁷ I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.

¹⁰⁹ I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.

¹¹¹ Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹² I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.

¹¹³ I hate the double-minded,
but I love your law.

¹¹⁴ You are my hiding place and my shield;
I hope in your word.

¹¹⁵ Go away from me, you evildoers,

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that I may keep the commandments of my God.

¹¹⁶ Uphold me according to your promise, that I may live,
and let me not be put to shame in my hope.

¹¹⁷ Hold me up, that I may be safe
and have regard for your statutes continually.

¹¹⁸ You spurn all who go astray from your statutes;
for their cunning is in vain.

¹¹⁹ All the wicked of the earth you count as dross;
therefore I love your decrees.

¹²⁰ My flesh trembles for fear of you,
and I am afraid of your judgments.

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

***Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING:** Ephesians 1:1-10 CEB

From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will.

To the holy and faithful people in Christ Jesus in Ephesus.

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our
Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He
has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing that
comes from heaven. ⁴ God chose us in Christ to be holy
and blameless in God's presence before the creation of
the world. ⁵ God destined us to be his adopted children
through Jesus Christ because of his love. This was
according to his goodwill and plan ⁶ and to honor his
glorious grace that he has given to us freely through the
Son whom he loves. ⁷ We have been ransomed through
his Son's blood, and we have forgiveness for our failures
based on his overflowing grace, ⁸ which he poured over us
with wisdom and understanding. ⁹ God revealed his
hidden design to us, which is according to his goodwill
and the plan that he intended to accomplish through his
Son. ¹⁰ This is what God planned for the climax of all
times: to bring all things together in Christ, the things in
heaven along with the things on earth.

.Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

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* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL:** **Matthew 22:41-46** CEB

⁴¹ Now as the Pharisees were gathering, Jesus asked them, ⁴² “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?”

“David’s son,” they replied.

⁴³ He said, “Then how is it that David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, called him Lord when he said, ⁴⁴ *The Lord said to my lord, ‘Sit at my right side until I turn your enemies into your footstool’?*^[a] ⁴⁵ If David calls him Lord, how can he be David’s son?” ⁴⁶ Nobody was able to answer him. And from that day forward nobody dared to ask him anything.

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*.

* **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)*

* 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.**

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* PRAYERS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Almighty God our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold office in this State of New Jersey, the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. 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,
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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