

Wednesday, May 4, 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 38](#) NRSV

***O my God, do not be far from me;  
make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation.***

<sup>1</sup> O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger,  
or discipline me in your wrath.

<sup>2</sup> For your arrows have sunk into me,  
and your hand has come down on me.

<sup>3</sup> There is no soundness in my flesh  
because of your indignation;  
there is no health in my bones  
because of my sin.

<sup>4</sup> For my iniquities have gone over my head;  
they weigh like a burden too heavy for me.

<sup>5</sup> My wounds grow foul and fester  
because of my foolishness;

<sup>6</sup> I am utterly bowed down and prostrate;

all day long I go around mourning.

<sup>7</sup> For my loins are filled with burning,  
and there is no soundness in my flesh.

<sup>8</sup> I am utterly spent and crushed;  
I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

<sup>9</sup> O Lord, all my longing is known to you;  
my sighing is not hidden from you.

<sup>10</sup> My heart throbs, my strength fails me;  
as for the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.

<sup>11</sup> My friends and companions stand aloof from my  
affliction,  
and my neighbors stand far off.

<sup>12</sup> Those who seek my life lay their snares;  
those who seek to hurt me speak of ruin,  
and meditate treachery all day long.

<sup>13</sup> But I am like the deaf, I do not hear;  
like the mute, who cannot speak.

<sup>14</sup> Truly, I am like one who does not hear,  
and in whose mouth is no retort.

<sup>15</sup> But it is for you, O LORD, that I wait;  
it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

<sup>16</sup> For I pray, “Only do not let them rejoice over me,  
those who boast against me when my foot slips.”

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<sup>17</sup> For I am ready to fall,  
and my pain is ever with me.

<sup>18</sup> I confess my iniquity;  
I am sorry for my sin.

<sup>19</sup> Those who are my foes without cause are mighty,  
and many are those who hate me wrongfully.

<sup>20</sup> Those who render me evil for good  
are my adversaries because I follow after good.

<sup>21</sup> Do not forsake me, O LORD;  
O my God, do not be far from me;

<sup>22</sup> make haste to help me,  
O Lord, my salvation.

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

***O my God, do not be far from me;  
make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING:** Colossians 1:15-23 CEB

Christ is exactly like God,  
who cannot be seen.

He is the first-born Son,  
superior to all creation.

<sup>16</sup> Everything was created by him,  
everything in heaven

and on earth,  
everything seen and unseen,

including all forces

and powers,

and all rulers

and authorities.

All things were created

by God's Son,

and everything was made

for him.

<sup>17</sup> God's Son was before all else,

and by him everything

is held together.

<sup>18</sup> He is the head of his body,

which is the church.

He is the very beginning,

the first to be raised

from death,

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so that he would be  
above all others.

<sup>19</sup> God himself was pleased  
to live fully in his Son.

<sup>20</sup> And God was pleased  
for him to make peace  
by sacrificing his blood  
on the cross,  
so that all beings in heaven  
and on earth  
would be brought back to God.

<sup>21</sup> You used to be far from God. Your thoughts made you  
his enemies, and you did evil things. <sup>22</sup> But his Son  
became a human and died. So God made peace with you,  
and now he lets you stand in his presence as people who  
are holy and faultless and innocent. <sup>23</sup> But you must stay  
deeply rooted and firm in your faith. You must not give up  
the hope you received when you heard the good news. It  
was preached to everyone on earth, and I myself have  
become a servant of this message.

.Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL:** **Matthew 3:13-17** CEB

<sup>13</sup> Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River to be  
baptized by John. <sup>14</sup> But John kept objecting and said, “I  
ought to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?”

<sup>15</sup> Jesus answered, “For now this is how it should be,  
because we must do all God wants us to do.” Then John  
agreed.

<sup>16</sup> So Jesus was baptized. And as soon as he came out of  
the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God  
coming down on him like a dove. <sup>17</sup> Then a voice from  
heaven said, “This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased  
with him.”

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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\* **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.***

\* FOR THE RIGHT USE OF GOD'S GIFTS

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

\* A PRAYER OF SELF-DEDICATION

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ***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 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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