

Saturday, July 2, 2022

* **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.**

* **MORNING CANTICLE OF WISDOM**

Wisdom has built her house, setting up seven pillars.
She has prepared the food and wine and set her table.

**She has sent out her servants
to call out from the Heights above the city:**

"Let those who want enlightenment come.
Come, taste my bread and drink my spiced wine.

**Give up your foolishness and live,
And walk the path of understanding."**

If you are wise, your reward is wisdom;
If you teach the just, they grow in understanding.
**Wisdom begins with reverence for God,
and knowledge of the holy one is insight.**

* OSL

* **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One* be with you;
And also with you.

Let us pray:

Let us pray:

Oh God, The Holy Spirit,
come to us, and among us;
come as the wind, and cleanse us;
come as the fire, and burn;
come as the dew, and refresh;
convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives to
our great good and to your greater glory;
and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

[UM Book of Worship.]

* [Psalm 144](#) NRSV

***Stretch out your hand from on high;
set me free and rescue me from the mighty waters.***

Blessed be the LORD, my rock,
who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle;
² my rock and my fortress,
my stronghold and my deliverer,
my shield, in whom I take refuge,
who subdues the peoples under me.
³ O LORD, what are human beings that you regard them,
or mortals that you think of them?
⁴ They are like a breath;
their days are like a passing shadow.
⁵ Bow your heavens, O LORD, and come down;
touch the mountains so that they smoke.
⁶ Make the lightning flash and scatter them;
send out your arrows and rout them.
⁷ Stretch out your hand from on high;
set me free and rescue me from the mighty waters,
from the hand of aliens,
⁸ whose mouths speak lies,
and whose right hands are false.

⁹ I will sing a new song to you, O God;
upon a ten-stringed harp I will play to you,
¹⁰ the one who gives victory to kings,
who rescues his servant David.
¹¹ Rescue me from the cruel sword,
and deliver me from the hand of aliens,
whose mouths speak lies,
and whose right hands are false.
¹² May our sons in their youth
be like plants full grown,
our daughters like corner pillars,
cut for the building of a palace.
¹³ May our barns be filled,
with produce of every kind;
may our sheep increase by thousands,
by tens of thousands in our fields,
¹⁴ and may our cattle be heavy with young.
May there be no breach in the walls, no exile,
and no cry of distress in our streets.
¹⁵ Happy are the people to whom such blessings fall;
happy are the people whose God is the LORD.
Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,
one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

***Stretch out your hand from on high;
set me free and rescue me from the mighty waters.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING: Romans 8:18-25** CEB

¹⁸ I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us.

¹⁹ The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. ²⁰ Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. ²² We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. ²³ And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. ²⁴ We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 22:23-40** CEB

²³ That same day Sadducees, who deny that there is a resurrection, came to Jesus. ²⁴ They asked, "Teacher, Moses said, *If a man who doesn't have children dies, his brother must marry his wife and produce children for his brother.* ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married, then died. Because he had no children he left his widow to his brother. ²⁶ The same thing happened with the second brother and the third, and in fact with all seven brothers. ²⁷ Finally, the woman died. ²⁸ At the resurrection, which of the seven brothers will be her husband? They were all married to her."

²⁹ Jesus responded, "You are wrong because you don't know either the scriptures or God's power. ³⁰ At the resurrection people won't marry nor will they be given in marriage. Instead, they will be like angels from God. ³¹ As for the resurrection of the dead, haven't you read what

God told you, ³² *I'm the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?* He isn't the God of the dead but of the living." ³³ Now when the crowd heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. ³⁵ One of them, a legal expert, tested him. ³⁶ "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ He replied, "*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.*"

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: *You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.* ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."

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.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **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 THOSE WHO MOURN

*Gracious God, as your son wept with Mary and
Martha at the tomb of Lazarus, look with compassion
this day on those who grieve. Grant them the
assurance of your presence now and faith in your
eternal goodness, that in them may be fulfilled the
promise that those who mourn shall be comforted;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

* PRAYERS FOR OUR ENEMIES

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* PRAYERS FOR OUR NATION

Lord God Almighty, who has made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* A COLLECT FOR SATURDAYS

Almighty God, who after the creation of the world rested from all your works and sanctified a day of rest for all your creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly

anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; 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

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ

himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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 grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Amen.

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
Elwood United Methodist Church

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