

Thursday, July 28, 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.

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***Satisfy us in the morning
with your steadfast love, O God,
that we may sing for joy
and be glad all our days.***

PSALM 90:14

* **MORNING CANTICLE OF JOY**

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before God's presence with a song.
Know this: The LORD is God; the LORD has made us,

***and we belong to the One who created us;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.***

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving;
go into God's courts with praise;
give thanks to God and call upon God's Name.

***For the LORD is good;
God's mercy is everlasting;
and God's faithfulness endures from age to age.***

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

***Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts,
which no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts,
which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside.
Bestow upon us also, O Lord our God, understanding
to know you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find
you, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

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* [Psalm 71](#) NRSV

***For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.***

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.

³ Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

⁶ Upon you I have leaned from my birth;
it was you who took me from my mother's womb.

My praise is continually of you.

⁷ I have been like a portent to many,
but you are my strong refuge.

⁸ My mouth is filled with your praise,
and with your glory all day long.

⁹ Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
do not forsake me when my strength is spent.

¹⁰ For my enemies speak concerning me,
and those who watch for my life consult together.

¹¹ They say, "Pursue and seize that person
whom God has forsaken,
for there is no one to deliver."

¹² O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!

¹³ Let my accusers be put to shame and consumed;
let those who seek to hurt me
be covered with scorn and disgrace.

¹⁴ But I will hope continually,
and will praise you yet more and more.

¹⁵ My mouth will tell of your righteous acts,
of your deeds of salvation all day long,
though their number is past my knowledge.

¹⁶ I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD,
I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.

¹⁷ O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

¹⁸ So even to old age and gray hairs,
O God, do not forsake me,

until I proclaim your might
to all the generations to come.

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Your power ¹⁹ and your righteousness, O God,
reach the high heavens.

You who have done great things,
O God, who is like you?

²⁰ You who have made me see many troubles and
calamities

will revive me again;
from the depths of the earth
you will bring me up again.

²¹ You will increase my honor,
and comfort me once again.

²² I will also praise you with the harp
for your faithfulness, O my God;
I will sing praises to you with the lyre,
O Holy One of Israel.

²³ My lips will shout for joy
when I sing praises to you;
my soul also, which you have rescued.

²⁴ All day long my tongue will talk of your righteous help,
for those who tried to do me harm
have been put to shame, and disgraced.

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

***For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING: Acts 1:15-26** CEB

¹⁵ During this time, the family of believers was a company of about one hundred twenty persons. Peter stood among them and said, ¹⁶ “Brothers and sisters, the scripture that the Holy Spirit announced beforehand through David had to be fulfilled. This was the scripture concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ This happened even though he was one of us and received a share of this ministry.” (¹⁸ In fact, he bought a field with the payment he received for his injustice. Falling headfirst, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹ This became known to everyone living in Jerusalem, so they called that field in their own language Hakeldama, or “Field of Blood.”) ²⁰ “It is written in the Psalms scroll,

Let his home become deserted and let there be no one living in it;

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and

Give his position of leadership to another.

²¹ “Therefore, we must select one of those who have accompanied us during the whole time the Lord Jesus lived among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when Jesus was taken from us. This person must become along with us a witness to his resurrection.”

²³ So they nominated two: Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

²⁴ They prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s deepest thoughts and desires. Show us clearly which one you have chosen from among these two ²⁵ to take the place of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.” ²⁶ When they cast lots, the lot fell on Matthias. He was added to the eleven apostles.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **2nd READING: Matthew 27:55-66** CEB

⁵⁵ Many women were watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to serve him. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.

⁵⁷ That evening a man named Joseph came. He was a rich man from Arimathea who had become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He came to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. Pilate gave him permission to take it. ⁵⁹ Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had carved out of the rock. After he rolled a large stone at the door of the tomb, he went away. ⁶¹ Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting in front of the tomb.

⁶² The next day, which was the day after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate.

⁶³ They said, “Sir, we remember that while that deceiver was still alive he said, ‘After three days I will arise.’

⁶⁴ Therefore, order the grave to be sealed until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people, ‘He’s been raised from the dead.’ This last deception will be worse than the first.”

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⁶⁵ Pilate replied, "You have soldiers for guard duty. Go and make it as secure as you know how." ⁶⁶ Then they went and secured the tomb by sealing the stone and posting the guard.

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,***

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***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 A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize, visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* FOR THE VICTIMS OF ADDICTION

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. **Amen.**

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* FOR ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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.

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* **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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