

Wednesday, July 20, 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** - *The Second Song of Isaiah*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found;
call upon him when he draws near.
***Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the evil ones their thoughts;***

And let them turn to the Lord,
and he will have compassion,
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

***For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.***

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

***For as rain and snow fall from the heavens
and return not again, but water the earth,***

Bringing forth life and giving growth,
seed for sowing and bread for eating,

***So is my word that goes forth from my mouth;
it will not return to me empty;***

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed,
and prosper in that for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:6-11

* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

**Dawn from on high,
Your light illumines all our days.
Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day.
Be merciful in us for the sake of others.
Make us fearless when confronting injustice and
need, that we may give you glory in the power of the
Spirit. Amen.**

* For All the Saints

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* [Psalm 119:49-72](#) NRSV

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes.***

Remember your word to your servant,
in which you have made me hope.

⁵⁰ This is my comfort in my distress,
that your promise gives me life.

⁵¹ The arrogant utterly deride me,
but I do not turn away from your law.

⁵² When I think of your ordinances from of old,
I take comfort, O LORD.

⁵³ Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked,

those who forsake your law.

⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs
wherever I make my home.

⁵⁵ I remember your name in the night, O LORD,
and keep your law.

⁵⁶ This blessing has fallen to me,
for I have kept your precepts.

⁵⁷ The LORD is my portion;
I promise to keep your words.

⁵⁸ I implore your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.

⁵⁹ When I think of your ways,
I turn my feet to your decrees;

⁶⁰ I hurry and do not delay
to keep your commandments.

⁶¹ Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,
I do not forget your law.

⁶² At midnight I rise to praise you,
because of your righteous ordinances.

⁶³ I am a companion of all who fear you,
of those who keep your precepts.

⁶⁴ The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes.

⁶⁵ You have dealt well with your servant,
O LORD, according to your word.

⁶⁶ Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
for I believe in your commandments.

⁶⁷ Before I was humbled I went astray,
but now I keep your word.

⁶⁸ You are good and do good;
teach me your statutes.

⁶⁹ The arrogant smear me with lies,
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.

⁷⁰ Their hearts are fat and gross,
but I delight in your law.

⁷¹ It is good for me that I was humbled,
so that I might learn your statutes.

⁷² The law of your mouth is better to me
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

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

***The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes.***

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **1st READING: Romans 14:13-23** CEB

¹³ So stop judging each other. Instead, this is what you should decide: never put a stumbling block or obstacle in the way of your brother or sister. ¹⁴ I know and I'm convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is wrong to eat in itself. But if someone thinks something is wrong to eat, it becomes wrong for that person. ¹⁵ If your brother or sister is upset by your food, you are no longer walking in love. Don't let your food destroy someone for whom Christ died.

¹⁶ And don't let something you consider to be good be criticized as wrong. ¹⁷ God's kingdom isn't about eating food and drinking but about righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ Whoever serves Christ this way pleases God and gets human approval.

¹⁹ So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up. ²⁰ Don't destroy what God has done because of food. All food is acceptable, but it's a bad thing if it trips someone else. ²¹ It's a good thing not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything that trips your brother or sister. ²² Keep the belief that you have to yourself—it's between you and God. People are blessed who don't convict themselves by the things they approve.

²³ But those who have doubts are convicted if they go

ahead and eat, because they aren't acting on the basis of faith. Everything that isn't based on faith is sin.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 26:57-68** CEB

⁵⁷ Those who arrested Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest. The legal experts and the elders had gathered there. ⁵⁸ Peter followed him from a distance until he came to the high priest's courtyard. He entered that area and sat outside with the officers to see how it would turn out.

⁵⁹ The chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ They didn't find anything they could use from the many false witnesses who were willing to come forward. But finally they found two ⁶¹ who said, "This man said, 'I can destroy God's temple and rebuild it in three days.'"

⁶² Then the high priest stood and said to Jesus, "Aren't you going to respond to the testimony these people have brought against you?"

⁶³ But Jesus was silent.

The high priest said, "By the living God, I demand that you tell us whether you are the Christ, God's Son."

⁶⁴ "You said it," Jesus replied. "But I say to you that from now on you'll see *the Human One sitting on the right side of the Almighty and coming on the heavenly clouds.*"

⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He's insulting God! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, you've heard his insult against God. ⁶⁶ What do you think?"

And they answered, "He deserves to die!" ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and beat him. They hit him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophecy for us, Christ! Who hit you?"

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)*

* PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to those we pray for this day, the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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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