

Wednesday, August 31, 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 38](#) NRSV

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

¹ O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger,
or discipline me in your wrath.

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

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

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

⁵ My wounds grow foul and fester
because of my foolishness;

⁶ I am utterly bowed down and prostrate;
all day long I go around mourning.

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

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

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

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

¹¹ My friends and companions stand aloof from my
affliction,
and my neighbors stand far off.

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

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

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

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

¹⁶ For I pray, "Only do not let them rejoice over me,
those who boast against me when my foot slips."

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

¹⁸ I confess my iniquity;
I am sorry for my sin.

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

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

²¹ Do not forsake me, O LORD;
O my God, do not be far from me;

²² 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

* **1st READING: Acts 12:18-25** NRSV

¹⁸ When morning came, there was no small commotion
among the soldiers over what had become of Peter.

¹⁹ When Herod had searched for him and could not find
him, he examined the guards and ordered them to be put
to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea
and stayed there.

²⁰ Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and
Sidon. So they came to him in a body; and after winning
over Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for a
reconciliation, because their country depended on the
king's country for food. ²¹ On an appointed day Herod put
on his royal robes, took his seat on the platform, and
delivered a public address to them. ²² The people kept
shouting, 'The voice of a god, and not of a mortal!' ²³ And
immediately, because he had not given the glory to God,
an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten
by worms and died.

²⁴ But the word of God continued to advance and gain
adherents. ²⁵ Then after completing their mission

Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem and brought with them John, whose other name was Mark.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **GOSPEL: John 8:47-59** NRSV

⁴⁷Whoever is from God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear them is that you are not from God.'

⁴⁸The Jews answered him, 'Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?' ⁴⁹Jesus answered, 'I do not have a demon; but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is one who seeks it and he is the judge. ⁵¹Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death.'

⁵²The Jews said to him, 'Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets; yet you say, "Whoever keeps my word will never taste death."

⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?' ⁵⁴Jesus

answered, 'If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, he of whom you say, "He is our God", ⁵⁵though you do not know him. But I know him; if I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad.' ⁵⁷Then the Jews said to him, 'You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?' ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am.' ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

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.

* COMMEMORATIVE PRAYER –

Aidan and Cuthbert

Everliving God, you called your servants Aidan and Cuthbert to proclaim the Gospel in northern England and gave them loving hearts and gentle spirits: Grant us grace to live as they did, in simplicity, humility and love for the poor; through Jesus Christ, who came among us as one who serves, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

** Holy Women, Holy Men*

* PRAYER FOR THE AGED

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

* FOR THE ABSENT

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly pray you graciously to behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints; 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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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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