

Friday, September 30, 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 First Song of Isaiah*

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
and he will be my Savior.***  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.

***And on that day you shall say,***

***Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;***  
Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
***Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great  
things, and this is known in all the world.***  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
for the great one in the midst of you  
is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12:2-6

\* **MORNING PRAYER**

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

Let us pray:

***New every morning is your love, great God of light,  
and all day long you are working for good in the world.  
Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with  
our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our  
Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.***

***Incline your ear to me;***

***answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

<sup>1</sup> Hear my prayer, O LORD;

let my cry come to you.

<sup>2</sup> Do not hide your face from me

in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

<sup>3</sup> For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like a furnace.

<sup>4</sup> My heart is stricken and withered like grass;

I am too wasted to eat my bread.

<sup>5</sup> Because of my loud groaning

my bones cling to my skin.

<sup>6</sup> I am like an owl of the wilderness,

like a little owl of the waste places.

<sup>7</sup> I lie awake;

I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

<sup>8</sup> All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

<sup>9</sup> For I eat ashes like bread,

and mingle tears with my drink,

<sup>10</sup> because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

<sup>11</sup> My days are like an evening shadow;

I wither away like grass.

<sup>12</sup> But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;

your name endures to all generations.

<sup>13</sup> You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,

for it is time to favor it;

the appointed time has come.

<sup>14</sup> For your servants hold its stones dear,

and have pity on its dust.

<sup>15</sup> The nations will fear the name of the LORD,

and all the kings of the earth your glory.

<sup>16</sup> For the LORD will build up Zion;

he will appear in his glory.

<sup>17</sup> He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

and will not despise their prayer.

<sup>18</sup> Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

<sup>19</sup> that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

<sup>20</sup> to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

<sup>21</sup> so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

<sup>22</sup> when peoples gather together,  
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> He has broken my strength in midcourse;  
he has shortened my days.

<sup>24</sup> “O my God,” I say, “do not take me away  
at the midpoint of my life,  
you whose years endure  
throughout all generations.”

<sup>25</sup> Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup> They will perish, but you endure;  
they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

<sup>27</sup> but you are the same, and your years have no end.

<sup>28</sup> The children of your servants shall live secure;  
their offspring shall be established in your presence.

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

***Incline your ear to me;  
answer me speedily in the day when I call.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>ST</sup> READING: Acts 21:37-22:16** NRSV

<sup>37</sup> Just as Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, ‘May I say something to you?’ The tribune replied, ‘Do you know Greek? <sup>38</sup>Then you are not the Egyptian who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand assassins out into the wilderness?’ <sup>39</sup>Paul replied, ‘I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of an important city; I beg you, let me speak to the people.’ <sup>40</sup>When he had given him permission, Paul stood on the steps and motioned to the people for silence; and when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew language, saying:

<sup>22</sup>‘Brothers and fathers, listen to the defense that I now make before you.’

<sup>2</sup> When they heard him addressing them in Hebrew, they became even more quiet. Then he said:

<sup>3</sup> ‘I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, educated strictly according to our ancestral law, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today. <sup>4</sup>I persecuted this Way up to the point of death by binding both men and women and putting them in prison, <sup>5</sup>as the high priest and the whole council of elders can testify about me. From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus, and I went there in order to bind those who

were there and to bring them back to Jerusalem for punishment.

<sup>6</sup> ‘While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me. <sup>7</sup>I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” <sup>8</sup>I answered, “Who are you, Lord?” Then he said to me, “I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting.” <sup>9</sup>Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. <sup>10</sup>I asked, “What am I to do, Lord?” The Lord said to me, “Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told everything that has been assigned to you to do.” <sup>11</sup>Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.

<sup>12</sup> ‘A certain Ananias, who was a devout man according to the law and well spoken of by all the Jews living there, <sup>13</sup>came to me; and standing beside me, he said, “Brother Saul, regain your sight!” In that very hour I regained my sight and saw him. <sup>14</sup>Then he said, “The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear his own voice; <sup>15</sup>for you will be his witness to all the world of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup>And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.”

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:12-26** NRSV

<sup>12</sup> Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. <sup>13</sup>And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: <sup>14</sup>Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, <sup>15</sup>and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, <sup>16</sup>and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

<sup>17</sup> He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> ‘Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> ‘But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> ‘Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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*. LUKE 1:68-79

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)*

\* PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have

confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

\* FOR THE HARVEST OF LANDS AND WATERS

O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all things living with abundance: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* PRAYERS FOR THE POOR AND THE NEGLECTED

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, 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 FOR FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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**

May God strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit, and may Christ live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



# Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at  
Elwood United Methodist Church

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