

Thursday, October 6, 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 131](#) NRSV

***O Israel, hope in the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.***

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up,  
my eyes are not raised too high;  
I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvelous for me.  
<sup>2</sup> But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother;  
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.

<sup>3</sup> O Israel, hope in the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.

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

***O Israel, hope in the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **1<sup>st</sup> READING: Acts 24:1-23** NRSV

Five days later the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and an attorney, a certain Tertullus, and they reported their case against Paul to the governor. <sup>2</sup>When Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying:

‘Your Excellency, because of you we have long enjoyed peace, and reforms have been made for this people because of your foresight. <sup>3</sup>We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost gratitude. <sup>4</sup>But, to detain you no further, I beg you to hear us briefly with your customary graciousness. <sup>5</sup>We have, in fact, found this man a pestilent fellow, an agitator among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. <sup>6</sup>He even tried to profane the temple, and so we seized him. <sup>8</sup>By examining him yourself you will be able to learn from him concerning everything of which we accuse him.’

<sup>9</sup> The Jews also joined in the charge by asserting that all this was true.

<sup>10</sup> When the governor motioned to him to speak, Paul replied:

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'I cheerfully make my defense, knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation. <sup>11</sup>As you can find out, it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup>They did not find me disputing with anyone in the temple or stirring up a crowd either in the synagogues or throughout the city. <sup>13</sup>Neither can they prove to you the charge that they now bring against me. <sup>14</sup>But this I admit to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our ancestors, believing everything laid down according to the law or written in the prophets. <sup>15</sup>I have a hope in God—a hope that they themselves also accept—that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>16</sup>Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience towards God and all people. <sup>17</sup>Now after some years I came to bring alms to my nation and to offer sacrifices. <sup>18</sup>While I was doing this, they found me in the temple, completing the rite of purification, without any crowd or disturbance. <sup>19</sup>But there were some Jews from Asia—they ought to be here before you to make an accusation, if they have anything against me. <sup>20</sup>Or let these men here tell what crime they had found when I stood before the council, <sup>21</sup>unless it was this one sentence that I called out while standing before them, "It is about

the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you today.'"

22 But Felix, who was rather well informed about the Way, adjourned the hearing with the comment, 'When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.' <sup>23</sup>Then he ordered the centurion to keep him in custody, but to let him have some liberty and not to prevent any of his friends from taking care of his needs.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

\* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\* **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: Luke 7:36-50** NRSV

<sup>36</sup> One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. <sup>37</sup>And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. <sup>38</sup>She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she

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continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup>Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.' <sup>40</sup>Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.' <sup>41</sup>'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' <sup>43</sup>Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.' <sup>44</sup>Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. <sup>45</sup>You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup>You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. <sup>47</sup>Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' <sup>48</sup>Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' <sup>49</sup>But those who were at the table with him began to say among

themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' <sup>50</sup>And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

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*,

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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*)

\* 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 THOSE WHO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* FOR YOUNG PERSONS

***God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; 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,***

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***and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.***

\* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; 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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