

# ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

**November 22, 2020**

**10:00 A.M.**

**Welcome to Worship** at the virtual Ellington Congregational Church,  
*United Church of Christ. We're happy to have you with us this morning.*

## **Our Church Mission Statement**

*To be a dynamic and nurturing community  
called by God's grace  
to know Christ and make Him known  
through worship, love, and service.*

Adopted September 15, 2019



## **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**



## **GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

### **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Jesus Christ, speaks to us today: “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.”

**All: We are indeed, wealthy people—rich in God’s blessings. We give thanks for all that we have received from God!**

One: Jesus promises that our generosity will be exceeded by God’s generosity when he declares: “Give and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put in your lap!”

**All: We are fortunate to have so much and challenged to consider how best to share our gifts!**

One: Let us worship our Gracious God, who promises that when we offer ourselves to God, the windows of heaven will be opened, and there will be poured down upon us overflowing blessings.

### **HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #276

#### *We Gather Together*

*1 We gather together to ask for God’s blessing,  
to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own;  
the pow’rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.  
O God, be present with us, and make your will known.*

*3 May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,  
defend us, befriend us, whatever may be.  
May your congregation escape tribulation.  
Your name be praised forever, O God, make us free!*

*Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981;  
Dutch melody (16<sup>th</sup> century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877, Adapt. © 1981 Ruth Duck; used by  
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## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: God of life and love, your grace sustains us each day; your salvation frees us from the past we cannot change; and your Spirit empowers us to live in new ways into the future. In this season of harvest and thanksgiving, and of national recognition of our abundant blessings, help each of us to pause and give thanks to you for all that is ours to richly enjoy in this life. Forgive us when we take for granted the abundance with which our lives are filled. Change our complacency into gratitude and our sense of self sufficiency into trust in your goodness. Remind us since we so often forget, that all we have is a gift of your love. Amen**

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

**Pastor: It is truly God's amazing grace that saves and sets us free to live in joyful and grateful ways. Followers of Jesus, rejoice in God's blessings! Amen.**

## **ENGAGING THE WORD**

### **UNISON SCRIPTURE READING**

Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord<sup>[a]</sup> has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ<sup>[b]</sup> dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Psalms 103:1-14

- <sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.
- <sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—
- <sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,
- <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- <sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good as long as you live<sup>[a]</sup>  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

- <sup>6</sup> The LORD works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- <sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- <sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- <sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- <sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
- <sup>14</sup> For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

## MESSAGE

Dr. Jay M. Terbush

“Thanks Living!”

## ANTHEM

Handel

*Thanks Be to Thee*  
Dave Robert ~ Violin solo

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray:

## **PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## **GOING WITH THE WORD**

### **HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #714

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

1 *For the fruit of all creation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the gifts to every nation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.*

2 *In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done;  
in the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done;  
in our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.*

Fred Pratt Green, 1970, Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906;  
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## **BENEDICTION**



*This morning's Lay Reader: Beth Tautkus*

