

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

March 28, 2021

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.

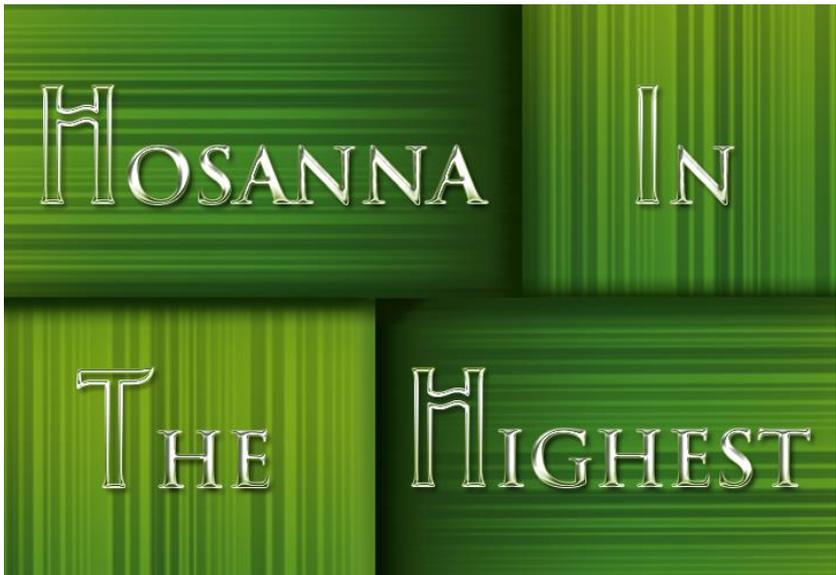
Our Church Mission Statement

*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



PALM / PASSION SUNDAY



GATHERING FOR THE WORD

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: On what we call Palm Sunday, Jesus prepares to enter Jerusalem.

All: He will enter majestically, hearing cries of “Hosanna in the highest!”

One: His sights are set on what he must do.

All: His intentions are faithful to God, who sustains him.

One: Soon the cheering crowds will disperse,

All: to be replaced by tormentors.

One: Admiration will cease, and Jesus will be faced with betrayal.

All: Jesus’ humiliation and his obedience end in death, so that life may abound to God’s glory. “Hosanna in the Highest!”

HYMN

Hosanna

1 *Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!*
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Lord we lift up Your name with hearts full of praise.
Be exalted, oh Lord, my God. Hosanna in the highest!

2 *Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!*
Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!
Lord we lift up Your name with hearts full of praise.
Be exalted, oh Lord, my God. Glory to the King of kings!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O God of love, who sent Jesus among us, hear our confession, and forgive our sin. When we invoke Christ's name for selfish reasons, have mercy on us. When our faith is convenient and does not lead to commitment, surround us with grace that we may repent. We are prone to call on you to satisfy our needs; we practice obedience without cost to our comfort. Forgive our leisurely approach to your sacrifice for us as Christ intercedes on our behalf. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

(quotes from Philipppians 2:6, 8)

Pastor: Hear these words of assurance: Even though Jesus was in the form of God, he “did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited.” Rather “he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on the cross.” Jesus died for us so that we might have life and approach God cleansed of our sins. In Jesus, the Christ, we are forgiven, indeed! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

John 12:12-16 (NLT)

Liturgy of the Palms

¹² The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors ¹³ took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted,

“Praise God!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD!
Hail to the King of Israel!”

¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said:

¹⁵ “Don’t be afraid, people of Jerusalem.
Look, your King is coming,
riding on a donkey’s colt.”

¹⁶ His disciples didn’t understand at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered what had happened and realized that these things had been written about him.

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Sr. Handbell Choir with Organ
All Glory Laud and Honor

MESSAGE

Mark 14:1 – 15:47 (NIV)
“Liturgy of the Passion: A Dramatic Reading”

Narrator ~ Pastor Joanne
Jesus ~ Wade Overgaard
Reader One ~ Lee Carman
Reader Two ~ Penny Gates
Reader Three ~ Lee Carman

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

We are so blessed that Jesus, the Christ has entered our lives. When we pray, “Hosanna in the Highest” our prayer is lifted up like a song to God. God is overjoyed to hear our “songs.”

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER and 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 #191

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

1 *Ride on, ride on in majesty! As all the crowds hosanna cry;
through waving branches slowly ride, O Savior, to be crucified.*

2 *Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, your triumph now begin o'er captive death and
conquered sin.*

Henry H. Milman, 1827, alt. Adapt. From Robert Schumann, 1839 // CCLI
#1326969

BENEDICTION (responsive)

One: When you leave our community of faith gathering, sing
hosannas. Carry their glad song into this week.

**All: We wish to follow Jesus Christ and give him our
commitment.**

One: God in Christ is bringing wholeness to our lives and
giving us opportunities to minister to others.

**All: We have been commissioned and empowered to
make a difference in the quality of life around us.
Hosanna, blessed are all who go forth to serve. Glory
to God in the Highest!**



Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version NIV
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