

# ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

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**May 16, 2021**

**10:00 A.M.**

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**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



## **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD: MAY 13**

**A SALUTE TO ARMED FORCES DAY: MAY 15**



## WELCOME

### GATHERING FOR THE WORD

#### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 1

One: Happy are those who take delight in the law of the Lord.

**All: They are like trees planted by streams of water. In all that they do, they prosper.**

One: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous.

**All: May God number us with the righteous as we worship the Lord. Let us praise God!**

#### HYMN

##### *I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light*

<sup>1</sup> *I want to walk as a child of the light,  
I want to follow Jesus.*

*God set the stars to give light to the world,  
the star of my life is Jesus. [Chorus]*

[Chorus] *In Him there is no darkness at all,  
the night and the day are both a-like;  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God,  
shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

<sup>2</sup> *I want to see the bright-ness of God,  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness,  
shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. [Chorus]*

WORDS and MUSIC: Kathleen Thomerson, CCLI Song #89848 © 1970, 1975 Celebration //  
CCLI #1326969

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Caring and Compassionate Creator, we enter this place set apart for your worship, knowing that we have failed to see you in other places. Too often, we have ignored your beauty around us, in earth and sky, in plants and creatures, in the people who surround us. We have chosen to live more by our fears than by our faith, to be weighed down by what we do not have, rather than rejoicing in your gifts to us. In these moments together, draw us so close that we cannot help but know every day that you are with us, wherever we go. We ask that you increase our capacity to care, so we may see you in all whom we meet. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: When we contemplate God's law, we learn of God's love and God's Right Way for Living. God's generous care protects all of us and the earth. When we gather to worship and pray, we are made whole by God through the redeeming love of Jesus, the Christ. Because of this, we can be assured of God's forgiveness.

## **A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS AND ALL CURRENTLY SERVING OUR COUNTRY**

### **ENGAGING THE WORD**

#### **ANTHEM**

*Bless the Lord, O My Soul*

Recorder Quartet ~

Dennis Carroll, Anna Carroll, Robin Miller, Esther Pezzella

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 (NLT)

<sup>15</sup> During this time, when about 120 believers were together in one place, Peter stood up and addressed them. <sup>16</sup> “Brothers,” he said, “the Scriptures had to be fulfilled concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. This was predicted long ago by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David. <sup>17</sup> Judas was one of us and shared in the ministry with us.”

<sup>21</sup> “So now we must choose a replacement for Judas from among the men who were with us the entire time we were traveling with the Lord Jesus— <sup>22</sup> from the time he was baptized by John until the day he was taken from us. Whoever is chosen will join us as a witness of Jesus’ resurrection.”

<sup>23</sup> So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. <sup>24</sup> Then they all prayed, “O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen <sup>25</sup> as an apostle to replace Judas in this ministry, for he has deserted us and gone where he belongs.” <sup>26</sup> Then they cast lots, and Matthias was selected to become an apostle with the other eleven.

### GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:6-19 (NLT)

<sup>6</sup> “I have revealed you to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, <sup>8</sup> for I have passed on to them the message you gave

me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me.

<sup>9</sup>“My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. <sup>10</sup>All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. <sup>11</sup>Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. <sup>12</sup>During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold.

<sup>13</sup>“Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to this world any more than I do. <sup>17</sup>Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. <sup>18</sup>Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth.

**MESSAGE**

Rev. Joanne Myer

“As Seen in the Light of Jesus’ Ascension”

**RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE**

*Dona Nobis Pacem*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #268

#### *God Be in Me*

God be in my head and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes and in my looking;

God be in my mouth and in my speaking;

God be in my heart and in my thinking;

God be at my end and at my departing.

Sarum Primer, 16th century // CCLI#1326969

### 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

#### *Shine Jesus Shine*

<sup>1</sup> *Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth You now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me. [Chorus]*

[Chorus] *Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

<sup>3</sup> *As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display Your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me. [Chorus]*

WORDS and MUSIC: Graham Kendrick CCLI Song #30426 © 1987 Make Way Music  
// CCLI #1326969

## **RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

**One:** This week, remember that “the Christ in you sees the Christ in me,” and see Christ Jesus in everyone.

**All:** **We will try our best to see Christ Jesus’ radiance in those whom we meet.**

**One:** May our lives mirror Jesus’ story.

**All:** **As Jesus shines on us, we will be examples of His teaching.**

**One:** The Light of God through Christ in us will fill the land with God’s glory.

**All:** **Jesus will shine, and there will be Light! Amen.**

