

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

May 30, 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



TRINITY SUNDAY

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A SALUTE IN MEMORY OF OUR VETERANS



WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 29 (The Message Bible)

All:

¹⁻² Bravo, GOD, bravo!

Gods and all angels shout, “Encore!”

In awe before the glory,

in awe before God’s visible power.

Stand at attention!

Dress your best to honor him!

³ GOD thunders across the waters,

Brilliant, his voice and his face, streaming brightness—

GOD, across the flood waters.

⁴ GOD’s thunder tympanic,

GOD’s thunder symphonic.

⁵ GOD’s thunder smashes cedars,

GOD topples the northern cedars.

⁶ The mountain ranges skip like spring colts,

The high ridges jump like wild kid goats.

⁷⁻⁸ GOD’s thunder spits fire.

GOD thunders, the wilderness quakes;

He makes the desert of Kadesh shake.

⁹ GOD’s thunder sets the oak trees dancing

A wild dance, whirling; the pelting rain strips their branches.

We fall to our knees—we call out, “Glory!”

**¹⁰ Above the floodwaters is GOD's throne
from which his power flows,
from which he rules the world.**

**¹¹ GOD makes his people strong.
GOD gives his people peace.**

HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #62

Creator God, Creating Still

**¹ *Creator God, creating still, by will and word and deed,
create a new humanity to meet the present need.***

**⁴ *Great Trinity, for this new day we need your presence still.
Create, redeem, sustain us now to do your work and will.***

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1977. MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708. Words © 1980 Jane Parker Huber // CCLI #1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Eternal God, Source of redeeming graciousness and infinite goodness, we know you will hear us as we pray for forgiveness. While you reach out to us in fellowship, we sometimes turn from you in shame. We realize that when we don't serve others as we should, we are not proclaiming your love. We confess Christ Jesus as our Savior, yet we do not always include Him in our day to day lives. When that happens, our discipleship suffers. We confess our sins to you because we realize we need repentance. Our thanks to you, dear God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: After Isaiah had confessed his uncleanness, a seraph flew to him, carrying a burning coal from the altar. The seraph touched Isaiah and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed, and your sin is blotted out." The sacrifice of Christ at the altar of God's eternal graciousness has touched our lives, and we too can rest in the assurance of God's pardon. Amen.

A SALUTE IN MEMORY OF OUR VETERANS

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

When the Saints Go Marching In
Andrew Banks ~ piano solo

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 6:1-8 (NLT)

6 It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. ² Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ They were calling out to each other,

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven's Armies!
The whole earth is filled with his glory!"

⁴ Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke.

⁵ Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.”

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ He touched my lips with it and said, “See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.”

⁸ Then I heard the Lord asking, “Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?”

I said, “Here I am. Send me.”

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17 (NLT)

3 There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. ² After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.”

³ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

⁴ “What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?”

⁵ Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. ⁷ So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it

is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

⁹ "How are these things possible?" Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ Jesus replied, "You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don't understand these things? ¹¹ I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won't believe our testimony. ¹² But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man^[e] has come down from heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

"An Eternal Connection"

RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE

Dona Nobis Pacem

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #722

This Is My Song

³ This is my prayer,

O Ruler of all nations:

let thy reign come;

on earth thy will be done.

In peace may all earth's people draw together,
and hearts united learn to live as one.

O hear my prayer,

thou God of all the nations;

my-self I give thee;

let thy will be done.

WORDS: St. 3, Georgia Harkness, c. 1939, alt. MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. The Hymnal, 1933. St. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Co.; reprinted by permission, permit #236735; arr. © 1933, renewed 1961, Presbyterian Board of Christian Education // 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

Chalice Hymnal #4

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

¹ *Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!*

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:

holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

⁴ *Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!*

All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

WORDS: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt. MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1861; desc. O. I. Cricket Harrison, 1994. Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press // CCLI #1326969

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

One: Let us answer any call of life from our spiritual experience that comes from faith in God through Christ.

All: We will take what we learn from our services and from one another's faith experiences, use it, and share it with all whom we meet.

One: In this way our lives will be made full.

All: As Jesus shines on us, we will be examples of His teaching and share his message wherever we go. Amen.

