

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

August 8, 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



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LAY LED BY WADE OVERGAARD

WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 130 (MSG)

All: Help, God – I've hit rock bottom! Master, hear my cry for help! Listen hard! Open your ears! Listen to my cries for mercy.

If you, God, kept records on wrongdoings, who would stand a chance? As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit, and that's why you're worshiped.

I pray to God – my life a prayer – and wait for what he'll say and do. My life's on the line before God, my Lord, waiting and watching till morning, waiting and watching till morning.

O Israel, wait and watch for God – with God's arrival comes love, with God's arrival comes generous redemption. No doubt about it – he'll redeem Israel, buy back Israel from captivity to sin.

HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #605

For Each Day of Life We Thank You

¹ *For each day of life we thank you,
God, the giver of all days;
and with hearts filled with thanksgiving,
we would serve you, now, always.*

² *As in days of youthful vigor,
may we in all later years
know the joys of useful purpose.
Free us from our anxious fears.*

³ *Give us dreams and inner vision
of a new world to be gained,
where all people live together,
by each other's love sustained.*

⁴ *May the insights from living
be a light upon the way,
guiding us, and those to follow,
to a brighter, better day.*

WORDS: H. Glen Lanier, 1976, alt. MUSIC: Amos Pilsbury, 1799; arr. Carlton R. Young,
1964 Words © 1976 The Hymn Society, used by permission of Hope Publishing Co.; harm. ©
1964 He United Methodist Publishing House // CCLI #1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Merciful and Loving God, you lead us and love us unconditionally and with compassion. Through Christ Jesus' intercession, we seek your forgiveness for our wrongdoing. We ask that you purge our thoughts of resentment and anger against others. When we bear false witness, please turn us from deceit to truthfulness. Cleanse us of selfish desires, and free us to respond to your Holy Word. Fill our hearts with song and let your Holy Spirit sing within us, so that we may be renewed in righteousness. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Wade: God our Savior desires that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of truth in the light of God. There is one God, mother and father of us all, and one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came to us, suffered, and died for all people. With assurance and conviction I say to you: "God, in Christ forgives our sins!"
Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Chalice Hymnal #35

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever-shall be,
world with-out end. A-men. A-men.*

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Duane Carroll ~ Handbell solo
Morning Has Broken

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:25-32, 5:1-2 (MSG)

²⁵ What this adds up to, then, is this: no more lies, no more pretense. Tell your neighbor the truth. In Christ's body we're all connected to each other, after all. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.

²⁶⁻²⁷ Go ahead and be angry. You do well to be angry—but don't use your anger as fuel for revenge. And don't stay angry. Don't go to bed angry. Don't give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life.

²⁸ Did you use to make ends meet by stealing? Well, no more! Get an honest job so that you can help others who can't work.

²⁹ Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.

³⁰ Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted.

³¹⁻³² Make a clean break with all cutting, backbiting, profane talk. Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.

5 ¹⁻² Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

MESSAGE

Wade Overgaard

“A Sample of Esther’s Playlist”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

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.

VIRTUAL OFFERING

Sentence

DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal #46

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALL: Loving God, redeemed by Christ and gathered to praise you, we come with thanksgiving. You relieve our hunger and quench our thirst. You fill us with good things and satisfy our needs. We respond to your goodness from our hearts by committing what we have to your honor and glory. Please accept our offerings and receive our tributes, for they belong to you. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #5

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

¹ *O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and king,
the triumphs of God's grace!
tongues to sing*

² *Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.*

³ *My loving Savior and my God,
assist me to proclaim
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.*

⁴ *Glory to God and praise and love
be ever, ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.*

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt. MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839 // CCLI #1326969

BENEDICTION

The Blessing of Aaron

The Lord bless thee, the Lord keep thee,
Make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious onto thee,
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,
And give thee peace and give thee peace.
Amen

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Chalice Hymnal #434

God Be with You Till We Meet Again
¹ *God be with you till we meet a-gain;
lov-ing coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
with a shep-herd's care en-fold you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.*



*Many thanks to
Wade Overgaard
for leading worship this morning.*