

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

October 3, 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



**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION:
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
STEWARDSHIP MONTH**

WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 26 (NLT)

One: Let us always trust in the Lord without wavering.

All: We are aware of God's unconditional and unending love for us and have lived to the best of our ability according to God's truth.

One: Let us praise the Lord, our God.

**All: We will come to your altar, O God, singing songs of thanksgiving and learning of your wonders.
Let us worship God!**

HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #537

My Hope Is Built

*¹ My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

[Refrain:]

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*² When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]*

³ *His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way
he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]*

WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863 // CCLI #1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of Creation, you trust us to be stewards of the earth, but sometimes we do not do enough to protect this jewel where we live. We make the waters unusable with toxins; we pollute the air with emissions from travel vehicles and smokestacks. Now, we even crowd space above us with space junk. Please forgive our neglect of earth's delicate balance and help us, we pray, as we recommit to saving the earth for future generations. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God hears our prayers for forgiveness when we have strayed. We shall never be wanting nor disappointed with God's love surrounding us. We may be assured that we are forgiven; we are accepted; we are loved. 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.*

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Job 1:1; 2:1-10 (NLT)

¹ There once was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless—a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.

² One day the members of the heavenly court came again to present themselves before the LORD, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. ² “Where have you come from?” the LORD asked Satan.

Satan answered the LORD, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.”

³ Then the LORD asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you urged me to harm him without cause.”

⁴ Satan replied to the LORD, “Skin for skin! A man will give up everything he has to save his life. ⁵ But reach out and take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!”

⁶ “All right, do with him as you please,” the LORD said to Satan. “But spare his life.” ⁷ So Satan left the LORD’s presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

⁸ Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes. ⁹ His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.”

¹⁰ But Job replied, “You talk like a foolish woman. Should we accept only good things from the hand of God and never anything bad?” So in all this, Job said nothing wrong.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 10:2-16 (NLT)

² Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: “Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife?”

³ Jesus answered them with a question: “What did Moses say in the law about divorce?”

⁴ “Well, he permitted it,” they replied. “He said a man can give his wife a written notice of divorce and send her away.”

⁵ But Jesus responded, “He wrote this commandment only as a concession to your hard hearts. ⁶ But ‘God made them male and female’ from the beginning of creation. ⁷ ‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two are united into one.’ Since they are no longer two but one, ⁹ let no one split apart what God has joined together.”

¹⁰ Later, when he was alone with his disciples in the house, they brought up the subject again. ¹¹ He told them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries someone else commits adultery against her. ¹² And if a woman divorces her husband and marries someone else, she commits adultery.”

¹³ One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him.

¹⁴ When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, “Let the children come to me. Don’t

stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." ¹⁶ Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

“Relationship and Stewardship!”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #485

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

¹ *Diverse in culture, nation, race,
we come together by your grace.*

*God, let us be a meeting ground
where hope and healing love are found..*

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1991 MUSIC: Thomas Tallis, 1561 Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. // 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.

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, we rejoice as we offer these gifts. We ask that our gifts of time, talent, and treasure be a sign of our love for you. With all that we have, we seek to be faithful; we commit ourselves to you in response to Christ's call. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Our church welcomes to communion people of all ages
who desire to follow Jesus Christ and grow in faith.*

All are invited to prepare communion elements in their home (loaf of bread, dinner roll, croissant, slice of bread, etc., and glass of orange or grape juice, wine or water, etc.).

COMMUNION HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #393

One Bread, One Body

[Refrain:] *One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless. And
we, though many through-out the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.*

¹ *Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. [Refrain:]*

² *Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. [Refrain:]*

³ *Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. [Refrain:]*

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INVITATION

Chalice Hymnal #388

Remember Me

ALL: Upon the loaf and upon the cup of the Lord, in letters which speak not to the eye, but to the heart of every disciple, is inscribed, “When this you see, remember me.” Indeed, the Lord says to each disciple, when he receives the symbols into his hand, “This is my body broken for you.” The loaf is thus constituted a representation of his body – first whole, then wounded for our sins. The cup is thus instituted a representation of his blood – once his life, but now poured out to cleanse us from our sins.

Alexander Campbell, 19th-century Disciples forebear // CCLI #1326969

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE SACRED MEAL

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Eternal God of Love, we thank you for uniting us by baptism into the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead our lips that have sung your praises may speak the truth. Grant that in the days ahead our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world. Grant that the days ahead our hands which have held this loaf and cup may be active in your service. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #619

My Life Flows On

¹ *My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I hear the clear, though far off hymn
that hails a new creation.*

[Refrain:]

*No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

² *Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]*

⁴ *The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]*

WORDS and MUSIC: Robert Lowery, 1869; alt. // CCLI #1326969

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Adapted from Chalice Hymnal #619

One: Let us hold the love of God, who made heaven and earth, in our hearts wherever we journey.

All: **We shall always sing the song of God's creation.**

One: No matter what tumult enters our lives, we are still able to hear God's music echo in our soul.

All: **The peace of Christ transforms us; we shall sing songs of joy, love, and hope. 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.*

