

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

October 10, 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



TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

STEWARDSHIP MONTH

WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Chalice Hymnal #16

One: Let us sing praises to God, our Fount of all blessings.

All: **We come to you, Loving God, because we know you
will help us realize your graciousness for us, and we
give thanks for your mercy that encircles us.**

One: Let us also sing praises for Christ Jesus, God's Love Incarnate.

All: We give thanks for Jesus' love, teaching, and example that is always present to us. It is our blessing to worship God!

HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #16

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

¹ *Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy never ceasing
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.*

² *Here I raise to thee an altar;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

³ *O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;*

*here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it from thy courts above.*

WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt. MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part
Second, 1813 // CCLI #1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God who creates us, Christ who redeems us, Spirit who renews us: we ask that you hear our confession. At times, we hide from you when we know we should heed you. There are also times when we hear your voice, but do not listen; we go on our own way without having the fullness of your graciousness. Please help us to realize this hinders us from being more faithful. We claim that others mislead us when we stray from your teachings, but it is our own doing. Loving God, we ask for your mercy and that you will grant us forgiveness so that we may renewed and rest in your peace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In Hebrews five, verses seven through nine, we are reminded: "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God. Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven. 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.*

STEWARDSHIP SKIT

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Psalm 22:1-15 (NLT)

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Why are you so far away when I groan for help?
- ² Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer.
Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.
- ³ Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ Our ancestors trusted in you,
and you rescued them.
- ⁵ They cried out to you and were saved.
They trusted in you and were never disgraced.
- ⁶ But I am a worm and not a man.
I am scorned and despised by all!
- ⁷ Everyone who sees me mocks me.
They sneer and shake their heads, saying,
- ⁸ "Is this the one who relies on the LORD?
Then let the LORD save him!
If the LORD loves him so much,
let the LORD rescue him!"

- ⁹ Yet you brought me safely from my mother's womb
and led me to trust you at my mother's breast.
- ¹⁰ I was thrust into your arms at my birth.
You have been my God from the moment I was born.
- ¹¹ Do not stay so far from me,
for trouble is near,
and no one else can help me.
- ¹² My enemies surround me like a herd of bulls;
fierce bulls of Bashan have hemmed me in!
- ¹³ Like lions they open their jaws against me,
roaring and tearing into their prey.
- ¹⁴ My life is poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart is like wax,
melting within me.
- ¹⁵ My strength has dried up like sunbaked clay.
My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.
You have laid me in the dust and left me for dead.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Job 23:1-9, 16-17 (NLT)

- ²³ Then Job spoke again:
- ² "My complaint today is still a bitter one,
and I try hard not to groan aloud.
- ³ If only I knew where to find God,
I would go to his court.
- ⁴ I would lay out my case
and present my arguments.
- ⁵ Then I would listen to his reply
and understand what he says to me.
- ⁶ Would he use his great power to argue with me?
No, he would give me a fair hearing.

⁷ Honest people can reason with him,
so I would be forever acquitted by my judge.

⁸ I go east, but he is not there.
I go west, but I cannot find him.

⁹ I do not see him in the north, for he is hidden.
I look to the south, but he is concealed.

¹⁶ God has made me sick at heart;
the Almighty has terrified me.

¹⁷ Darkness is all around me;
thick, impenetrable darkness is everywhere.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 10:17-31 (NLT)

¹⁷ As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked. “Only God is truly good. ¹⁹ But to answer your question, you know the commandments: ‘You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.’”

²⁰ “Teacher,” the man replied, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.”

²¹ Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²² At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!” ²⁴ This amazed them. But Jesus said again, “Dear children, it is very hard to enter the Kingdom of God. ²⁵ In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!”

²⁶ The disciples were astounded. “Then who in the world can be saved?” they asked.

²⁷ Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.”

²⁸ Then Peter began to speak up. “We’ve given up everything to follow you,” he said.

²⁹ “Yes,” Jesus replied, “and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, ³⁰ will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life. ³¹ But many who are the greatest now will be least important then, and those who seem least important now will be the greatest then.”

MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

“Act Responsibly, Prepare Reasonably, Live Generously”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #212

In Suff'ring Love

¹ *In suff- 'ring love the thread of life
is woven through our care,
for God is with us:
not alone our pain and toil we bear.*

WORDS: Robert M. Johns, 1983 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815 Words ©
1987 GIA Elinor F. Johns // 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: God of Unconditional and Eternal Love: we sing our praises, we recite our confessions, and we offer our heartfelt commitments in response to your love. You did not spare your only Son but gave him up for our salvation. Dear God, we pledge our trust to you through Christ Jesus to deliver us worthy of your call to discipleship and stewardship. Accept what we give you as signs of obedience and bless our efforts as we seek to be faithful by doing your work here on earth. We will minister to everyone without discrimination. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #609

Take My Life

¹ *Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

⁴ *Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.*

⁵ *Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;*

*it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.*

⁶ *Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

WORDS: Frances R. Havergal, 1874 MUSIC: H. A. César Malan, 1827 // CCLI #1326969

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Adapted from Chalice Hymnal #609

One: We dedicate our lives to do God's work in the world this week and always.

All: **Our hands, our feet, our eyes, and our voices will be as the hands, feet, eyes, and voice of Jesus as we serve others.**

One: Let us think of God's blessings every day and not take anything in life for granted.

All: **We will use and appreciate all we have been given; God, our hearts will be yours. 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.*



CEB – Common English Bible
MSG – The Message
NLT – New Living Translation