

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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**JANUARY 21, 2024**

**10:00 A.M.**

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**Welcome to Worship** at the Ellington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. We're happy to have you with us this morning. If you are visiting and would like to receive more information about our church, please fill out an **"I Wish"** card found in the pew rack.

### **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



### **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

*As the prelude begins, let the music help you enter into the  
spirit of worship and prayer.*

**PRELUDE**

Julie LaRocca

**WELCOME**

**GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST'S NAME**

*(The Christ in me sees the Christ in you.)*

\*All who are able, please stand.

**INTROIT**

Chalice Hymnal #176

*Sing to the tune of: **Come, Ye Thankful People, Come***

***Sing of God Made Manifest***

**<sup>3</sup>Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding  
guest  
and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine;  
further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, and  
healed,  
bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.**

**GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #337

One: Day by day, Christ Jesus' sweet voice calls us saying,  
"God's children, follow me."

**All: God, through Christ Jesus calls us to follow God  
through our joys and through our troubles.**

One: God, through Christ Jesus calls us away from  
temptations saying, "God's children, love God more  
than earthly temptations."

**All: We have entered this beautiful Sanctuary to learn  
about God's "Recipe for the Right Way to Live," to  
show our love for God through Christ Jesus, to  
worship, and to praise.**

**We are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

**\*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #337

***Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult***

\*All who are able, please stand.

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Eternal God, we confess that we have not acknowledged you as the source of our successes, our wealth and blessings, our selves. We have been far more ready to complain when things go wrong than to praise when all is well. We have fed our bodies a rich diet while neglecting to feed our souls. At times power and wealth have assumed greater importance to us than sensitivity and service. We have allowed religious words and forms to substitute for living encounters with the people you have called us to love. Forgive us please, our Creator of unconditional love, and grant us the opportunity to start over again in this new week. We ask that you keep us from repeating the mistakes of the past or from new evils that could mislead or destroy. In the name of Christ Jesus, we offer our earnest prayers for pardon and deliverance. Amen.**

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

**Pastor: The good news in Christ Jesus is that God offers us new life at every moment, forgiving us, and inviting us to the freshness of new beginnings. Let us praise our God of graciousness!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

Chalice Hymnal #35

***Glory Be to the Father***

**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 without end. Amen. Amen.**

## **ENGAGING THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

Senior Choir

\*All who are able, please stand.

***Arise, Shine For Your Light Has Come***

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Lee Carman

*(Children will be dismissed for Church School.)*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Pew Bible OT p #526

Large Print Bible OT p #798

**Psalm 62:5-12**

**NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON**

Pew Bible NT p #35

Large Print Bible NT p #49

**Mark 1:14-20**

**MESSAGE "Attentive and Transformative Discipleship"**

Pastor Joanne

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE**

Chalice Hymnal #501 (vs. 1)

***There Is a Balm in Gilead***

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

**IN OUR PRAYERS AND 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**

\*All who are able, please stand.

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

Senior Choir

**OFFERING: *Affirmation By Touch for Our Offerings to God***

Sentence

Offertory

Julie LaRocca

**Presentation of Offerings**

*The Shopping Cart is used during the offering to collect your gifts of food for Ellington and Tri-Town residents in need. The food is distributed by the Ellington Food Bank, Crystal Lake Community Food Pantry, the HVCC Food Pantry and The Cornerstone Cupboard. Your generosity is a blessing to all who receive and a witness to Christ's love for the world. Thank you!*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Chalice Hymnal #46

***Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow***

**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. Amen.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: Loving God, through Christ Jesus you invite us to follow and to become fishers of others in order to bring them to your light and love. You equip us with spiritual gifts in order to do this work of discipleship. As we go out to serve you, we ask that you receive the results of our efforts in your name. Please shed light to our path as we do your work and bring your soul-warming to others. Amen.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

### **\*HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #344

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

### **BENEDICTION**

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #344

One: We have thoughtfully and joyfully celebrated our faith with songs, confession, assurance, prayers, listening, and praise.

**All: We trust God to stand by us every day as we grow in our faith and understanding for life's journey. Amen.**

### **EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

### **CHORAL AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Chalice Hymnal #677

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

**Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.**

**With God our Creator, children all are we.**

**Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.**

**With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:  
to take each moment and live each moment in peace  
eternally.**

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

### **POSTLUDE**

Julie LaRocca



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*Sing of God Made Manifest*

**WORDS:** Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989

**MUSIC:** Jacob Hintze, 1678; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (18<sup>th</sup> century)

Words © 1990 Hope Publishing Co., CCLI #1326969

\*All who are able, please stand.

***There Is a Balm in Gilead***

**WORDS:** African-American spiritual

**MUSIC:** African-American spiritual; arr. Harold Moyer

Arr. © 1989 Faith and Life Press

CCLI #1326969

***Let There Be Peace on Earth***

**WORDS:** Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, 1955

**MUSIC:** Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, 1955; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1987

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