

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

10:00 A.M.

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



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT BLACK HISTORY MONTH

T.E.L.O.S. (TEENS LIVING OUT THE STORY) LASAGNA DINNER AFTER SERVICE

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

PRELUDE

Julie LaRocca

WELCOME

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

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

*All who are able, please stand.

INTROIT (Isaiah 53)

Chalice Hymnal #213 (vs. 3)

Who Would Ever Have Believed It?

**Though our sins let him be wounded,
though our cruelty left him beaten,
yet through how and why he suffered,
God revealed our hope of healing.**

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We are blessed to be together in worship.

**All: We know the presence of the Lord is here with us and
we give thanks.**

One: The glory of Christ Jesus shines on each face and within
each person.

**All: Our hearts and souls are filled with God's mighty
power and God's graciousness.**

We will worship God with thanksgiving and joy!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #263

Surely the Presence of the Lord

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Eternal God of Salvation, when confronted by
temptations, we are easily overcome. They lure us with
promises we find hard to resist. At times, we harbor
fantasies of how our lives might have been had we yielded
to those temptations. Our dreams become more and more
persistent; they hide the truth of your love. Gracious God,
we ask that you look upon us with kindness. Please help us
to recognize and resist temptations when they appear. We
pray this in Christ Jesus' name. Amen.**

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: From Hebrews 2:10, we learn that “God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation.” Therein lies our assurance that Christ intercedes on our behalf. Our sins are forgiven. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** Chalice Hymnal ##180 (vs. 4)
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
**Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,
an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!**

LENTEN PRACTICE: LEARNING A NEW HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #305
Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM Senior Bell Choir
Brethren We Have Met to Worship

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Lee Carman
(Children will be dismissed for Church School.)

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Pew Bible NT p #44
Large Print Bible NT p #61
Mark 8:31-38

MESSAGE Pastor Joanne
“The Case for ‘The Call to Faithfulness’”

*All who are able, please stand.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE (All Sing) Chalice Hymnal #305

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

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
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

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

*All who are able, please stand.

*who receive and a witness to Christ's love for the world.
Thank you!*

***DOXOLOGY** Chalice Hymnal #195 (vs. 4)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine
demands my soul, my life, my all.

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: God of Compassion, you minister to us in our wilderness. You hear our prayers when we are in the depths of depression. In times of want, you hear our prayers and ease our situation by encouraging us to reach out to others who can help. In times of plenty we give thanks to you for we know that all we have received in life are blessings from you. In offering our gifts to you, we return a portion of what is already yours. Help us to use these gifts as disciples who carry out your mission in the world. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #601

I Am Thine, O Lord

UNISON BENEDICTION adapted from Chalice Hymnal #601

All: We have heard your voice, Loving God, and have felt your love as well as the love of one another. We give you thanks that we have been blessed to serve in mission in your name. We shall continue to pray to you through Christ Jesus and learn from you during this season of Lent. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

**All who are able, please stand.*

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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Who Would Ever Have Believed It?

WORDS: Iona Community, 1988

MUSIC: Swedish melody

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Surely the Presence of the Lord

WORDS and MUSIC: Lanny Wolfe, 1977

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CCLI #1326969

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

WORDS and MUSIC: Ken Medema, 1973

© 1973 Hope Publishing Co.
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

© 1955, renewed, 1983, Jan-Lee Music
CCLI #1326969

*All who are able, please stand.

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