

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 17, 2024

10:00 A.M.

Welcome to Worship at the Ellington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. We are 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



**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
EASTER FOOD DRIVE**

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

PRELUDE

Julie LaRocca

**WELCOME AND A CELEBRATION OF GIRL SCOUTS FOR
WOMEN’S 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**

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #490

One: We are blessed to celebrate that we are worshipping in our beautiful Sanctuary as Christian disciples on a faith journey.

All: We give thanks that as a faith community led by Christ Jesus, we are able to help one another in harmony through life's joys and sorrows.

One: Together, let us praise and pray.

All: It is our joy to sing with God, pray with God, and listen for God. We give thanks for the blessing of worshipping God together! Amen.

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #490

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving God of Salvation, we know you are kind and just in the deliverance of your people. You called us to life in the Spirit, yet we seek to satisfy our egos. Through Christ Jesus, we learned about your graciousness and the example we should follow; but still we practice greed all too often. Our dear God, we praise you with our lips, yet we sometimes forget to honor you in our everyday lives.

*All who are able, please stand.

We know that to live by your graciousness promises new life and transformation. Please help us to be free from our bondage to wrong and unethical desires, that we may be worthy to be called righteous in your name through Christ Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The apostle Paul declared that because the Spirit of God dwells in us, God, who raised Christ Jesus from death will give life to our mortal bodies. All of us are God's children! Believe this word of God's promise and walk in newness of life as 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 #472

We Are Living, We Are Dwelling

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Senior Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lee Carman

(Children will be dismissed for Church School.)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Amanda Goodreau

Matthew 5:14-16

Girl Scouts strive to be a sister to every Girl Scout and to people all over the world.

*All who are able, please stand.

Romans 12:10-13

Be devoted to one another and to all your neighbors with love.

Psalm 24:1-2

Girl Scouts work to make the world a better place.

MESSAGE, PRESENTATION, AND “REPEAT AFTER ME” SONG

Jen Traynor, Bethany Parisi, Hannah Capello

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

*All who are able, please stand.

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 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: Loving God, in whom we put our trust, please accept our offerings of praise and thanksgiving mingled with these tangible gifts that we have given now during the service and also the gifts that are being given for the food drive taking place outside. They are symbols of our response to your call through Christ Jesus for “love of neighbor.” We ask that you help us to use these gifts wisely in faithful stewardship. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #453

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

*All who are able, please stand.

UNISON BENEDICTION adapted from Chalice Hymnal #453
All: As we depart we give thanks to God through Christ Jesus knowing that we have been called as partners in Christ's service. We are messengers of faith and will carry hope, peace, joy, love and light out to the world. 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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Who Would Ever Have Believed It?

WORDS: Iona Community, 1988

MUSIC: Swedish melody

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Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

WORDS: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

*All who are able, please stand.

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We Are Living, We Are Dwelling

WORDS: Arthur C. Coxe, 1840, alt.; st. 2 adapt. Ruth Duck, 1995

MUSIC: Thomas J. Williams, 1890

Adapt. © 1995 Ruth Duck

CCLI #1326969

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

WORDS and MUSIC: Ken Medema, 1973

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CCLI #1326969

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1981

MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

Words © 1981, Jane Parker Huber

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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