

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 21, 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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (EASTERTIDE)

*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.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from the Hymn: *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

One: Christ Jesus is our head and cornerstone.

**All: We call Jesus to our worship with the words: "Come,
O Lord of Hosts and be with us."**

One: Christ Jesus gives us the confidence and strength we
need to journey through life.

All: We will worship God with thanksgiving and joy!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal Tune #149

Sung to the tune of *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

**¹Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and
cornerstone,**

**chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in
one;**

holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.

**²To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of Hosts,
today;**

**with your faithful loving kindness hear your people as they
pray,**

and your fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

**³Here bestow on all your servants what they ask of you to
gain,**

**what they gain from you forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.**

*All who are able, please stand.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Eternal God, we ask that you hear our confession and forgive our sins. We do not mean to, but we make enemies of those who are different from us when we distrust them. We understand that it is fear and suspicion that can keep us apart and prevent peace. You sent Jesus, the Christ to teach us how to reconcile our differences. We ask that you heal our divisions and help us to overcome our hostilities by assisting us as we continue to study his words and actions. Please unite us in the bond of your all-encompassing love and peace. We pray this in Christ's name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Loving God, just as Jesus healed the afflicted and taught your Right Way for Living through word and example, he also went through death on the cross that led to Resurrection. We will strive each day to awaken more and more to the assurance of your pardon and arise to the promise of Christ Jesus' redeeming graciousness. Through Jesus, the Christ, our sins are forgiven and we are given new life. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Chalice Hymnal #224

Christ Arose! (refrain)

**Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
he arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

CELEBRATIONS

Caroline, Alice, and Julie

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Bryan Forst

*All who are able, please stand.

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Senior Choir

Thank You For the Valleys

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lee Carman

(Children will be dismissed for Church School.)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Pew Bible NT p #121

Large Print Bible NT p #171

Acts 4:5-12

MESSAGE

Pastor Joanne

"Jesus Holds Us All Together, No Matter What!"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal ##497 (vs. 4)

In loving partnership, O God, help us your future to proclaim.

Justice and peace be our desire we humbly pray in Jesus' name.

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.

*All who are able, please stand.

CHORAL RESPONSE

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 #218

Thine Is the Glory (refrain)

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Eternal God of Salvation, we hear the voice of Jesus, our Cornerstone and seek to follow his course for our lives. We bring our gifts before you now as the results and blessings of our search. We ask that you accept them and use them to help others find blessings, justice, joy, and peace. We remain your faithful servants. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #618

How Firm a Foundation

*All who are able, please stand.

UNISON BENEDICTION

Adapted from Chalice Hymnal #618

All: Let us shout for joy! God has given us a firm foundation of belief through Christ Jesus. As we go from here, we know that God is with us through all our sorrows and our joys – through all of life’s experiences. We are indeed blessed to have a firm foundation in God through Christ Jesus. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (seated)

Chalice Hymnal #106 (vs. 1 & 2)

Alleluia

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Christ is risen, alleluia, Christ is risen, alleluia,
Christ is risen, alleluia, Christ is risen, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



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Alleluia

WORDS: Jerry Sinclair, 1972, alt.

MUSIC: Jerry Sinclair, 1972

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CCLI #1326969

In Loving Partnership

WORDS and MUSIC: Jim Strathdee, 1983

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*All who are able, please stand.

Ellington Congregational Church, UCC

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