

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 6, 2025

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 and place it in the offering plate during the Offertory time.

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

FOUNDATIONS MOMENTS: USING OUR CHURCH PUZZLE

EASTER FOOD DRIVE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(Our church welcomes to Communion all people of all
ages who desire to learn about Christ Jesus and grow in
faith.)*

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

PRELUDE

Julie LaRocca

WELCOME

*All who are able, please stand.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from Psalm 104:1-5, 24-25, 33-34 (NIV)

One: Praise the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

**All: The Lord wraps himself in light as with a garment;
he stretches out the heavens like a tent and lays
the beams of his upper chambers on their
waters.**

One: He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.

**All: He set the earth on its foundations; it can never
be moved.**

One: How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

**All: There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with
creatures beyond number – living things both
large and small.**

One: I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

**All: May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice
in the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul. Praise the
Lord.**

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

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #93

Praise Him! Praise Him!

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**

*All who are able, please stand.

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. 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!**

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE AND LOVE
OF GOD THROUGH CHRIST JESUS**

**FOUNDATIONS MOMENTS: USING OUR CHURCH
PUZZLE**

Historian: Lisa Sirag

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Senior Choir

*All who are able, please stand.

CHILDREN MAY LEAVE FOR ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE

Leslie Ledoux

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT p. 572
Psalm 126

REFLECTION

Pastor Joanne

A Psalm in One's Heart

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE 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.**

RESPONSE

(Children will rejoin the congregation at this time.)

*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.



*All who are able, please stand.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn

Chalice Hymnal #411

For the Bread, Which You have Broken

The Invitation to the Table

Unison Prayer of Consecration

All: You have called us this day, Loving God, to share this time together in community. We are honored and blessed to share this Holy Meal in the manner of the saints who have preceded us for many generations. We ask to be renewed, refreshed, and transformed as we strive to do your work in the world. Loving God, we ask you to consecrate these gifts of bread and the cup, and to bless us with the presence of your Holy Spirit, that we may come to know you more fully, and to live as one body in Christ Jesus. We know that coming to this table is a blessing and a celebration of the gift of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Call to the Meal

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God. Partake in this holy meal for all things are ready.

All: We are blessed by and take in these gifts of God remembering that Christ Jesus died, was raised for us, and ascended to eternity.

The Distribution and Sharing of the Elements

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We give you thanks, Loving God, that you have come to us through Christ Jesus, in the midst of time and in the midst of history in the city of Bethlehem. We

*All who are able, please stand.

also give thanks for the timeless presence of Christ Jesus' Spirit as we received the gifts of bread and wine together in community. We are now ready to go into the world refreshed, transformed, and renewed as your disciples. Amen.



GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #64
We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God
(based on Psalm 104)

UNISON BENEDICTION

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #64

All: We are blessed to go from here filled with the love and power of God. We will honor your presence in all of creation and will spread the Good News of your love wherever we go. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



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Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

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