

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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**April 20, 2025**

**10:00 A.M.**

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**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



## **EASTER SUNDAY**

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

### **PRELUDE**

Senior Bell Choir

***That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright***

### **WELCOME**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## INTROIT

Senior Choir and Bell Choir  
*The Lord Is Risen Today*

### GATHERING FOR THE WORD

#### **\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Christ has risen.

**All: Christ has risen indeed.**

One: God is alive ...

**All: New birth is given.**

One: Hope is alive ...

**All: A new age is dawning.**

One: Joy is alive ...

**All: Redemption is here.**

One: Love is alive ...

**All: Death cannot harm us.**

One: We are alive ...

**All: New life is within us.**

One: The church is alive ...

**All: God's spirit is within us.**

**God of life, we worship you.**

**God of creation, we praise you.**

**God of revelation, we learn from you.**

**God of resurrection, we are here to celebrate  
you.**

#### **\*THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

#### **\*OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #216  
*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

#### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS ON EASTER DAY**

**Pastor:** God never abandons us! In the resurrection we are not only promised eternal life with God, but also the

\*All who are able, please stand.

assurance that we can have an intimate relationship with God every day of our lives. Just as springtime blossoms forth, we are also promised new life in Christ Jesus. Because of God's graciousness, we may have the gift of renewal and transformation every moment of our lives. A wonderful blessing indeed. Our sins are forgiven. 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!**

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

**ENGAGING THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

Senior Choir, Jessica Duga, soloist

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

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Lee Carman

**NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSONS**

Large Print Pew Bible NT p #107

**John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

Large Print Pew Bible NT p #90

**Luke 24:1-12**

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Joanne and Cassie Miller

**"Unassuming Acts of Love"**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE**

*As Psalm 118 proclaims: “This is the day the Lord has made,” therefore, “Let us rejoice and be glad in it.” God has given us so much – night and day, sun and rain, moon and stars, one another. Prayer will ease our burdens so that we **can** be genuinely happy for this Easter day and for the dawning of every new day.*

### **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.**

### **OFFERING**

Sentence

Offertory ***Easter Proclamation (The Risen Christ)***

Julie LaRocca, Ben Bolduc, Tigger Kluessendorf

### **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*

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

*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 come to you with  
abounding joy, constantly transformed by your love.  
Through Christ Jesus you have broken the bonds of  
oppression and removed any imagined barriers to your  
unending love. All our lives long we shall call your  
name blessed and give you thanks and glory for the gift  
of life and all it contains. Amen.**

**GOING OUT WITH WORD AND PRAISE**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #226

***He Lives!***

**THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

**RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

**One: Let us burst forth from any cocoons that entrap us.**

**All: We will fly free as the butterfly.**

**One: In that freedom, let us go in peace, go in joy, and  
go in love. Christ has risen!**

**All: Christ has risen indeed!**

**POSTLUDE**

Julie LaRocca

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Musicians:**

Ben Bolduc, trumpet

Tigger Kluessendorf, trumpet

Dave Robert, violin



## **Copyrights:**

***Christ the Lord Is Risen Today***

**WORDS:** Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

**MUSIC:** *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; desc. Charles H. Webb

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## ***The Message Bible***

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## ***He Lives!***

**WORDS AND MUSIC:** Alfred H. Ackley, 1933

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\*All who are able, please stand.

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