

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 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

### **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

#### **INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND**

#### **SUMMER L.I.G.H.T. PROGRAM FOR OUR CHILDREN:**

#### **LEARNING IN GOD’S HOUSE TOGETHER**

#### **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 150 (NIV)

One: We have gathered to praise the Lord.

**All: We shall praise God in God’s sanctuary; we shall praise God in God’s mighty heavens.**

One: Let us praise God for God’s acts of power; praise God for God’s surpassing greatness.

**All: We shall praise God with the sounding of the trumpet; we shall praise God with the harp and the lyre.**

One: Let us praise God with timbrel and dancing, and praise God with the strings and pipe.

**All: We shall praise God with the clash of cymbals, and praise God with resounding cymbals.**

One: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

**All: We shall praise the Lord and are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

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

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

Chalice Hymnal #720

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:** Loving God, in certain situations we are slow to proclaim our belief in Christ Jesus as our Savior. All too often we have our own desires that demand our devotion. We sometimes confuse Christ Jesus’ will with our own. We ask that you help us to listen to God’s Holy Spirit which helps to direct our paths in life. We pray this in Christ Jesus’ name. Amen.

\*All who are able, please stand.

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**Pastor:** The Apostle Paul reminds us how we must consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:5 says: "For if we have been united with Christ in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his." In Christ Jesus we may live anew, with the assurance that in him we are forgiven. Amen.

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

Chalice Hymnal #35

#### ***Glory Be to the Father***

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

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

### **A TRIBUTE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY**

#### **ENGAGING THE WORD**

### **ANTHEM**

Julie LaRocca

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "The Box"** Lee Carman  
(*Children will be dismissed to accompany Lee Carman for the one-room schoolhouse Summer L.I.G.H.T. program: Learning in God's House Together.*)

### **NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON**

Large Print Pew Bible NT p. #71

**Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

### **REFLECTION**

Pastor Joanne

#### **"Our Ongoing Mission"**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE** Chalice Hymnal #614 (vs. 3)

#### **I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me**

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anytime and anywhere

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

### **IN OUR PRAYERS AND SILENT MEDITATION**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER** (debts)

##### **A Prayer for the Nation**

**Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage.**

**Make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will.**

**Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life.**

**Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance and from every evil course of action.**

**Make us who came from many nations with many different languages a united people.**

**Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land.**

**When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail.**

**We ask all this through Christ Jesus who taught us to pray saying:**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

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.)*

## 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 #46

***Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise him, all creatures here below;**

**praise him above, ye heavenly host:**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Eternal God of Salvation, we give you thanks that you have given us Christ Jesus as the source of new life. You**

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

have called us to be among your people and we ask that you accept these offerings that we bring in gratitude. Please help us to use them wisely to spread your message worldwide. Amen.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn

Chalice Hymnal #295

***In This Very Room***

## The Invitation to the Table

## A Responsive Communion Liturgy

Pastor: Called to the table, to share the wine and bread,  
"I want you to remember me," Jesus softly said.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: We think about the mystery – the words that Jesus said, and how he gave his life for us as we break the bread.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: Gathered at the table, God's Spirit in the air,  
We drink the cup of blessing, the bread of life we share.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: Together in communion, one family – young and old, we celebrate together, as ancient words are told.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: There's room at the table, no matter how we feel,  
Jesus reaches out to us in this holy meal.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: We rise from the table, forgiven, loved, and free.  
We leave to be the people who God calls us to be.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

Pastor: Gathered at the table, surrounded by God's grace,

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

We are one Christian family, in every time and place.

**All: Come, Come to the table.**

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### **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**

\*All who are able, please stand.

### **Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**All: Loving God, we give thanks to you for blessing us with this life-giving Communion meal. We are grateful that you love us unconditionally. We listen to hear your words spoken to us, realizing those words are sometimes shouted, sometimes whispered, and sometimes given to us in unusual ways and places as we seek spiritual renewal throughout our lives. We are grateful for community and Communion together that energizes us for the call to continue your ministry through Christ Jesus. We thank you for the knowledge and the wisdom we have acquired here! Please let it be your will that what was learned will strengthen our minds and bodies for the fulfillment of our souls. We are blessed and give thanks that you guide us in many ways in all that we do. We pray this in Christ's name. Amen.**



### **GOING WITH THE WORD**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #725  
*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

### **BENEDICTION**

### **EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

### **POSTLUDE**

Julie LaRocca



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*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

**WORDS:** African-American Spiritual

**MUSIC:** African-American Spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas, 1994

Arr. © 1995 Chalice Press

CCLI #1326969

\*All who are able, please stand.

***A Prayer for the Nation***

© 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress  
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***In This Very Room***

**WORDS and MUSIC:** Ron and Carol Harris, 1979

© 1979 Ron Harris Music

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***The Message Bible***

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