

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 17, 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

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

LEARNING IN GOD’S HOUSE TOGETHER

WEAR A HAT TO CHURCH SUNDAY

AND

SOCIAL HOUR GARDEN TEA PARTY

*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 Chalice Hymnal #61

One: We have gathered to praise God and give God
thanks for the beautiful and wondrous creation we
call earth.

All: We give God our thanks and praise.

One: Let us continue to honor these wonders and care for
God’s earth.

**All: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great
and small, all things wise and wonderful, in love
God made them all.**

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

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #61

All Things Bright and Beautiful

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Eternal God of Forgiveness, all too often we do not
properly care for the wondrous gift you have given us in the
creation of the earth and earth’s people. At times we speak
unkindly of our family, friends, and neighbors. By our
actions, we do not always live into your recipe for a “Right
Way of Living.” Sometimes we allow suspicion and envy to
breed hostility within us and then our anger continues in
spite of Christ Jesus’ bringing your peace and love to earth.
We ask that you open our eyes to Jesus’ Righteousness and
to the beauty of his Reconciling Presence. In Christ Jesus’
name we pray. Amen.**

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The prophet Isaiah spoke of God's wanting comfort for us, of God's forgiveness of sin, and of the One coming who would level uneven ground and make an even plain of the rough places in our lives. All the earth would know that Jesus came to earth to bring hope, peace, joy, and above all, love. In Christ Jesus, God Incarnate, we have the assurance of God's forgiveness. 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**

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM Jessica Duga
Because He Lives

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.)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible OT:
Genesis 2:8-9 (p.#2)
Isaiah 61:11 (p. #692)

*All who are able, please stand.

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT:
John 15:1-2 (p. #109)
John 19:41 (p. #114)
John 20:14-16 (p. #115)

REFLECTION Pastor Joanne
"God, Jesus, and Gardens"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #73 (vs. 3)
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
For the love of God is broader than the measure of our
mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

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

**OFFERING: Affirmation By Touch for Our Offerings to
God**

Sentence
Offertory *In the Garden* Laurel Feindel

*All who are able, please stand.

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: Gracious God, we come before you sustained by your love and led by your righteousness. We ask that you purify these gifts to serve your mission and nurture us to act according to your will. May all that we do and all that we have bring justice, joy, peace, and love to all on earth. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #62

Creator God, Creating Still

BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



*All who are able, please stand.

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There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

WORDS: Frederick W. Faber, 1854

MUSIC: Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Harm. ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

CCLI #1326969

Creator God, Creating Still

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1977

MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

Words ©1980 Jane Parker Huber

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The Message Bible

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