

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 31, 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



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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

PRELUDE

Robin Miller

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

WELCOME

A Tribute for Labor Day

*All who are able, please stand.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from Opening Hymn #207

All: We give thanks for the freedom and opportunity to gather in this beautiful sacred space and are blessed to see the cross of Christ Jesus before us. We realize the cross glows with peace and joy and we will keep the radiance of Christ Jesus within our heart and soul. We praise God with thanksgiving!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #207

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of Compassion, in Christ you bring Light. Yet, at times we still dwell in darkness. Your Word offers guidance, but all too often we choose to ignore your counsel. You promise to renew us, but we are unsure of how to ask for that renewal. We sometimes bow to the many idols of this world, and in doing so, we hide from your truth. We ask that you dazzle us anew with the Light of Christ Jesus’ love, restore us, and forgive us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God hears our prayers and will have compassion for all who ask for forgiveness. God sent Christ Jesus as our Savior to cleanse us of any wrongdoing. When we need help of any kind, Christ Jesus intercedes on our behalf to relieve us of our burdens. We can be certain that because God sent God’s Son, Christ Jesus, to sacrifice himself on the cross for us, we are forgiven and renewed. Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

***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 Irene Mosher

He Will Hold Me Fast

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "The Box" Lee Carman

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT p #78
Luke 14:25-33

MESSAGE Pastor Joanne
"Shouldering the Cross"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #628 (vs. 1)

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
light:

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

IN OUR PRAYERS AND SILENT MEDITATION

*All who are able, please stand.

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

Robin Miller

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

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.

*All who are able, please stand.

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Eternal God, we gladly bring our tithes and our offerings to you along with our gifts of food. We also offer ourselves to you as disciples in mission. May these gifts ease the pain of those who are suffering and bring a bit of joy into their lives. We pray that our offerings help to spread the Good News of God's Love and Light. Please help us to continue to do your work in the world with renewed energy as you continue to dwell within us. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #480
I Love to Tell the Story

UNISON BENEDICTION

All: We will go from here refreshed and renewed to tell the story of Christ Jesus, his glory and his love.
Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

POSTLUDE

Robin Miller
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



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Precious Lord, Take My Hand
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The Message Bible

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Ellington Congregational Church, UCC

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