

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**MARCH 8, 2026**

**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 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



**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT  
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH  
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY**

### **THIRD ANNUAL BIRTHDAY BASH AFTER WORSHIP**

*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 95**

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**All: We come into God's presence with thanksgiving; we will make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!**

One: For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods. O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**All: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.**

One: Let us listen to God's voice!

**All: We will sing to the Lord; we will make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

**It is a blessing to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

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

### **\*OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #351

*Fill My Cup, Lord*

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Loving God, through you Christ Jesus is our hope, joy and salvation; we thank you for such a great blessing. We worship here in this sacred space united by your love and seeking to be cleansed of any wrongdoings. We confess that sometimes there are other things that we worship, instead of worshipping you alone. Life makes its demands on us and we push you to the margins when we do not intend to do that. Please forgive us for sometimes having small minds and mistaken priorities. We ask that you restore in us**

\*All who are able, please stand.

**the sense of your greatness and your ultimate claim upon our lives. We pray this in Christ Jesus' name. Amen.**

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

**Pastor:** Let us remember that we have God's saving graciousness through Christ Jesus' sacrifice on the cross on our behalf. In Ephesians 1:10 Paul writes that God asks us to "unite all things in God, things in heaven and things on earth under Christ." It is about Oneness: Oneness with God, Oneness with Christ Jesus, Oneness with the Holy Spirit, Oneness with each other, Oneness with the earth. Therein lies our assurance of pardon. 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**

### **RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING OUR GIRL SCOUTS**

***Girl Scout Promise***

**On my honor, I will try:  
To serve God and my country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.**

***Girl Scout Law***

**I will do my best to be  
honest and fair,  
friendly and helpful,**

\*All who are able, please stand.

**considerate and caring,  
courageous and strong,  
and responsible for what I say and do,  
and to respect myself and others,  
respect authority,  
use resources wisely,  
make the world a better place,  
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.**

### **ENGAGING THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

Senior Choir

***Grace and Peace to You***

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Lee Carman

*(Children will be dismissed with Lee and teachers for Church School.)*

**NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON**

Large Print Pew Bible NT p #94  
**John 4:5-42**

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Joanne

**"The Samaritan Woman at the Well"**

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE** Chalice Hymnal #227 (vs. 2)

***In the Garden***

He speaks, and the sound of his voice  
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
and the melody that he gave to me  
within my heart is ringing.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me,  
and he tells me I am his own, and the joy we share,  
as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

\*All who are able, please stand.

**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

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 #195 (vs. 4)

**When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;**

\*All who are able, please stand.

love so amazing, so divine demands my soul, my life,  
my all.

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: Eternal God of Salvation, you give us love that  
endures forever. You bless us with abundant gifts and  
kindness. Our lives with your surrounding love are like  
a banquet that always has available food and drink.  
What we offer in return is but a portion of what you  
have given, but we offer it with love, joy, and  
thanksgiving. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

**GOING WITH THE WORD**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #614  
*I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

**UNISON BENEDICTION**

**All: We will live, work, pray, and sing God’s Word into  
everything we do and say. Amen.**

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

**POSTLUDE**

Julie LaRocca

**† Please feel free to change wording referring to God to  
whatever language supports your faith.**



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*Fill My Cup, Lord*

**WORDS and MUSIC:** Richard Blanchard, 1959

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CCLI #1326969

\*All who are able, please stand.

**Fill My Cup, Lord**

**WORDS:** African-American spiritual

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

Arr. © 1995 Chalice Press

CCLI #1326969

**The Message Bible**

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