

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 22, 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



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

BELL CHOIR SUNDAY

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

T.E.L.O.S. SOUP, CHILI COOK-OFF/BROWNIE BAKE-OFF

EVENT: SOCIAL ROOM AFTER WORSHIP

(Teens Experience Living Out The Story)

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

PRELUDE

Bell Choir

The Timeless Canon

WELCOME

*All who are able, please stand.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from **Chalice Hymnal #587**

One: Let us lift our eyes to the beautiful cross at the front of our Sanctuary. Our Church is a Sacred Place where we are One with God, Christ Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

All: We are ever near the cross where we find the Living Water of Christ Jesus.

One: God, Christ Jesus, and the Holy Spirit surround us with love and graciousness.

All: We rely on the Lamb of God to guide us and to help us through each day.

One: Let us praise God for giving us life.

All: We glory in the cross and praise God.

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

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #587

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving God of Salvation, we know you are kind and just in the deliverance of your people. You call us to life in the Spirit, yet we seek to satisfy our egos. Through Christ Jesus, we learned about your graciousness and the example we should follow, but still we practice greed all too often. Our dear God, we praise you with our lips, yet we sometimes forget to honor you in our everyday lives. We know that to live by your righteousness and graciousness promises new life and transformation. Please help us to be free from our bondage to wrong and unethical desires, that we may

*All who are able, please stand.

be worthy to be called righteous in your name through Christ Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The apostle Paul declared that because the Spirit of God dwells in us, God, who raised Christ Jesus from death will give life to our mortal bodies. All of us are God’s children! Believe this word of God’s promise and walk in newness of life as 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**

CELEBRATING WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Irene Mosher

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Bell Choir

It Is Well with My Soul

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 #104
John 11:1-45

*All who are able, please stand.

MESSAGE

Pastor Joanne

“The Resurrection Story of Lazarus”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #504 (vs. 1)

Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

Heal me, hands of Jesus, and search out all my pain;
restore my hope, remove my fear, and bring me peace
again.

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

Senior Choir

I Can Hear the Savior Calling

*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 #195 (vs. 4)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;**

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

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Loving God, in whom we put our trust, please accept our offerings of praise and thanksgiving mingled with these tangible gifts that we have given now during the service and also the gifts that are being given for the food drive taking place outside. They are symbols of our response to your call through Christ Jesus for “love of neighbor.” We ask that you help us to use these gifts wisely in faithful stewardship. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #225

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

UNISON BENEDICTION adapted from CH #226

All: We shall go out into the world knowing that God still speaks and Christ Jesus still lives. Let us strive to continue their mission in the world and

*All who are able, please stand.

**spread the Good News of God’s love far and wide.
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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He Lives!

WORDS and MUSIC: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933

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*All who are able, please stand.

Ellington Congregational Church, UCC

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*All who are able, please stand.