

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 20, 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 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



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST RALLY SUNDAY

*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**

One: Give thanks to God who is good.

**All: We will call on God's name and make known
God's wonderful works.**

One: Seek the Lord continually.

**All: We will watch and listen for signs of God's
grace.**

One: Together let us worship God.

**All: We will rejoice in God's presence and praise
God's holy name.**

***THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #276

We Gather Together

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: God, you are the giver of all good gifts,
yet our generosity is often limited.**

We complain about our circumstance.

**We compare ourselves to others
and see what they have that we do not.**

**We share some of what we have,
but we worry about running short.**

**Forgive us our jealousy and greed
and give us generous hearts that trust in you day by
day.**

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.
Believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us.

All: In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin again. Thanks be to God!

***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 Senior Choir
Welcome to God's Love

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lee Carman

Children will be dismissed to accompany Lee

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT p. #21

Matthew 20:1-16

MESSAGE Pastor Craig
"You're Hired"

*All who are able, please stand.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

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

Sentence

Offertory

Adam Geiger, Becky Hinckley,
Julie LaRocca & Matt Ramos

Christ Our Wisdom

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!

*All who are able, please stand.

***DOXOLOGY** Chalice Hymnal #46

***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.***

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Generous God, you are the source of all good things, of life itself and all that sustains it. Bless the gifts we offer this day. By your Spirit, multiply their impact to support your purposes in the world you love in the name of Christ, our Savior and Friend. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #2

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Julie LaRocca

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We Gather Together

WORDS: Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894;
adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

MUSIC: Dutch melody (16th century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877
Adapt. © 1891 Ruth Duck; used by permission
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*All who are able, please stand.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. Edward Hodges, 1864; desc. Susan Adams, 1995

Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press

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The Message Bible

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Lisa Sirag

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