

ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 18, 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



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST COVENANTING SERVICE FOR OPEN AND AFFIRMING

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

PRELUDE

Bell Choir

Simple Gifts

WELCOME

*All who are able, please stand.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us sing to the LORD a new song.

All: We will bless God’s name from day to day.

One: Let us declare God’s marvelous deeds among all the people;

All: For God is great and greatly to be praised.

One: Let us praise God for God’s strength and beauty.

**All: We will bring God honor and glory as we
worship God’s holy name.**

*THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*OPENING HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #480

I Love to Tell the Story

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Patient God,
we confess we need your mercy.
We claim to be your people, but we forget to love as
you do.
We claim to seek your guidance, but we follow our
own ways.
Forgive us, O God,
Amend who we are and direct who you would have
us be
for the sake of Christ, our Savior and Friend.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, God knows us and still God loves us. This is good news!

By God’s grace, we are forgiven, loved and set free to start again. Thanks be to God!

*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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Bryan Forst

ANTHEM Senior Choir

God, We Gather As Your People: For All the Children

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT

One: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

All: let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of god. We follow Jesus in discipleship and in covenant with god and one another to serve all of god's children.

*All who are able, please stand.

READING OF THE OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT

(Please see the front cover of the worship bulletin)

UNISON PRAYER

All: Holy God, who in Jesus Christ has made a new and eternal covenant with all who turn to you in faith, witness the covenant we make today. Bless our intentions, hopes, and commitments with the fruit of holiness. Light our way with the lamp of your word and the fire of your holy spirit. Move us on the journey of faith and enable us to walk with all your people toward the day of justice and peace in all the earth; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Children may leave for Church School at this time)

OLD TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible OT p. #215

Joshua 24:1-18

MESSAGE

Pastor Craig

"We Will Serve the Lord"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

*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

Sentence

Offertory

Bell Choir

Bell Peal on Old 100th

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: God of abundance, we bring what we have to
share, a portion of your goodness to us. Bless our gifts
and our lives as we live in covenant with you and all
your children so that generosity and justice will join
hands, and your goodness touches those in need, in
Jesus' name. Amen

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**

Chalice Hymnal #494

They'll Know We Are Christians

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

***BENEDICTION**

Adam, Geiger, Becky Hinckley,
Julie LaRocca, Matt Ramos

All Are Welcome at the Table

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*All who are able, please stand.

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*All who are able, please stand.