WELCOME STATEMENT

We, the members of Ellington Congregational Church, proclaim our belief that every person is created in God's image and deserving of God's love and grace. We covenant with God and each other to affirm the dignity and worth of every individual. Alike and yet different, each person brings unique gifts and talents to our community of faith.

Jesus taught us: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."
(Luke 10:27)

In this spirit, we seek to offer a safe, non-judgmental space for every person who wishes to know God, acknowledging that we have not always lived up to this calling, and that some come to us carrying those wounds. We welcome every individual into the full life and ministry of this congregation, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, culture, faith background, education, economic circumstance, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or differing physical, cognitive, and emotional abilities.

As an Open and Affirming church, we recognize that becoming truly inclusive is a continuous journey that calls us to reflect, learn, and grow together. With the strength of God's guidance, we will embody this covenant with open minds and compassionate hearts, as we each strive to build a just and loving world.

*All who are able, please stand.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 1, 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-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALL SAINTS' DAY
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
(Our church welcomes to Communion all people of all ages who desire to follow Christ Jesus and grow in faith.)

PRELUDE Julie LaRocca
When the prelude begins, we invite you to be seated and allow the music to prepare your hearts for worship.

WELCOME

*All who are able, please stand.

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us bless the Lord at all times;

All: God's praise will always be on our lips.

One: Magnify the Lord in all ways;

All: We will lift up God's name together in worship and in service.

One: God, send your light and your truth as we gather to worship.

All: May they lead us into your holy presence.

***THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN** Chalice Hymnal #637

For All the Saints

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of courage and commitment,
we confess we have not always followed the path you set before us.
Fear holds us back from fully embracing your gift of new life.
Our anxieties prevent us from bearing witness to your love.
Forgive us, O God.
Give us courage that we may act as your saints in our own time,
faithfully following Jesus, no matter the cost.

Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The Apostle Paul declared: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

All: Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's deep love will never let us go

***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

LIGHTING MEMORIAL CANDLES

At this time, you are invited to come forward and light a memorial candle and leave it at the front of the church. The candle may be in memory of one or more loved ones or friends.

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

*All who are able, please stand.

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT p. #173

Revelation 7:9-17

MESSAGE Pastor Craig

"For All the Saints"

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.**

OFFERING

Sentence

Offertory Senior Choir

*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 #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.***

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Table

*Our God has invited us to gather at this table,
To taste the feast,
the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.
Time and time again God has offered us your grace,
Even as we have stepped away,
God continues to call us to be the people of God.
God has never left us.
We are given second, third, and fourth chances.
Our God is ever-patient, always faithful.
We give thanks for this time of celebration.
For the One this meal remembers.*

*All who are able, please stand.

For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
With those who have gone before us,
Whose hands touched the bread,
Whose lips embraced the cup,
We worship our God.
Together, let us glorify God this day.

The Distribution and Sharing of the Elements

Prayer of Gratitude
All: Creative, connecting God, you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ;
From child-like faith, to youthful energy,
from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder's wisdom.
We thank you for this time, this remembrance. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** See Next Page
Sing with All the Saints in Glory

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

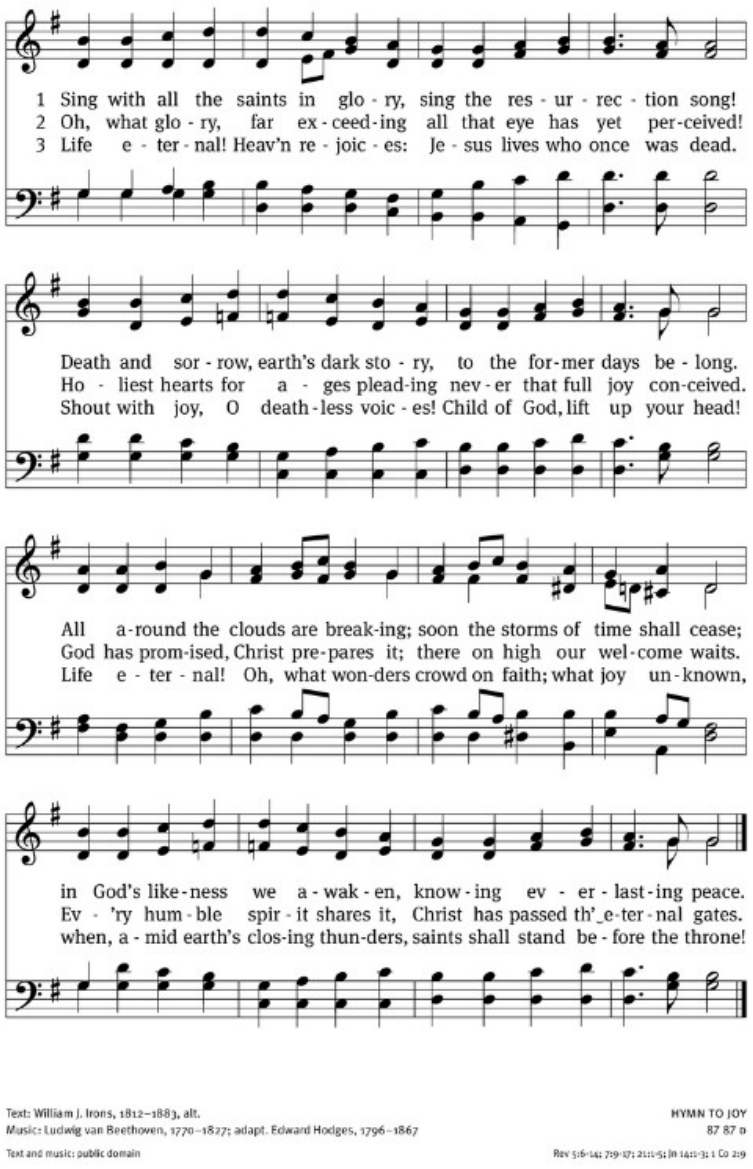
***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Julie LaRocca
You are welcome to depart during the postlude in a spirit of gratitude.
Let the music accompany you as you go forth into the world!

*All who are able, please stand.

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

881 Sing with All the Saints in Glory



Text: William J. Irons, 1812–1883, alt.
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867
Text and music: public domain

HYMN TO JOY
87 87 D
Rev 5:6-14; 7:9-17; 21:1-5; Jn 14:1-3; 1 Co 2:9

*All who are able, please stand.

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Ellington Congregational Church, UCC

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The Rev. Craig Cowing	**Bridge Minister**
Juliane LaRocca	**Director of Music**
Lee Carman	**Director of Faith Formation**
Caroline Takach	**Office Administrator**
Maggie Kutscher	**Substitute Office Administrator**
Cheyenne West	**Little Sparks Nursery Attendant**
Donna Heidelmark	**Assistant Nursery Attendant**
Irene Mosher	**Volunteer Lay Minister**
Betsy Cottle	**Volunteer Church Clerk**
Lisa Sirag	**Volunteer Church Historian**

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*All who are able, please stand.