ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 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 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-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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: God of all times and places, we gather to worship you.

All: We turn our eyes to you and rejoice in your presence.

One: God of all life and love, we gather to sing your praise.

All: We turn our eyes to you and marvel at your power and your promise.

One: God of all wisdom and wonder, we gather to learn from your Son.

All: We turn our eyes toward Christ and wait for your Word to lead us.

***THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN** Chalice Hymnal #537

My Hope is Built

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of grace and purpose,
you are the source of our lives and the source of all our possibilities.
You call us to love our neighbors and serve your purposes.
We confess that this is easier said than done.
When things get complicated, we lose patience and turn away.
When we are unprepared for a challenge,
we excuse ourselves from taking part.
Forgive us, O God.
Renew our willingness to put ourselves on the line for your love.

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
One: Believe the Good News! The mercy of our God is from everlasting to everlasting.
In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us. In him, 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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lee Carman

Children may leave for Church School

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON
Large Print Pew Bible NT p. #204
I Thessalonians 4:13-18

MESSAGE Pastor Craig
"Encourage Each Other"

*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 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!

*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 purpose and promise, we offer our gifts to help fulfill your purposes on earth. Bless our gifts and our actions so that others will grasp the promise of your love and discover your purpose for their lives, through Christ, our friend and savior. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #33

How Great Thou Art

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Julie LaRocca

Copyrights:

How Great Thou Art
WORDS: Luke 2:214
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taizé, 1979
Music © 1979, Les Presses de Taizé; used by permission of GIA Publications Inc.
CCLI #1326969

*All who are able, please stand.

***The Message* Bible**
"Scripture (and other words) taken from ***The Message***. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group."

Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version, NIV
Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.
Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Ellington Congregational Church, UCC

Location & Shipping Address: 72 Main Street
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 216 ~ Ellington, Connecticut 06029

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**

Phone: 860-871-6606
Fax: 860-871-5932
E-mail: officeadmin@eccucc.org
Website: www.eccucc.org

*All who are able, please stand.