

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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June 2, 2024

10:00 A.M.

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**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.

### **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



### **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Our church welcomes to Communion all people of all ages  
who desire to follow God through Christ Jesus and grow in  
faith.)*

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

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

*(The Christ in me sees the Christ in you.)*

\*All who are able, please stand.

## GATHERING FOR THE WORD

### **\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather here as witnesses to God's redeeming graciousness through Christ Jesus.

**All: God is our protector and our comforter, our shield and our defender.**

One: The birds begin to sing before the sun even rises; they are filled with joy even in the darkness as they anticipate the light of a new day.

**All: We worship in response to God's encompassing and unconditional love. We are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

### **\*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

#### **\*OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #586

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Eternal God, through Christ Jesus you taught us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. You spread your table before us and invite us to dine. All too often, we judge some to be unworthy to dine at your table. You call us to faith in Christ Jesus and give us the Holy Spirit, our Helper to do that. We ask that you keep us from judging so that we open our doors of this household of faith to all people – no matter who they are, what they believe, or where they are on their spiritual journey. We ask that you forgive any arrogance we have toward those whom you created. Let us remember that your love endures forever for all people. Amen.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**Pastor:** Let us remember that, on our behalf, God’s saving graciousness has been freely given to us through Christ Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. God offers us new life at every moment, forgiving us, and inviting us to the freshness of new beginnings. Therein lies our assurance of pardon. Our sins are forgiven. Amen.

**\*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.**

**ENGAGING THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

Senior Choir

***How Beautiful***

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Lee Carman

*(Children will be dismissed to accompany Lee Carman.)*

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Pew Bible NT p #180

Large Print Bible NT p #259

**2 Corinthians 4:5-12**

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Joanne

**“Crossroads!”**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE**

Chalice Hymnal #266 (vs. 5)

***Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me***

\*All who are able, please stand.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would holy be,  
break from sin and choose the good,  
cherish what my Savior would, and whatever I can be,  
give to God who gave me thee.

## **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.**

## **CHORAL RESPONSE**

*(Children will rejoin the congregation at this time.)*

### **OFFERING: Affirmation By Touch for Our Offerings to God**

Sentence  
Offertory

#### **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 God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise him, all creatures here below;**

**praise him above, ye heavenly host:**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: Eternal God of Salvation, you give us love that endures forever. You bless us with abundant gifts and kindness. Our lives with your surrounding love are like a banquet that always has available food and drink. What we offer in return is but a portion of what you have given, but we offer it with love, joy, and thanksgiving. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**



**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*COMMUNION HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #419

***All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly***

**THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**THE COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Leader:** Gathering around the Table as we celebrate new life being born, we remember many stories shared around tables; tables where bread is broken and cup is poured out, where families gather and generations share, where stories are remembered, refined, and reshaped.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Leader:** Gathering around the Table, it is a blessing to remember the story of the Holy One, the Sacred Spirit,

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

daring to share our life and the Light of God. It is the story of the Holy One, the Sacred One, donning human flesh and dwelling among us; a story that is at once both of heaven and of earth.

**All: Glory be to God in the highest!**

**Leader:** Gathering around the Table now, we break the bread and remember this paradox: it is in our brokenness that we become whole. We also fill this cup and remember the abundance we each discover when we share our sacred stories.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Leader:** Together, around the Table, we pray:

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be opened, that we might recognize the Spirit rising in our midst; indeed, in one another. Holy Spirit, thank you for coming to us. Amen.**

## **THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

## **THE SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS**

## **UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**All: Loving God, you have been present with us throughout our service and have renewed and transformed us with this sacred meal. We give you thanks! We will strive to remember whose we are at all times. When we gather at other tables with friends, loved ones, and perhaps strangers, we will know that God, Christ, and Holy Spirit are with us there as well as here. We will go from here fed, nourished, and joy-filled! Amen.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #601

*I Am Thine, O Lord*

### RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION (seated)

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #601

One: Dear God, we give you thanks that your providing for us has no end.

**All: We go from here as your disciples consecrated to do your work in the world.**

One: We are assured that you are always near to us as guide, companion, and savior. We are assured that you are always near to us as guide, companion, and savior.

**All: We give thanks to God for the peace and joy that we carry with us as we live our lives in fullness. Amen.**

### EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

### CHORAL RESPONSE (seated)

### POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



#### COPYRIGHTS

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

**WORDS:** Sylvia Dunstan, 1990

**MUSIC:** William Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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*Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

**WORDS:** Thomas T. Lynch, 1855, alt.

**MUSIC:** Charles F. Gounod, 1872; harm. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

Harm. © 1995, Chalice Press

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\*All who are able, please stand.

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