

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**JANUARY 19, 2025**

**10:00 A.M.**

**Welcome to Worship** at the Ellington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. We're 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



### **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY RIVER ROCK DEDICATION MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEKEND**

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

**PRELUDE** Julie LaRocca

### **WELCOME**

**Special Giving to Help with Relief Efforts from the Southern California Fires.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## GATHERING FOR THE WORD

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 36:5-10 (NIV)

One: Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

**All: Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.**

One: How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.

**All: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart. Let us worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

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

**\*OPENING HYMN** Chalice Hymnal #77  
*On Eagle's Wings*

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Eternal God, you love us steadfastly, but we have trouble loving in return; you call to us but at times we have clogged ears; you reveal yourself, but our eyelids are heavy; you lead us toward our neighbor, but we build walls around ourselves; you ask us to challenge evil, injustice, and alienation, but we get used to it and accept it by thinking it does not pertain to us. O God, we pray, help us to see ourselves both as we are and as we might be when we follow your "Right Way for Living." We ask you to draw us by your Spirit's connection from us to you into your forgiving, renewing, and gracious love. Amen.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

**Pastor:** Ephesians 2:4-6 tells us: "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus ... ." Through Christ Jesus, live in the assurance that we are forgiven and that we are joined together as a community in God's household. 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.**

**\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE AND LOVE OF GOD THROUGH CHRIST JESUS**

### **A TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." Dr. M. L. K., Jr.

### **Words for the Occasion**

**Hymn** Chalice Hymnal #630 (vs. 1, 3, 6)

### *We Shall Overcome*

## RIVER ROCK DEDICATION

**John and Margaret Doffek from their Loving Family**

**Words of Explanation**

**Unison Prayer**

**All: Loving and Eternal God, you are our God and we are your people. You surround us with love through our joyful**

\*All who are able, please stand.

celebrations. You also surround us with love through our difficult, challenging, and painful times in life. We give thanks for each one of the people who have been remembered or honored, named, and dedicated to you by way of the beautiful river rocks in ECC's Memorial Garden. May their lives inspire and encourage us. Amen.

## ENGAGING THE WORD

**ANTHEM** Senior Choir

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Lee Carman  
(Children will be dismissed to accompany Lee Carman.)

**NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON** Pew Bible NT p #93  
Large Print Bible NT p #131  
**John 2:1-11**

**MESSAGE** "Relationships" Pastor Joanne

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE** Chalice Hymnal #95 (vs. 2)

***Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun***  
To Christ shall endless prayer be made,  
and endless praises crown his head;  
his name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with every morning Sacrifice.

**IN OUR PRAYERS AND SILENT MEDITATION**

**PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

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: *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!*

### \*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: God of Steadfast Love, we are thankful that you give to each one of us a measure of your great kindness and compassion. We are also thankful that you help each one of**

\*All who are able, please stand.

us in this faith community to find “new songs” as we help others to find “new songs of praise” for you through Christ Jesus. We ask that you accept what we offer as gifts of love from this faith community. When we serve others, please make it welcome in your sight. Christ Jesus’ gift of self has made us one body; we ask that you let everything we do reflect that we are striving to be unified in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #95 (vs. 1, 3, 4, 5)  
***Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun***

**BENEDICTION** adapted from Chalice Hymnal #95  
One: Let us all go from here with praises and songs in our hearts.

**All: We shall remember God’s endless blessings and love in all that we do. Amen.**

## EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

### POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



### COPYRIGHTS

*On Eagle's Wings*

**WORDS and MUSIC:** Michael Joncas, 1979  
© 1979, 1991 New Dawn Music  
CCLI #1326969

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

**WORDS:** Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.  
**MUSIC:** John Hatton, 1793; desc. Erik Routley, alt.  
Desc. © 1985 Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.  
CCLI #1326969

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***The Message Bible***

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