

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

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 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



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
SCOUTING AMERICA SUNDAY**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**T.E.L.O.S. LASAGNA DINNER AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE
(Teens Experience Living Out The Story)**

*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**

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #2

One: Loving God, we come to rejoice with gladness of heart
as we sing your praises and adore your wonderful
gifts of love.

**All: You bring us promise of new life in Christ Jesus, our
Example, Teacher, and Savior.**

One: We come to offer thanks for all God has given to us.

**All: We know that God through Christ Jesus will teach us
how to love each other and that we will be uplifted
and surrounded with God’s Divine joy.**

We are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #2

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Loving God, we know you take care of our needs and
give blessings without end. At times though, we are not
satisfied with what we have and desire more and more. We
lose our patience and blame our troubles on others. This
causes us to withhold from our neighbors the acceptance
and care you have shown to us through Christ Jesus’
example. We ask for your forgiveness when we stray from
your path of Righteousness. In Christ Jesus’ name we pray.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The Apostle Paul taught that we should live our lives
in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ Jesus. We should
stand firm unified in one spirit and strive side by side for the
faith of the gospel. As we focus our minds on the goodness

*All who are able, please stand.

of God, we do have the assurance that in Christ Jesus we 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.**

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

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM Senior Choir

(AT THIS TIME TEACHERS AND CHILDREN MAY LEAVE FOR CHURCH SCHOOL.)

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON Pew Bible NT p #49
Large Print Bible NT p #69
Mark 12:28-31

MESSAGE Scouting America

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #6 (vs. 2)

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Our God is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and
blessing.

*All who are able, please stand.

As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band: to God all praise and glory.

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.**

RESPONSE

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

Sentence

Offertory

Chris Pettigrew

Hold On (Keep Your Hand on The Plow)

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

*All who are able, please stand.

**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: Loving and Eternal God, we come with great devotion to you through Christ Jesus. The offerings we give are in response to your graciousness. Please accept them as part of our ongoing commitment to Christ Jesus and guide us as we use them in mission for the world. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #33
How Great Thou Art

BENEDICTION adapted from Chalice Hymnal #33

One: This week, and always, let us consider all the wonders of God that surround us every day. As we listen to and ponder the wonders of nature, may they uplift us as we continue our journey.

All: We will give thanks to God and our souls will, indeed, sing: Our Savior God, you are great indeed.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Julie LaRocca

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Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. Edward Hodges, 1864; desc. Susan Adams, 1995

Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press

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*All who are able, please stand.

How Great Thou Art

WORDS and MUSIC: Stuart K. Hine, 1953, based on a Swedish folk melody and a poem by Carl Gustav Boberg, 1885

© 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music, Inc.

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The Message Bible

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Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version, NIV

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