

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 9, 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

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY
CHURCH SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT**

*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 Psalm 145 (NIV)

One: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

All: Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

One: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

All: The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

One: The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

All: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

We are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #259 (2x)

Spirit of the Living God

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of the Covenant, we know that you are always near and surround us with love. You call us to be servant-disciples of Christ Jesus. Yet, we resist the basin and towel of discipleship and do not always live into our part of the Covenant. All too often we are not good stewards of your creation. You place much trust in us to be good stewards and disciples; we ask that you help us each day to be worthy of that trust. Dear God, we ask that you forgive our shallow ways and help us to serve you wherever you

*All who are able, please stand.

choose to send us. We pray this in Christ Jesus' name.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: 1 John 1:9 says: "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." In God, through Christ Jesus, we are forgiven and transformed. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** Chalice Hymnal #180 (vs. 4)
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,
an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!

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

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING OUR GIRL SCOUTS
Miranda McAvoy

Girl Scout Promise
On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

*Members may substitute for the word God in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.

Girl Scout Law
I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong,
and responsible for what I say and do,

*All who are able, please stand.

and to respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM Senior Choir
Bless This House

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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
Large Print Pew Bible NT p #688
Isaiah 58:9-11

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
Large Print Pew Bible NT p #235
1 Peter 4:8-11

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON
Large Print Pew Bible NT p #64
Luke 6:27-36

MESSAGE Pastor Joanne
"Foundations"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD
PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #272 (vs. 5)
The Church's One Foundation
We now on earth have union with God the Three in One,

*All who are able, please stand.

and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is
won.
Oh, happy ones, and holy! Lord, give us grace that we like
them,
the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with 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.**

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*

*All who are able, please stand.

*a blessing to all who receive and a witness to Christ's love
for the world. Thank you!*

***DOXOLOGY** Chalice Hymnal #195 (vs. 4)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: We give thanks that the transfigured Jesus taught us
how to live God's Way in Righteousness and Love. God of
the Covenant, we ask that you transform our offerings into
work for justice for all people no matter who they are or
where they are on their journey through life. We ask that
you transform our time into service for others, our talents
into acts of ministry, and ourselves into expressions of
faithfulness. We pray this in Christ Jesus' name. Amen.**

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #272 (vs. 1-4) ***The Church's One Foundation

UNISON BENEDICTION

adapted from Chalice Hymnal #259

**All: God is still speaking. We have been filled and
transformed by the Spirit of the Living God. Amen.**

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

RESPONSE

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Spirit of the Living God

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

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The Church's One Foundation

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, alt.; st.2 adapt. Laurence Hall Stookey, 1983, alt.

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St. 2 adapt. © 1983 The United Methodist Publishing House; desc. © 1980
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The Message Bible

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