

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 16, 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



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

**FOUNDATIONS : USING OUR CHURCH PUZZLE
CHURCH SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT
SAINT PADDY’S PUZZLING PICNIC DURING SOCIAL
HOUR**

*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 #490

One: Loving God, we are pilgrims, servant-disciples on a spiritual journey, here to recharge our lives with prayer, Word, and song.

All: With God’s love through Christ Jesus, we are here to enrich our lives and to help one another.

One: Loving God, let us honor everyone as a child of your creation.

All: As we take our faith journey, we will help one another through joy, sorrow, health, and illness by following Jesus’ example of surrounding love. We are blessed to worship God with thanksgiving and joy!

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

***OPENING HYMN**

Chalice Hymnal #486

Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother?

(based on Mark 3:31-35)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Beloved God, whose compassion is everlasting and whose graciousness endures forever, we know you will look upon us with favor as we come to you “just as we are” to confess our sins. Please help us to turn from spending so much time on earthly idols to spending more time contemplating your goodness in our lives. We ask that you help us to notice all our blessings even when we are mired in earthly busyness. Please forgive any short-sighted behavior and reunite us through Christ Jesus to your eternal will. Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Irene: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, from Hebrews 12: 1-2 we learn: "So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne." Our hope and our assurance come from God, Christ Jesus, and Holy Spirit. We are blessed and we are forgiven. 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**

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM Senior Choir

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

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL LESSON

Large Print Pew Bible NT p #37
Mark 3:34-35

HYMN WORDS Chalice Hymnal #486

*All who are able, please stand.

MESSAGE

Cassie Miller and Bryan Forst

"Foundations: Using Our Church Puzzle"

Board of Deacons – Brian Wright
Board of Missions – Sue Hannigan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE Chalice Hymnal #490 (vs. 3)

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

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

*All who are able, please stand.

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 #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: Just as our worship of you, Loving God, is not confined to this place, so also our praise is not limited to certain times or seasons. Please accept the offerings we bring as a witness to your Spirit which dwells in all that we do at all times and in all places. May our acts of giving with love testify to Christ Jesus' truth that surrounds our lives. We ask that you use what we give so that others may come into your presence with the understanding that love and peace will prevail and that you are the source of all blessings. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #490 (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)
Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

*All who are able, please stand.

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

All: We will go out into the world knowing that we have been filled with the love of God through Christ Jesus. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Julie LaRocca



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Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother?

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

MUSIC: Jack Schrader, 1991

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Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

WORDS: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

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The Message Bible

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*All who are able, please stand.

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