

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 13, 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 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



### **PALM/PASSION SUNDAY SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

*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.

**INTROIT** Children’s Choir, Senior Choir, Senior Bell Choir  
*Hosanna to the Lord*

### **GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

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

One: On what we call Palm Sunday, Jesus prepared to enter Jerusalem.

**All: Jesus entered majestically to the crowd’s cries of “Hosanna in the Highest!”**

One: His sights were set on what he had to do.

**All: Jesus’ intentions were faithful to God, the power and the parent who sustained him.**

One: Soon, though, the cheering crowds dispersed,

**All: to be replaced by tormentors.**

One: The crowd’s admiration was over and Jesus was faced with rejection and betrayal.

**All: Jesus’ humiliation and his obedience ended in death, so that life could flourish with God’s glory. “Hosanna in the Highest!”**

**Let us worship God with thanksgiving and joy!**

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

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

Chalice Hymnal #192

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

#### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: God of Love, who sent Jesus among us, we ask that you hear our confession. Please forgive our sins. When we invoke Christ Jesus’ name for selfish reasons, have mercy on us. When our faith is merely convenient and does not lead to commitment, we ask that you surround us with graciousness that will lead to repentance. We are prone to call on you to satisfy our needs, and at times, we practice obedience only when it does not interfere with our**

\*All who are able, please stand.

comfortable lifestyle. Forgive our leisurely approach to your sacrifice for us as Christ Jesus intercedes on our behalf and help us always to seek your guidance. Amen.

#### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**Pastor:** Our assurance of God's forgiveness is in Christ Jesus. We read in Philippians 2:5-8: *Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave ... and became obedient to the point of death ... death on a cross.* Through his obedience we are freed from whatever bondage enslaves us. Our sins 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**

#### **FOUNDATIONS MOMENTS: USING OUR CHURCH PUZZLE**

Memorial Committee  
Growth and Nurture

#### **ENGAGING THE WORD**

**JUNIOR BELLS** *Jesus Loves Me & Beautiful Savior*

#### **CHILDREN MAY LEAVE WITH LEE CARMAN FOR ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE**

\*All who are able, please stand.

**PALM SUNDAY MESSAGE IN SONG** See Insert  
**Near the Cross: A Journey through Holy Week**

#### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE** Chalice Hymnal #192 (vs. 3)

#### ***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

To you before their passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.  
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.

#### **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.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** Pastor Joanne

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

Sentence

Offertory

***In the Name of the Lord***

Julie LaRocca, Matt Ramos, Becky Hinckley, Adam Geiger

**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*

\*All who are able, please stand.

*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: Glory be to you, Loving God, for the gift of creation and creation's bountiful blessings. Praise be to you, Christ Jesus, for redeeming love and the promise of new life. Thanks be to the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, for guidance, counsel, and constant revelations. Blessed Trinity, we honor and praise you as we present our offerings. We know you will guide us in using these offerings and our energies wisely to do your work in the world. Amen.**

**ANTICIPATING HOLY WEEK**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION** Chalice Hymnal #548

***The Old Rugged Cross***

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

**CLOSING BENEDICTION IN SONG**

***You Do Not Walk Alone***

Julie LaRocca, Matt Ramos, Becky Hinckley, Adam Geiger

***In anticipation of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Eve this coming week – Holy Week – we ask that you***

\*All who are able, please stand.

***exit the Sanctuary silently until you enter the Social Room for our time of fellowship and Easter Egg decorating.***



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***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

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\*All who are able, please stand.

**Ellington Congregational Church, UCC**

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|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>The Rev. Joanne Myer</b>     | <b>Intentional Interim Minister</b>    |
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| <b>Juliane LaRocca</b>          | <b>Director of Music</b>               |
| <b>Lee Carman</b>               | <b>Director of Faith Formation</b>     |
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| <b>Cheyenne West</b>            | <b>Little Sparks Nursery Attendant</b> |
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