

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

August 15, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Welcome to Worship *at the virtual Ellington Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ. We're happy to have you with us this morning.*

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



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 111 (NLT)

All: ¹ Praise the LORD!

**I will thank the LORD with all my heart
as I meet with his godly people.**

² How amazing are the deeds of the LORD!

All who delight in him should ponder them.

³ Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty.

His righteousness never fails.

⁴ He causes us to remember his wonderful works.

How gracious and merciful is our LORD!
⁵ He gives food to those who fear him;
he always remembers his covenant.
⁶ He has shown his great power to his people
by giving them the lands of other nations.
⁷ All he does is just and good,
and all his commandments are trustworthy.
⁸ They are forever true,
to be obeyed faithfully and with integrity.
⁹ He has paid a full ransom for his people.
He has guaranteed his covenant with them forever.
What a holy, awe-inspiring name he has!
¹⁰ Fear of the LORD is the foundation of true wisdom.
All who obey his commandments will grow in wisdom.
Praise him forever!

HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #637

For All the Saints

*¹ For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*² Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might:
their strength and solace in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, the one true light.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*⁴ And when the strife is fierce, the conflict long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*⁵From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia!*

WORDS: William W. How, 1864, alt. MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 // CCLI
#1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving and Eternal God, we ask that you relieve us from the burden of sin by hearing our confession. Please remove the scales from our eyes and help us really “see” our neighbors who are in need. We ask that you cleanse us from selfishness, which might keep us from properly serving and caring for them. Take away any vanity we have so we do not serve them just to hear their thanks. Please help us to keep in mind always Christ’s redeeming sacrifice that will continue to help us purify our intentions. We are grateful to do your work here on earth. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Jesus has said, “I am the light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” The work we do here on earth in God’s name through Christ Jesus, and the wisdom we continue to seek for God’s Right Way for Living will keep us walking in the light of God. Therefore, we can live our lives in joy because in Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Chalice Hymnal #35

*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 with-out end. A-men. A-men.*

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Schubert

Serenade

Dave Robert ~ violin solo

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 (NLT)

¹⁰ Then David died and was buried with his ancestors in the City of David. ¹¹ David had reigned over Israel for forty years, seven of them in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem. ¹² Solomon became king and sat on the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.

³ Solomon loved the LORD and followed all the decrees of his father, David, except that Solomon, too, offered sacrifices and burned incense at the local places of worship. ⁴ The most important of these places of worship was at Gibeon, so the king went there and sacrificed 1,000 burnt offerings. ⁵ That night the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!"

⁶ Solomon replied, “You showed great and faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you have continued to show this great and faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne.

⁷ “Now, O LORD my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn’t know his way around. ⁸ And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted! ⁹ Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom. ¹¹ So God replied, “Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies— ¹² I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! ¹³ And I will also give you what you did not ask for— riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! ¹⁴ And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life.”

GOSPEL READING

John 6:47-59 (MSG)

⁴⁷⁻⁵¹ “I’m telling you the most solemn and sober truth now: Whoever believes in me has real life, eternal life. I am the Bread of Life. Your ancestors ate the manna bread in the desert and died. But now here is Bread that truly comes down out of

heaven. Anyone eating this Bread will not die, ever. I am the Bread—living Bread!—who came down out of heaven. Anyone who eats this Bread will live—and forever! The Bread that I present to the world so that it can eat and live is myself, this flesh-and-blood self.”

⁵² At this, the Jews started fighting among themselves: “How can this man serve up his flesh for a meal?”

⁵³⁻⁵⁸ But Jesus didn’t give an inch. “Only insofar as you eat and drink flesh and blood, the flesh and blood of the Son of Man, do you have life within you. The one who brings a hearty appetite to this eating and drinking has eternal life and will be fit and ready for the Final Day. My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. By eating my flesh and drinking my blood you enter into me and I into you. In the same way that the fully alive Father sent me here and I live because of him, so the one who makes a meal of me lives because of me. This is the Bread from heaven. Your ancestors ate bread and later died. Whoever eats this Bread will live always.”

⁵⁹ He said these things while teaching in the meeting place in Capernaum.

MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

“Knowledge and Wisdom”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #80

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

¹ *My Shepherd, you supply my need;
most holy is your name;
in pastures fresh you make me feed,
beside the living stream.
You bring my wand- 'ring spirit back,
when I forsake your ways;
you lead me, for your mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.*

WORDS: Para. Saac Watts, 1719, alt. MUSIC: *Southern Harmony*, 1835 // CCLI #1326969

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.

VIRTUAL OFFERING

Sentence

DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal #46

*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. A-men.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALL: God of blessings, you redeem us in Jesus. We are enabled to serve our neighbor because we are sustained by Jesus' example and teaching. We are guided by the Holy Spirit as we seek to do your work in the world. We bring our offerings; please guide us as we use them to help our neighbors. We dedicate our time; please fill it with your Presence. We give ourselves to you; use us according to your will. All that we have, we present to you. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #714

For the Fruit of All Creation

¹ *For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.*

² *In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done;
in our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.*

³ *For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.*

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970 MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906 Words © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. // CCLI #1326969

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

One: Let us give heartfelt thanks to God every day of the week.

All: We will praise God!

One: Let us treasure all the magnificent works of God.

All: Holy and awesome is God's name. We will praise God! Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Chalice Hymnal #434

God Be with You Till We Meet Again
¹ *God be with you till we meet a-gain;
lov-ing coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
with a shep-herd's care en-fold you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.*



CEB – Common English Bible
MSG – The Message
NLT – New Living Translation