

ORDER OF VIRTUAL WORSHIP

August 22, 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



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST MEMORIAL STONE DEDICATION

WELCOME

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 84 (CEB)

One: 84 How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD of heavenly forces!

² My very being longs, even yearns,
for the LORD's courtyards.

My heart and my body
will rejoice out loud to the living God!

ALL: ³ Yes, the sparrow too has found a home there;
the swallow has found herself a nest
where she can lay her young beside your altars,
LORD of heavenly forces, my king, my God!

⁴ **Those who live in your house are truly happy;
they praise you constantly.**

One: ⁵ Those who put their strength in you are truly happy;
pilgrimage is in their hearts.

⁶ As they pass through the Baca Valley,
they make it a spring of water.
Yes, the early rain covers it with blessings.

⁷ They go from strength to strength,
until they see the supreme God in Zion.

ALL: ⁸ **LORD God of heavenly forces,
hear my prayer;
listen closely, Jacob's God!**

⁹ **Look at our shield, God;
pay close attention to the face of your anointed one!**

One: ¹⁰ Better is a single day in your courtyards
than a thousand days anywhere else!

I would prefer to stand outside the entrance of my God's house
than live comfortably in the tents of the wicked!

¹¹ The LORD is a sun and shield;
God is favor and glory.

The LORD gives—doesn't withhold!—good things
to those who walk with integrity.

ALL: ¹² **LORD of heavenly forces,
those who trust in you are truly happy!**

ALL: Let us worship God!

This Is My Song

¹ *This is my song, O God of all the nations,
 a song of peace for lands a-far and mine.
 This is my home, the country where my heart is;
 here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
 but other hearts in other lands are beating
 with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

³ *This is my prayer, O Ruler of all nations:
 let thy reign come; on earth thy will be done.
 In peace may all earth's people draw together,
 and hearts united learn to live as one.
 O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;
 myself I give thee; let thy will be done.*

WORDS: St. 1, 2, Lloyd Stone, 1934; st. 3, Georgia Harkness, c. 1939, alt. MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933 St. 1, 2 © 1934, 1962, Lorenz Publishing Co.; st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Co.; reprinted by permission, permit #236735; arr. © 1933, renewed 1961, Presbyterian Board of Christian Education // CCLI #1326969

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Eternal God, we know we stand in need of forgiveness and ask for your redemption. We have abused your creation and are squandering what you have given us with our blessed earth. Too often, we do not think about our neighbors and see the homeless wander without protection from harm; help us to share of our abundance to keep them nourished and protected. We need to work more diligently for peace as nations rise up against nations and acts of terrorism fill the air. Dear God, when he walked the earth, Christ Jesus taught compassion for all those who suffered. We ask that you cleanse us of the sin that closes our hearts

to our brothers and sisters around the world and to the protection of Mother Earth. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God hears our prayers and will have mercy on all who ask for forgiveness. God sent Christ Jesus as our Savior, to cleanse us of any wrongdoing. When we need help of any kind, Christ Jesus intercedes on our behalf to relieve us of our burdens. We can be certain that because God sent God's son to sacrifice himself on the cross for us, 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.*

MEMORIAL STONE PRESENTATION

(Recorded in the Labyrinth August 11, 2021)

*John and Marsha
Andzans
April 25, 1994*

*In Honor of
Mahlon and Esther Chapman
Given by
The Chapman Family*

In Loving Memory
Andy Gross
February 25, 1977
February 12, 2018

In Loving Memory
Edward and Ellen Kasche
Together Forever
May 1, 1937

Dottie Marshall
In honor & thank you
for your many
wonderful years of service!
Board of Missions
2021



ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Kum Bah Yah
Susan and Tom Mason ~ bass ukuleles

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 (CEB)

²² Solomon stood before the LORD's altar in front of the entire Israelite assembly and, spreading out his hands toward the sky, ²³ he said:

LORD God of Israel, there's no god like you in heaven above or on earth below. You keep the covenant and show loyalty to your servants who walk before you with all their heart. ²⁴ This is the covenant you kept with your servant David, my father, which you promised him. Today, you have fulfilled what you promised. ²⁵ So now, LORD, Israel's God, keep what you promised my father David, your servant, when you said to him, "You will never fail to have a successor sitting on Israel's throne as long as your descendants carefully walk before me just as you walked before me." ²⁶ So now, God of Israel, may your promise to your servant David, my father, come true.

²⁷ But how could God possibly live on earth? If heaven, even the highest heaven, can't contain you, how can this temple that I've built contain you? ²⁸ LORD my God, listen to your servant's prayer and request, and hear the cry and prayer that your servant prays to you today. ²⁹ Constantly watch over this temple, the place about which you said, "My name will be there," and listen to the prayer that your servant is praying toward^[a] this place. ³⁰ Listen to the request of your servant and your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Listen from your heavenly dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive!

⁴¹ Listen also to the immigrant who isn't from your people Israel but who comes from a distant country because of your reputation— ⁴² because they will hear of your great reputation, your great power, and your outstretched arm. When the immigrant comes and prays toward this temple, ⁴³ then listen from heaven, where you live, and do everything the immigrant asks. Do this so that all the people of the earth may know your reputation and revere you, as your people Israel do, and recognize that this temple I have built bears your name.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING

Ephesians 6:10-20 (MSG)

¹⁰⁻¹² And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and he wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no weekend war that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.

¹³⁻¹⁸ Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an *indispensable* weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.

19-20 And don't forget to pray for me. Pray that I'll know what to say and have the courage to say it at the right time, telling the mystery to one and all, the Message that I, jailbird preacher that I am, am responsible for getting out.

MESSAGE

Rev. Joanne Myer

“Shout for Joy!”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Chalice Hymnal #540

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

¹ *O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths
its flow may richer, fuller be.*

WORDS: George Matheson, 1882 MUSIC: Albert L. Peace, 1884 // 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: Loving God, we come bearing gifts in response to your graciousness. We offer thanksgiving for the kindnesses you give us; we praise you for the salvation Christ Jesus has won for us. We are grateful for the guidance the Holy Spirit provides. We give thanks to you and realize that everything we have in life is a gift of your salvation. We lovingly commit ourselves to you. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen

GOING WITH THE WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

Chalice Hymnal #717

Let All Things Now Living

¹ *Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into Light.*

² *By law God enforces. The stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine. We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing with glad*

*adoration, a song let us raise: till all things now living unite in
thanksgiving, to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.*

WORDS: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt. MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; desc. Katherine K. Davis,
1939 Words and desc. © 1939, 1966, ECS Publishing, harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of
Worship*, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress // CCLI #1326969

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

One: All week long, let each one of us rejoice out loud to the
living God.

All: **We shall put on the armor of God in rejoicing and in
prayer!**

One: Let God be your sun and your shield.

All: **We will trust in God and be truly happy! 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