

Trinity United Church of Christ Worship Bulletin

Letting God's light shine since 1901

We worship God and seek to share His Word with everyone through faith in Jesus Christ

November 17, 2024

www.trinityuccwestville.org

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at Trinity!

Gathering and Preparing to Worship

**Denotes to please stand in body or in spirit*

Thoughts Before Worship

By Nancy C. Townley

Our lives can get so noisy. In this moment, take the time to calm your spirit, rest your body. Listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd who desires the best for you.

Checking in on social media

You are invited to take the time to check in on social media and let people know where you are. First, it helps get the word out on Trinity United Church of Christ in Westville. Second, it can give you a good alibi, just in case you need one.

Sounding of the Bells

Throughout the centuries, bells have rung to call people to worship or bring them news. We use the chiming of the bell to joyously call us to worship, and prepare ourselves.

Welcoming

One: Welcome to worship today at Trinity United Church of Christ in Westville Illinois. If you are worshipping with us on line, you can download a bulletin from our church's website www.trinityuccwestville.org.

They are located in the events section under today's date,

Let us now pause for prayer to calm ourselves down and prepare our hearts to worship our living and loving God.

Opening with Prayer

By Mary J. Scifres

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of possibilities, fill us with your hope and faithfulness. Listen to us as we pour out our souls before you. Grant us the grace to be your people and to live your teachings. Live in us, that we may arise with hope and walk in love. In the name of Christ our rock and our redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Come, let us give thanks to God!

Many: We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak, and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

One: Come, let us give thanks to Christ!

Many: We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone at this time of year.

One: Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit!

Many: We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love
not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

***Hymn of Gathering**

Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart

**1 Re-joyce ye pure in heart; lift praises to the sky
Your fes-tal ban-ner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!**

Refrain

Re-joyce (*Re-joyce*) Re-joyce (*Re-joyce*) Re-joyce give thanks and sing

**2 Bright youth and seasoned age, strong souls and spir-its meek
Raise high your free ex-ult-ing song; God's wonderous prais-es speak
Refrain**

**3 With Voices full and strong as o-ceans surg-ing praise
Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of an-cient days
Refrain**

**4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as you go
From youth to age, by night and day, in glad-ness and in woe
Refrain**

**5 Praise God who rules all worlds, the ris-en Christ a-dore
Praise God the Spir-it, Ho-ly fire, one God for ev-er more!
Refrain**

Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: By a single offering, Christ has perfected us for all time. Let us approach this time of confession with true hearts, in full assurance that Christ's mercy is strong enough to bear all of our burdens.

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

By Mary J. Scifres

One: Let us pray...

All: Merciful God, look upon us, your servants gathered here, with grace and compassion. Hear our every need. Speak to our fearful hearts, that we may pour out our confessions and admit our wrongdoings.

Please take a few moments of silence for personal reflection, and release back to God those things
you need to be forgiven for, in your life

One: Let us continue...

**All: Loving God, you have heard our anxieties, our vexations, our worries, our hopes, our dreams.
Breathe in us the spirit of forgiveness, that we may receive your grace, and may walk in freedom
and glorious hope. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: This is the good news: God gives us hope, God gives us peace, God gives us joy so we may share these gifts with everyone we meet.

Many: Thanks be to God, who has forgiven us and nudged us to love others and to serve all who are around us. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

*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 without end, Amen, Amen.*

Sharing of Christ's Peace

One: Let us share together the peace of Christ, encouraging one another in love and goodness.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Please type in, post and share the peace of Christ with those gathered.
Please make sure your comments are appropriate. You can use words such as
"The peace of Christ be with you,"

Listening for God's Still Speaking Voice

Prayer for Illumination

By Mary J. Scifres

One: Let us pray...

Many: Gracious God, may Your word enlighten us and guide us into your service. May it lead us to paths of humility and compassion. Amen.

Scripture Readings for Today Mark 13:1-8 The Destruction of the Temple Foretold

13 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" **2** Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, **4** "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" **5** Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. **6** Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!^{1a} and they will lead many astray. **7** When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. **8** For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

A Refection on the Word

*** Hymn of Response**

Be Thou My Vision

**1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2. Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: Hannah offered the life of her much-awaited son, that she might honor and glorify God. Jesus offered his very life, that we might know God's love fully and completely. As we offer our gifts to God, let us do so with the same generosity of spirit that has been shown to us in so many ways.
If you are able, please consider giving to the work and ministry of Trinity United Church of Christ. You may drop your offering for today in the offering plates as they are brought forward. Your gifts are used in service to others through the ministries and mission of Trinity UCC. We graciously thank all who are able to support Trinity UCC during this time. To mail your offering or pledge, please send it to

Trinity United Church of Christ, 311 E. Moses Ave. Westville, IL. 61883

Our morning Offering will now be received

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* Blessing What We Can Give Back to God

By Mary J. Scifres

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of all hopefulness, strengthen us this day to live in hope and gratitude. Give us the courage to live as people of generosity. Multiply our gifts, that the hungry might be fed and the poor might find abundance. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please drop off any prayer requests in the basket located in the narthex, or in the offering plate.

Please only first names, and keep your prayers appropriate to our worship.

If you are worshipping via Facebook Livestream

Please type in and post in the comments section and share any prayer requests.

We will try and get to every prayer posted during worship.

If we don't get to your request, we will lift up your requests after worship.

After Pastor David reads the petition, he will say "Lord in Your mercy,"
and the congregation will respond with "Hear our prayer..."

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

* Our Hymn of Departure

Great is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther.
There is no sha-dow of turn-ing with thee.
Thou chang-est not, thy com-pas-sions, they fail not.
As thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.

[Refrain:]

Great is thy faith ful- ness!
Great is thy faith- ful-ness!
Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see.
All I have need-ed thy hand hath pro-vi-ded.
Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, unto me!

2 Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all na-ture in man-i-fold witness
to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.

[Refrain]

3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth,
thine own dear pres-ence to cheer and to guide,
strength for to-day and bright hope for to-mor-row;
bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

[Refrain]

*** Charge and Benediction**

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Go forth now as God's people.

Many: We will go to offer joy to those in misery, to remember all who have been forgotten.

One: Go forth now as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

Many: We will go to offer the best rooms of our hearts to the lonely,
to pick up all those we have knocked down.

One: Go forth now as hearts of the Spirit.

Many: We will go to share a double portion of grace with the empty,
to invite others to walk the paths of faith with us.

One: Go forth now out into the world in peace. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind,
and all your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.

Many: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

One: And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be
with you, now and forever. And may laughter and joy go with you every step of your journey.

Many: Amen.

Sing "A-men!"

*Thank you for worshipping with us today! Remember, no matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at Trinity UCC*