

# 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*

April 13, 2025

[www.trinityuccwestville.org](http://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

#### 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.

#### 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](http://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.

#### 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.

#### Opening with Prayer

One: Let us pray...

Many: Like those gathered welcoming Jesus with loud Hosannas, we are eager for a celebration and life to get back to somewhat normal. Help us to slow down today Lord, and focus on being present to Your Spirit guiding our lives, and not our own emotions. Amen.

#### \* Hymn of Gathering

#### All Glory, Laud, and Honor

1 All glory, laud, and honor  
to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.  
Thou art the King of Israel  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
the King and Blessed One.

2 The company of angels  
is praising thee on high;  
and mortal men and all things  
Created make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before thee we present.

**3 To thee before thy passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.  
Thou didst accept their praises,  
accept the praise we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King!**

#### **Announcements**

##### **Call to Worship**

**By Rev. Susan A. Blain**

**One:** We gather together, raising our branches in joy!

**Many:** Like those who wished to see Jesus centuries ago, we are eager for a blessing received.

**One:** We gather together,

**Many:** Raising our hands in hope! Joining all who wish to hear Jesus, longing for a message of welcome and acceptance on our journey.

**One:** We gather together,

**Many:** Laying down our branches of welcome with hesitation. Wondering if we are able to walk with Jesus through the week ahead, through anguish, accusations, despair.

**One:** We gather as God's children

**Many:** Walking toward the cross, and crucifixion, eager to find the hope the empty tomb brings.

##### **Call to Confession**

**by Rev. Thom Shuman**

**One:** One day, we are crying to God, "save us," the next we are turning our backs on God and walking away. Despite our fickle nature, God is steadfast in loving us and constant in forgiving us. Let us confess to our God, as we pray together our prayer of confession...

##### **Prayer of Confession and Letting Go**

**by Rev. Thom Shuman**

**One:** Let us pray...

**All:** With joy in our hearts, we welcome your servant, O God, only to reject him when he picks up a cross instead of a crown. Like cloaks laid on the ground before Jesus, we pick up our faith, dust it off and put it back in the closet until we need it.

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:** Save us, Redeeming God, save us!

May we lay our doubts, our fears, our worries, our weariness at your feet, trusting and believing that you will forgive what is sinful, make whole our brokenness, and welcome us as sisters and brothers of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

##### **Words of Forgiveness and Assurance**

**by Rev. Thom Shuman**

**One:** Hosanna to David's Son! Blessed is the One who comes in God's name, not to judge us, but to save us.

**Many:** We humble ourselves in gratitude to God, and in service to others, even as Christ did. Hosanna in the highest. We are forgiven! Hallelujah and 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: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: As a forgiven and renewed people, please share the peace of Christ with those around 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 Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray,

**Many: Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### Luke 19: 28 – 48

### Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup> As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, <sup>30</sup> "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

<sup>32</sup> Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

<sup>34</sup> They replied, "The Lord needs it."

<sup>35</sup> They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

<sup>37</sup> When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

<sup>38</sup> "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

<sup>40</sup> "I tell you, "He replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

<sup>41</sup> As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it <sup>42</sup> and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup> They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

### Jesus at the Temple

<sup>45</sup> When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. <sup>46</sup> "It is written," he said to them, "My house will be a house of prayer'; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

<sup>47</sup> Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. <sup>48</sup> Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

### A Reflection on the Word

#### Hymn of Reflection

#### Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

#### 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

### Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: As God has so richly blessed us, in our gratitude let us return a portion of these blessings back to God,  
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 Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

Many: Loving God, as Hosannas fade to cries of despair, may these gifts be used for peacemaking that  
settles strife and justice-seeking that creates all good hope.  
Bless them to do the work call each of us to do in this world. Amen

### We Go to Love and Serve God in God's World

### Hymn of Departure

### Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho-san-na, loud ho-san-na the lit-tle chil-dren sang;  
through pil-lared court and tem-ple the love-ly an-them rang.  
To Je-sus, who had blessed them, close fold-ed to his breast,  
the chil-dren sang their prais-es, the simp-lest and the best.

2 From Ol-i-vet they fol-lowed a-mid a cheer-ing crowd,  
the vic-tory palm branch wav-ing, and chant-ing clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heav-en rode on in low-ly state,  
and glad to see the chil-dren, slowed down the don-key's gait

3 "Ho-san-na in the high-est!" That an-cient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Re-deem-er, the Lord of heav-en, our King.  
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,  
and in his bliss-ful pres-ence e-ter-nal-ly re-joice.

**Charge and Benediction**

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Now we will set aside our palm branches,

**Many: to go and serve at God's side in a broken and fearful world.**

One: Now we will pick up our cloaks and follow Jesus wherever he leads,

**Many: to learn from those the world ignores, to be touched by the grace within them.**

One: Now we will sing songs of wonder,

**Many: as we work alongside the Spirit, sustaining the weary with peace and hope.**

One: Go 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.

**Many: Amen.**

***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***