

# 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*

May 15, 2026

*Mental Health Awareness Sunday*

[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**

*\*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](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.

#### **Opening with Prayer**

By Rev. Carolyn C. Blair

One: Let us pray...

**Many: Creator God, Father of the fatherless and defender of the weak, you set the lonely in families and bring the prisoners out with singing. As we gather, we ask for your calming presence, a refuge from the storms of worry and anxiety. Heal our broken spirits, refresh our weary minds, and let your glory fill this space. May we feel your strong and nurturing presence today, and every day. Amen.**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

By Rev. Carolyn C. Blair

One: Let God arise, and let our anxieties be scattered.

**Many: Let those who feel broken in spirit find refuge in God's presence.**

One: As smoke is driven away, let the weight of depression and despair be lifted.

**Many: As wax melts before the fire, may our hearts melt into the healing love of God.**

One: Sing to God, sing praises to his Name!

Many: **We celebrate the Defender of the vulnerable, the Parent of the orphan, the Champion of the lonely.**

One: God gives the lonely a home and brings prisoners into freedom.

Many: **God sends a gracious rain, refreshing us when we are weary.**

One: You, O God, provide for the needy.

Many: **Praise be to God, who gives strength and power to all people.**

All: **Let us worship the God who cares for our minds, bodies, and souls. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Gathering            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;**  
**bles-sings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!**

**[Refrain]**

### **Call to Confession**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: We know what we should do, yet don't. We know the words people need to hear, but utter the ones that hurt them. Yet, we also know that if we confess our failings to God, we will receive forgiveness and hope. Please join me as we pray together our prayer of confession,

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

**By Rev. Carolyn C. Blair**

One: Let us pray...

Many: **Lord of All Comfort, we confess that we often carry burdens you have asked us to cast upon you. We have succumbed to anxiety, doubted your presence in our darkness, and neglected to care for our minds and bodies.**

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...

**Many:** Forgive us when we try to bear everything alone and when we fail to see the pain in others.  
Shelter us under your wings of grace and renew a right spirit within us.

**Words of Forgiveness and Assurance**

**By Rev. Carolyn C. Blair**

One: 1 Peter 5:7 writes "Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you."

Friends, hear the good news: God knows your name, understands your struggles, and covers you with grace.

**Many:** In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, accepted, and loved. 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: In the face of a stranger, in the greeting of a friend, we see our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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**

One: Let us pray...

One: Let the one who has ears to hear, listen.

**Many:** The Word of the Lord speaks to the living of our lives today.

The Word is our fortress and strength, providing shelter and foundation for daily living. Amen.

**Scripture Readings for Today**

**John 17:1-11**

**Jesus Prays to Be Glorified**

**17** After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

"Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup>For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup>Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

**Jesus Prays for His Disciples**

<sup>6</sup>"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup>For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. <sup>11</sup>I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

**1 Peter 5: 6 - 11**

<sup>6</sup>Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

<sup>8</sup> Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

<sup>10</sup> And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

### A Refection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

#### \* Hymn of Response      Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1. Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn  
Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on to the light  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

2. When my way grows drear  
Precious Lord linger near  
When my life is almost gone  
Hear my cry, hear my call  
Hold my hand lest I fall  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

3. When the darkness appears  
And the night draws near  
And the day is past and gone  
At the river I stand  
Guide my feet, hold my hand  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

#### Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: In our offering we share not only measurable treasures of time, talents and resources, we also radically commit to sharing immeasurable gifts of forgiveness, grace, compassion, acceptance and loving concern with each other and with ourselves. 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 Carrie Bail

One: Let us pray...

Many: You have given us the gift of your child, Jesus Christ, so that we might all know the one true God.  
Everything we have been given has the purpose of shaping us be of one heart and mind with

**Christ, and so we offer what we have to you. Bless these honest gifts as we bring them, that we all might do the work of God. 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 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**1 What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!**

**3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.**

**2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

### **\* Charge and Benediction**

**One:** The time has come to go into the world,

**Many:** where our worship of God will continue in every moment of our lives.

**One:** The time has come to serve those around us,

**Many:** to shoulder the burdens of our sisters, to ease the pain of our brothers.

**One:** The time has come to glorify God,

**Many:** with our prayers as well as our praise, with songs as well as acts of service.

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. 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*

