

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

July 5, 2026

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 Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of all nations and all peoples, bless us as we gather in your name. Open us to vessels in building your kingdom and spreading the good news of life and liberty. May we drink from the well of your abundance. May our cups overflow with your love. May our hearts burn in your presence. Be with us in this time and place. Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

By Rev. Erika Marksbury and Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

One: Calling all citizens of heaven: exiled dreamers and disciples of love,

Many: God is close to the outcast and faithful to all.

One: Calling all pilgrims of the Spirit, carried by the winds of hope,

Many: God is everywhere at all times, compassionate to all.

One: Calling all travelers between worlds, who translate compassion into peace,

Many: God makes neighbors of strangers and kin of the forgotten.

One: Come to worship and be renewed for this long journey.

Many: Strangers in a strange land, we have come to worship the creator of all.

***Hymn of Gathering Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.

2 Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Fretful, agitated, longing for more and more of this and that, we spend our lives in a never-ending, never-fulfilled search for that which satisfies. But Christ knows that we will only find the end of our journey in God, and so invites us to that peaceful place known as God's heart. May we let go of our burdens of anger, hurt and sin so we can find our rest.

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

By Rev. Erika Marksbury and Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

One: Let us pray...

Gracious One, where do we begin? You call us to do justice,

Many: and we explain that justice is complicated.

One: You ask us to love mercy,

Many: and we counter that a show of strength is necessary.

One: You invite us to walk humbly with you,

Many: and we struggle to recognize you in our neighbors, in the dispossessed, in the poor and hungry places of our own hearts.

One: We confess we have failed to summon the courage and compassion required by your call.

Many: We have treated hospitality as an option, kinship as a choice, instead of as the center of our life together.

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...

We have claimed your name, yet rejected your way.

Many: Forgive us, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Erika Marksbury and Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

One: Friends, hear this good news: God's gift is love that liberates, hope that inspires, grace that transforms. Each of us alone and all of us together are forgiven and set free.

Many: Thanks be to God for God's amazing grace. Alleluia! 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: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to each other. 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 Reclaim Today

One: Let us pray...

Many: Dear Lord, as I listen to Your Word, please quiet my mind and remove my distractions. Open my eyes to see the truth, my ears to hear Your voice, and my heart to receive Your message today. Give me the wisdom to understand and the courage to apply it to my life. In Jesus' name, Amen

Scripture Readings for Today

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

Psalms 102: 1 - 2

¹Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry come to you.

²Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call.

Psalm 23: 1 - 3

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

A Refection on the Word

By Kathleen Marriage

*** 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: The Holy One gives gifts beyond measure or compare. The Holy One gives with abundance and generosity. The Holy has provided for every need and invites us to ensure equitable, faithful, and mutual sharing so that no one needs to experience a lack of resources. Let us give from the well of abundance to honor God's faithfulness and to demonstrate trust in God's provision.
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. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

One: Let us pray...

Many: Giving God, make us a people who not only receive your gifts, but empower us to give in mutual measure so that all needs are met. Bless these gifts and amplify their impact as a witness to your goodness and so all may flourish in your name. 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 Kathleen 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 How Beautiful Our Spacious Skies

1 How beautiful, our spacious skies, our amber waves of grain;
our purple mountains as they rise above the fruitful plain.
America! America! God's gracious gifts abound,
and more and more we're grateful for life's bounty all around.

2 Indigenous and immigrant, our daughters and our sons:
O may we never rest content till all are truly one.
America! America! God grant that we may be
a sisterhood and brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

3 How beautiful, sincere lament, the wisdom born of tears,
the courage called for to repent the bloodshed through the years.
America! America! God grant that we may be a
nation blessed with none oppressed, true land of liberty.

4 How beautiful, two continents, and islands in the sea
that dream of peace, nonviolence, all people living free.
Americas! Americas! God grant that we may be
a hemisphere where people here all live in harmony.

* Charge and Benediction

One: Go now as people of God's beloved community, carrying the language of compassion and welcome into every interaction, showing hospitality to strangers, grace to the weak, and love to all people. Cross the boundaries that hatred tries to build, for the wind of the Spirit goes where it pleases. And 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: May the God who spoke every language to every nation at Pentecost stretch your heart wider than borders, wider than fear. May the creator of all living things bless you and keep you, today and always.
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*

