

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

August 30, 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: Sovereign God, we delight in your presence. Your words bring joy, peace, and strength. You fill us with your Spirit and shape us in truth. Take us beyond the wilderness of our current condition. Remind us of who you are and who we are in you. Receive our praise, our curiosity, our doubts, our fears. With thanksgiving, we come to you just as we are. In hope, we bring our dreams for a better world and better lives. In awe, we recount what you have already done. In faith, we invite you to equip us as your partners in your kingdom, as we minister in your name. Amen.

Magic Penny Offering

Announcements

Call to Worship

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Even when we encounter folks who are mean, dishonest, hateful,

Many: we are called to respond with that love which is true and sincere.

One: God calls us to love all people as if they were our sisters and brothers,
Many: for God seeks to weave us into one family, tearing down all the barriers between us.

One: No matter how weary we become from our loneliness, our struggles, our service,
Many: God challenges us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying.

One: Why should we do all things?
Many: Because we are God's people, called to lives which are different, and which make a difference!

***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: If God is in every person we meet, what does that say about the harmful words we speak, the hurt we cause to others in our lives? We are invited to bring our faults and foolishness, our brokenness and bitterness to our God, confessing such lives, so we might be made new. Join me, as we pray together our prayer of confession...

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

All: You know us, God. You know who we are, people who find it easier to hold on to all we do that is wrong, rather than clinging to goodness. You know what we do, when we ignore the poor, or refuse to live at peace with others. You know why we do all these things, for we continue to set our minds on all those temptations which insinuate themselves into our lives.

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: You do indeed know us all too well, God. Yet, you continue to be patient with us and forgiving towards us. You would embrace as we turn towards you in repentance, rather than washing your

hands of us. You would continue to call us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so we might find our life with you. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: This is the good news for us, my friends. God remembers us and forgives us, so we might live as people of love and hope.

Many: We will sing our praises to the One who has made us whole. Thanks be to God! 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 God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace and peace with others. 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

One: Let us pray...

Many: **Lord, open our hearts this day to receive your word for us. May it give us courage to help others, and hope for the future. Amen.**

Scripture Readings for Today

Romans 12:9-21

Marks of the True Christian

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The Cross and Self-Denial

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for

my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

A Refection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

*** Hymn of Response The Servant Song**

**1. Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

**2. We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**4. I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.**

**5. When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.**

**6. Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: As a spiritual discipline, generosity demonstrates our commitment to the kingdom of God in a tangible way. When we share our resources, we proclaim our trust in God's abundant provision, our concern for the condition of our neighbors, and our responsibility for the maintenance and care of our community. Let us give generously to the good work of God's church.
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: Holy One, we present these offerings to you in hope and love. May they be a gift in our community and the world. May they spread hope and love. And, may they witness to your abundant and generous creation. 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 The Old Rugged Cross**

**1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.**

[Refrain]

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**2 O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary.**

[Refrain]

**3 In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me.**

[Refrain]

**4 To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share.**

[Refrain]

*** Charge and Benediction**

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Take the love of God into the world.

Many: We will be genuine in sharing this with everyone we meet.

One: Take the grace of Jesus into your communities.

Many: We will share the joy of those who rejoice, we will mingle our tears with those who weep.

One: Share the Spirit's community with all this week.

Many: We will welcome everyone, especially those who feel alone and afraid.

One: Go 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***

