

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

October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday

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

Today, you are encouraged to be mindful of the ways in which God has lifted you when you have fallen low. May the Lord be with you this day as we gather to hear God's word for our lives.

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

From Australia

One: Let us pray...

Many: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers. We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service. We serve our God in this community and throughout every land. Let us serve by working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred. The Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us! Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

From Japan

One: In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.

Many: Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's will.

One: What do we find at today's table?

Many: God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

One: What is not at today's table?

Many: The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

One: Let us repent, and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Many: Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love!

All: Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one.

***Opening Hymn Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

1 Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy

Reach-ing out with a shout of joy

Bread is brok-en, the wine is poured

Christ is spok-en and seen and heard

[Refrain]

Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves abound.

Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves abound!

2 Christ is a-ble to make us one,

At His ta-ble He set the tone

Teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless

Love in word, and in deed ex-press

[Refrain]

3 Je-sus call us in, sends us out

Bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt

Gives us love to tell, bread to share

God (Im-man-u-el) ev-ery-where!

[Refrain]

Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: All too often, we tell God we will do better, and be better, and then just go on living the same way we always have. Let this be the moment when we tell our God of our failures and faithlessness, so we can go forth to work in that kingdom of grace and hope. Join me as we pray our prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

From South Africa

One: For our failure to feel the sufferings of others, and our tendency to live comfortably with injustice,

Many: God forgive us.

One: For the self-righteousness which denies guilt, and the self-interest which strangles compassion,

Many: God forgive us.

One: For those who live their lives in careless unconcern, who cry 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace,

Many: We ask your mercy.

One: For our failings in community, our lack of understanding,

Many: We ask your mercy.

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...

For the times when we are too eager to be better than others, when we are too rushed to care, when we are too tired to bother, when we don't really listen, when we are too quick to act from motives other than love,

All: God forgive us.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

One: Know that God loves you. From the very beginning God's loving mercy has been poured out upon you. God loves you like a parent embracing you. God watches over you, guiding you each day. On behalf of Jesus Christ, our Savior: you are forgiven; forgive others. You are restored; restore others. You are reconciled with God; be reconciled with others, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Many: 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: La paz de cristo sea contigo

Many: And also with you.

One: Que la paix du Christ soit avec vous

Many: And also with you.

One: Kristaus ramybė su jumis

Many: And also with you.

One: Salaam almasih maeak

Many: And also with you.

One: Jīdū de píng'ān yǔ nǐ tóng zài

Many: And also with you.

One: Whether it's in Spanish, French, Lithuanian, Arabic, or Chinese the meaning is still the same
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: Holy Spirit, settle our hearts and minds as we read the scriptures today. Help us to hear them in a new way. May our meditations and actions be acceptable to you, God, and may the peace of Christ be with us. Amen.

1 Corinthians 10:14-17

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from the worship of idols. 15 I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. 16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by^[a] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

A Reflection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

We Respond to God’s Word

*** Our Hymn of Response Let Us Break Bread Together**

1 Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

**When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

[Refrain]

3 Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.

[Refrain]

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

Through this offering, we pool together the resources of every person gathered here, in the name of Jesus, who gives and saves and shows us the way. Let us give and save and show others Christ’s way.

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 United Church of Christ. 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 UCC, 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 Give Back to God

One: Praise be to God who calls us to imagine and believe that another world is possible.

Many: We praise the One who calls us into covenant with one another. Deliver these our gifts to the work of bringing hope and wholeness to all our neighbors.

One: God of all times and all places, remind us of the world as You intend it: free from hunger, poverty, violence, and oppression.

Many: Embolden us, O God, to imagine and believe that another world is possible! Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

One: From every corner of the earth, Christ calls us to the table.

Many: We come from many peoples, many places, many traditions.

One: We come with the songs of our ancestors and the prayers of those who came before us.

Many: We come carrying stories of faith, struggle, hope, and joy.

One: From the villages of Africa and the islands of the Pacific, from the mountains of Asia and the cities of the Americas, from the churches of Europe and the Middle East—

Many: We come as one people, gathered in Christ.

One: Some come to this table with abundance. Some come longing for daily bread.

Many: Christ welcomes us all.

One: Some come singing. Some come grieving. Some come with questions. Some come with gratitude.

Many: Christ welcomes us all.

One: Today, the walls that divide us do not have the final word. Language does not divide us. Geography does not divide us. Culture does not divide us.

Many: At Christ's table, there is room for all.

One: Come, people of God. Come with open hands and open hearts.

All: We come to receive. We come to remember. We come to share. We come to be made one.

One: On the night before he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his friends. He took the cup and shared it as a sign of a new covenant— a promise of love stronger than violence, hope stronger than despair, and life stronger than death. Holy Spirit, breathe upon this bread and this cup and upon all who receive them. As Christians around the world gather today, make us mindful of one another: of those who worship in crowded churches and those who gather in small communities; of those who celebrate with joyful music and dancing and those whose worship is quiet and contemplative; of those who have enough to eat and those who cry out for bread; of those who worship in freedom and those who gather amid conflict, displacement, or persecution. Make us one in the love of Christ. As this bread is broken and this cup is shared, teach us that communion is more than what happens here.

Many: Make us people who share what we have, who welcome the stranger, who seek reconciliation, who stand with those who suffer, and who work for the peace and flourishing of all creation.

One: Gracious, loving, and giving God, pour out your Spirit upon these your gifts of loaf and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who follow in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every time and place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, help us to be the body of Christ in the world. Let us, as the body of Christ, pause to lift up those in need of our prayers this morning...

Prayers of intercession may be offered here.

One: Help us, O God, to love as Christ loved. Knowing our own weaknesses, may we stand with all who stumble. Sharing in his suffering, may we remember all who suffer. Held in his love, may we embrace all whom the world denies. Rejoicing in his forgiveness, may we forgive all who sin against us. And when the past is finally behind us and we are gathered in the new Jerusalem with our sisters and brothers of every time and place, we will join our hands around your feast, and sing your praises from the depths of our hearts, We ask these things, both spoken and unspoken, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray

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**

Preparing for the Meal

One: God's love for the world was so great that He gave us His Son, so that anyone who believes in Him should not die but receive eternal life.

A Time of Silence

One: We come to this table in need; We are weak and need strength;
We are broken and need healing; We are hardened and need softening;
We are poor in spirit and need nourishment and care

Many: We give thanks for Your compassion, O God; We rejoice at Your invitation to share in this meal with ourselves and others, and we receive again Your abundant grace.

One: So, let's remember how Jesus gave Himself for us; At supper, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and shared it with His friends, saying: This is my body, given for you. Take it, eat it, and remember Me.

Many: Amen.

One: After supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks and shared it with His friends, saying: This is my blood shed for you. Take it, drink it and remember Me.

Many: Amen.

One: Christ, our host, offers us the bread of life and the cup of salvation. The ever-welcoming table of Grace is set. Come let us break bread together

The Communion of the People

One: We will be celebrating communion by coming up to the front of the sanctuary. You are invited to come forward, take a piece of bread to eat, and then take and drink from the communion glass. We would be honored to serve you in your pew, if you have trouble coming up to the front.

Sharing the Meal Together

One: The bread of life, given for all.

Many: We receive with gratitude.

One: The cup of blessing, shared for all.

Many: We receive with gratitude.

Prayer After Communion

One: Let us pray...

Many: Gracious God, we thank you for this meal and for all of the ways you nourish us. Help us to grow so that we may nourish others. Sustain us as we press toward the goal of your call to serve all of your children in the name of our savior, Christ Jesus. Amen.

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

***Our Hymn of Parting 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

One: The Grace of Christ has been offered to us again today;

Many: We receive it with thanks, and through our kindness we will share it with others.

One: The Love of God has come to us again today;

Many: We fill our hearts in joy, and through our compassion we will share it with others.

One: The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit has embraced us again today;

Many: We delight in it with gratitude, and through our generosity we will share it with others.

One: Go out into the world in peace and thanksgiving, Live and work so that God's goodness may be recognized,
And God may be praised.

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***

