

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

June 1, 2025

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.

Our Opening Prayer

One: Let us pray...

Many: Lord of life and of love, you have called us together this day. Help us to appreciate all that you have given to us, to cherish our families and our friends, to seek your hope and peace throughout all our lives. Amen.

Announcements

Our Call to Worship

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: We come to this place of prayer,

Many: for here we can bring our hopes and dreams, our hidden fears and the doubts
we dare wear on our sleeves.

One: We come to this place of grace,

Many: for here we learn compassion and joy, and discover how deeply we are loved.

One: We come with these people called the church,
Many: to be blessed by the variety of gifts, to live as one for our God.

***The Opening Hymn of Praise**

#401 Blue Hymnal

The Church's One Foundation

1 The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

3. 'Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forever more;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

4 Yet she on earth hath union
With God the three in one
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly
On high may dwell with thee

The Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Plastic cards, shiny cars, brick and glass homes - what idols we fashion with our hands, how much energy and time serving them occupy our hearts! Let us confess how we have misplaced our priorities, and seek the One who asks us to be first in our lives.

Prayer of Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

All: God of Glory, we cannot see the lives we lead. Each day, and every day, there are those times when we ignore you and your dreams for us. Each week, and every week, we find the time to ridicule others, when we could have affirmed them. Each moment, and every moment, though we do not want to admit it, we seek our own way rather than skipping down your path of joy and obedience.

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

All: Forgiving God, we come asking forgiveness for our foolish lives. Deliver us, and break the chains of sin and death which hold us captive. Open us to that grace you offer, and give us the gift of the Spirit so we may live as people of our Savior, the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: In the beginning was God, and at the end will be God, and in every moment in between, there is God: creating, redeeming, and sustaining us.

Many: And through Christ, gracious love is poured into our empty souls; through the Spirit, peace becomes the gift we can share with those around us. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. 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,"*

We Listen for God's Word

Our Prayer for Illumination

By Rebecca Gaudino

One: O God, in you we live and move and have our being.

Many: May we live out this profound truth, mindful of the beauty, the hope, and the calling of living in you. Amen.

Our Scripture Reading for Today

John 17:20-26

Jesus Prays for All Believers

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me— so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴ "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you^[a] known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

A Refection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

We Respond to God's Word

*Our Hymn of Response

#426 Blue Hymnal

Blest be the Tie that Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

3 We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

4 When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: We are better together. When we join in music or mission, or ministry or fellowship, we discover that God makes us better, being built upon one another like living stones in the house of the Lord
So, 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 Give Back to God

by Rev. Chad Hornsby

One: Let us pray...

Many: Transforming God, we have come to your house as children. The Table is ever-growing
And we revel in your gifts for us. Receive our simple offerings,
That they may be used to faithfully serve in building your kingdom come. Amen

The Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation to the Table

By Sacredise

One: We gather with no special qualifications needed; no particular connections or exclusive memberships required; no secret passwords or unique attributes expected; no campaigning or canvassing, no examinations or reference checks; Just an amazing invitation to a feast; to find our place at Your table, Lord.
Alongside these other unworthy ones, these other beloved ones; these others humble enough to accept the invitation without asking who else will be there.

Many: Well, Jesus, Lord of the Feast, with thankful and open hearts, we accept Your amazing invitation.

Our Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: May the God of wonder be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift your hearts to the One who invites you to this Table, calling, "Come, Come!"

Many: Thirsty for life and hope, we bring our hearts to this feast.

One: Rejoice in the Lord, all you people!

Many: We sing glad songs of thanks to God's holy name!

One: Prophets came, speaking your word, but we accused them of disturbing our peace.
When you saw no hope of our returning on our own, you sent Jesus, who came, not only on behalf of those who knew him, but also for all who would believe in him.
So with those who thirst for righteousness, and with those who hunger for justice,
we lift our voices to you:

Many: Holy, holy, holy, Joy of the upright in heart.

All creation beholds your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who testifies to all things.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: As we celebrate his life and love, as we testify to his peace and hope,
we witness to that mystery called faith:

Many: Christ died, that we may enter the holy city by the gates;
Christ was raised, that we may receive the water of life as a gift;
Christ will come soon, your grace calling us home.

One: Come, Holy God, come, pouring out your Spirit upon this feast, transforming your children with the simple gifts of the bread and cup. As we eat of the bread, we find you within us, uniting us, wherever we are divided; healing us, where we are broken; sending us, when we are reluctant; to throw open wide all that imprisons our sisters and brothers throughout the world. As we drink from the cup, we realize how deeply we know you, and will go forth to witness to all around us, that the love with which you have loved us may be in them, and we in them. As we remember that 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.

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**

Words of Institution

On the night on which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This bread is my body, given for you. Do this remembering me."

And in the same manner, he also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, given for the forgiveness of sin. Drink from it, all of you. Do this remembering me."

The Communion of the People

Christ, our host, offers us the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Come, all has been prepared.

(Please take what you are using for the bread of life and hold it up)

The body of Christ, broken for you, take and eat.

(Please take what you are using for the cup of salvation and hold it up)

The cup of Salvation, poured out for you, take and drink.

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

1. In Christ there is no east or west,
In him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love
Thru'out the whole wide Earth.
2. In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere
Their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
Close binding all mankind
3. Join hands, then, brothers of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as a son
Is surely kin to me.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west,
In him meet south and north;
All Christly souls are one in him,
Thru'out the whole wide Earth.

Charge and Benediction

One: We leave this place of prayer,

Many: to join God in listening to the hopes and dreams,
the hidden fears and the doubts of our neighbors.

One: We leave this place of grace,

Many: to share the compassion and joy of Jesus with others,
so they will discover how deeply they are loved.

One: We leave to be with the people of our world,

Many: so the Spirit might bless us with their rich gifts,
so we may discover our oneness in God.

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*