

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 29, 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.

Opening with Prayer

By Nancy C. Townley

One: Let us pray...

Many: Lord, we want to follow you whoever you lead. Create in us a new heart of compassion, as Christ has called us to be witnesses of redemption rather than alienation. Enable us to truly be your disciples for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: With the faithful, as well as the foolish; with the voiceless, and those who talk too much:

Many: Together, we gather to praise our God.

One: With those who find it easy to follow, with those who stumble along the Way:

Many: Together, we rejoice in Jesus, who makes us whole, and calls us sisters and brothers.

One: With all who are heirs to the promises of grace, with all who share hope with others:

Many: Together, we give thanks to the Spirit of peace, who cradles us in the arms of hope.

***Hymn of Gathering**

For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.

Refrain:

Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,
Refrain

3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Refrain

4 For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God's grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven.
Refrain

Call to Confession

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Christ has set us free from everything that might detain, oppress, derail us. But we should not confuse this with the right to do whatever we wish. No, we are called to serve others, to share God's hope and joy with everyone we meet. Let us confess how we have misused this wonderful gift of grace, as we pray...

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

All: Redeeming God, how easily we say we would follow you, but how often we live as if we don't have a clue as to what that means. We choose to gossip about our friends, rather than surrounding them with love. Our competitive nature wills us to win at all costs, when we could be engaged in costly service. We expect others to do for us and rarely ask what we might do for them.

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: Forgive us, Holy One. Set us free to serve in love and compassion; help us to feast on the fruit the Spirit offers to us; put us on the path of faithful discipleship, as we walk with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Friends, call to mind what God has done for you; think about how God's love comes in fresh and surprising ways; reflect on the fruit of the Spirit poured out upon you.

Many: We will remember all the wonder, all the joy, all the mercy which is ours. From the rich abundance of the Spirit's fruit, we will serve others. 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: Disciples have said to their teachers, "I will follow you wherever you go." May the peace of Christ follow you wherever you go: at home, at work, and in the world. Let us turn to one another and offer signs of this peace in our lives. 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: Loving God, today our tired hearts are famished for your love, and our dry spirits are thirsty for your words of life. May the reading of your word pour your love over us, heal us, and transform us. Amen.

Scripture Readings for Today Luke 9:51-62

Samaritan Opposition

⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them [a]?" ⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then he and his disciples went to another village.

The Cost of Following Jesus

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family."

⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

A Refection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

*** Hymn of Response**

#676 Blue Hymnal

O Jesus I Have Promised Vs. 1, 3 & 4

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: 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 Can Give Back to God**

By the UMC

One: Let us pray...

Many: Liberating God, who calls us to true freedom, we offer these gifts as signs of our commitment to live by the Spirit's leading.

May our generosity reflect your love that is joyful, peaceful, patient, and kind. Through your grace, may we sow seeds of compassion and justice, nurturing the fruit of the Spirit in our lives and the world. Guide us to use our freedom not for ourselves but for service, so that we may build communities of faith and hope. In Jesus Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please drop off any prayer requests in the basket located on the table 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**

This Little Light of Mine

1 This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

2 Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

3 Don't let Satan blow it out; I'm gonna let it shine!

Don't let Satan blow it out; I'm gonna let it shine!

Don't let Satan blow it out; I'm gonna let it shine

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

4 Shine it all over Westville; I'm gonna let it shine
Shine it all over Westville; I'm gonna let it shine
Shine it all over Westville; I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

*** Charge and Benediction**

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us go to wander the streets with God:

Many: for God has everything to do with work, family, our lives, our world.

One: Let us go to give ourselves away as Jesus did:

Many: for Jesus calls us to upset those around us, as we accumulate less stuff and make more friends.

One: Let us go to find the lonely, the empty, the searchers:

**Many: for the Spirit would embrace each and every person,
drawing them into the open heart of divine love.**

One: Let us 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***

