

# 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 13, 2025*

[www.trinityuccwestville.org](http://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](http://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 justice and mercy, we come to you this day seeking your healing and reconciling love. Help us to be open to your word, your presence, your compassion. Clear our hearts of those things which block your will. Keep us focused on your enabling power so that we, having been healed, may more fully serve you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

#### **Announcements**

##### **Our Call to Worship**

**By Bill Hoppe**

One: Who is my neighbor?

**Many:** The righteous and the unrighteous, the just and the wicked.

One: Who else is my neighbor?

**Many:** The rich and the poor, the weak and the strong.

One: Is anyone else my neighbor?

Many: The great and the small, the arrogant and the humble.

One: They are no different than I am!

Many: You must love your neighbor as yourself!

### **The Opening Hymn of Praise**

### **Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us Vs. 1 – 3**

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
Much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Thy folds prepare:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

2 We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,  
Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,  
Seek us when we go astray:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Hear, O hear us when we pray;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

3 Thou hast promised to receive us,  
Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee.

### **The Call to Confession**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: Are you in love with God? Do you show it in your words, your thoughts, your actions? Are you in love with your neighbor? Do they know this by your presence, your grace, your friendship? Or are you so obsessed with yourself, that you have no time, no room, nor pity for others, or for God?  
Let us confess the limits we place on our love, so we might be filled with God's limitless mercy. Let us join our voices praying our prayer of confession as printed in our bulletin.

### **The Prayer of Confession**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: Let us pray...

All: They may not be beaten down or lying by the road, but there are people we pass by, God.  
Some are family and friends we take so much for granted  
Others are neighbors: who have fallen into the hands of despair; Many are strangers, people we don't know, but we quickly judge them because we see them as weak, or poor, or the enemy.

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:** Forgiving God, rescue us from the power of our sins. Pour out your justice on us, rather than your judgment, that we would be moved with pity, and spurred to action; that we may share hope and mercy with our sisters and brothers in need. Amen.

### Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Children of the Most High: you are forgiven and brought into the kingdom. Be filled with spiritual wisdom, lead lives worthy of your inheritance, bear fruit in all you say and do and think.

**Many:** God has rescued us and redeemed us from our sins, setting aside judgment to shower us with mercy. We will go and do likewise. 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: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

One: Whether we are on a journey, or sitting on the side of the road, we are all God's children. Please share the peace of Christ with each other.

*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

One: Let us pray...

**Many:** Open our ears to hear, our minds to think, and our hearts to move us to do the work you call us to do in Your name Lord. Amen.

#### Our Scripture Readings for Today

##### Amos 7:7-8

<sup>7</sup>This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?"

"A plumb line," I replied.

Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

##### Luke 10:25-37

##### The Parable of the Good Samaritan

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup> "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

<sup>27</sup> He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"<sup>[a]</sup>; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>28</sup> "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

<sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

<sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest

happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii<sup>[L]</sup> and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' <sup>36</sup> "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" <sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

#### Footnotes

- a. Luke 10:27 Deuteronomy 6:5
- b. Luke 10:27 Leviticus 19:18
- c. Luke 10:35 A denarius was the usual daily wage of a day laborer (see Matt. 20:2).

#### A Refection on the Word

### We Respond to God's Word

#### Our Hymn of Response

#### Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian  
in my heart, in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving  
in my heart, in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy  
in my heart, in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus  
in my heart, in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

#### 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  
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 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 the UMC

One: Let us pray...

**Many:** Holy God, source of all good things, we ask that the gifts we offer to you this day would be dedicated to bringing your kingdom of love, justice, and compassion into being in our midst. Help us to see both the beauty of your caring and the ugliness of our indifference. We pray this in Jesus Christ's name. Amen

## The Sacrament of Communion

### Invitation to the Table

One: Christ invites us here. This meal is what connects us to that river of living water and the tree of life that never lacks food for bellies or shade for peaceful rest. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are invited to Christ's table of extravagant welcome

**Many:** O let us taste and see the goodness of the God who calls us to the table and meets us in every feast!

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: May the God of justice be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

One: People of God, open your hearts to the One who restores you.

**Many:** We bring our hearts to God, who has rescued us.

One: Faithful sisters and brothers, sing songs of praise to God.

**Many:** Our voices unite in a chorus of thanksgiving.

One: You sent the prophets to retell your story of hope, but we urged them to go and preach to someone else. But when the world turned its back on us, when others pass by our pain, you sent Jesus to come and find us and to carry us into your heart. Therefore, we lift our songs of joy to you, joining our voices with those in heaven and on earth, who forever praise your name:

**Many:** Holy, holy, holy are you, Rescuer of the weak and needy.

All the hope in creation gives glory to you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who shows us mercy.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: Holy are you, God of Wonder, and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son. Your heart, your soul, your mind, your strength, he was willing to love you enough to become one of us; loving us as much as he loved himself, he endured the battering of the world, and stripped of his glory and grace,

he was left by the side of the world by the gang of sin, evil, and death.  
Moved by his love and sacrifice, you came and found him, alone and forsaken in the tomb.  
Anointing him with the waters of baptism and the oil of hope's gladness,  
you brought him into the new life of your resurrection love.

As we remember his life of great love, we praise you,  
that as we break the bread of life,  
and drink from the cup of grace,  
we know the risen Christ is among us:

**Many: Christ was broken, that we might be made whole;  
Christ was raised, that the gospel might bear fruit;  
Christ will come, that we might inherit eternal life.**

One: Gracious 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**

#### **Words of Institution**

One: 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**

One: 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, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

#### **Our Hymn of Parting**

#### **The Servants Song**

1. Won't you let me be your servant, 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. Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

### **Charge and Benediction**

One: Now go, to be God's blessing to others.

**Many:** We will not stop measuring out our love by the spoonful, but shower everyone with it.

One: Now go, to tell share the story of Jesus' love and hope for all.

**Many:** We will go to speak of the One who, with grace and wonder, shows everyone who they are and who they might be.

One: Now go, to pour out the Spirit's compassion in every corner of your life.

**Many:** We will go to care for everyone, even those we do not know.

One: Now 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!"**