

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 3, 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*

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 the United Methodist Church

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of the Past, Present, and Future,

Seldom do we know what you'll ask of us each day. Many times, we are in the moment when we feel the nudging of your spirit to act. As we spend time in your house today, may our souls be aligned with you, so that we may readily respond when you call. Amen.

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

By the United Methodist Church

One: God calls us here today.

Many: We bring our full selves to God: our strengths and our weaknesses.

One: God calls YOU here today.

Many: We offer all we are to God: our talents and our inadequacies.

One: God calls every part of us to bring divine love and light into the world!

Many: We respond to that call, trusting that God is at work within us.

Opening Hymn of Praise

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Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: We are blessed when we trust in God, but too often we offer our loyalty to idols. We are blessed when we see each other as family, but we prefer to see them as strangers, sometimes, even enemies. So, let us come with our prayers to the One who loves without reservation and offers compassion without conditions. Join me as we pray together our prayer of confession

Prayer of Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray

All: We must admit, Loving God, that if faith is a trust which cannot be confirmed, it is easier not to trust. If faith is the gut feeling that hope is just around the corner, we prefer to keep our eyes closed. And surely, if faith is to be lived out in difficult moments, we often leave it behind at home.

Please take a few moments of silence for personal reflection.

All: God of wonder, call us into your backyard to point up to the stars and remind us that we cannot begin to imagine, or count, how many times you will forgive us. Give us the trust to have faith in you, the faith to hope in you, and the assurance you will surround us with the grace, hope, and wonder shared with us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

One: Like our ancestors in the faith, we can dare to trust in the promises of God, even without any actual proof staring us in the face. This is the good news of God's love.

Many: We will trust in those things that last, in the grace, which counts, in the mercy no one can take away from 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.

*If you are joining us online, 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 Word

Prayer for Illumination

One: Let us pray...

Many: Holy God, you care for our needs with your compassionate presence and teachings.
Holy God, be with us and guide our seeking, and bless us with the understanding of Your word.
In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings for Today Isaiah 40:31

³¹ But those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

A Refection on the Word

By Amelia Birge

We Respond to God's Word

*Our Hymn of Response

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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: As we have entered this church with thanksgiving on our hearts, let us remember that we have the opportunity to joyfully share from the bounty which God has provided. In the love and name of Jesus Christ, let us receive our morning offering.
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 United Methodist Church

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of love and grace, we bring our offerings this day and ask that they might be dedicated to strengthening your church for the making of disciples for Jesus Christ. Your prophet Isaiah reminds us that offering money or possessions is not enough. Open our ears to hear what pleases you and open our eyes to see the opportunities to give, all around us.
We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please drop off any prayer requests in the basket located in the narthex.
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 the Amelia reads the petition, she 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**

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

***Our Hymn of Parting**

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Precious Lord, Take My Hand

***Charge and Benediction**

One: As God's people, let us be ready:

Many: to bring light into the shadows, to confront the bullies around us.

One: As followers of Jesus, let us be ready:

Many: to invite strangers into our hearts, to set the table for everyone.

One: As those gifted by the Spirit, let us be ready:

Many: to choose love, not hate; to feed those who wander.

One: As you go out into the world in peace, continue to 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***

