

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 5, 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

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

By Nancy Townley

One: Let us pray...

Many: Dear God, from the snowcapped peaks of the Himalayas to the life-sustaining plains of the Serengeti, the mystery of your glory is revealed. From the vineyards to the wheat fields, the mystery of your glory is revealed. In the eyes of the young and the wisdom of our elders, the mystery of your glory is revealed. Your glory is over all the earth and we bless your holy name. Your peace comes from a level playing field, where love is higher than the heavens and faithfulness reaches the clouds. Great is your love, and great is your faithfulness to each one of us, Your children, and for this we give you thanks. Amen

Announcements

Call to Worship is written by Rev. Taisaku Obata, Ube Church, United Church of Christ in Japan.

Translated by Mr. David McIntosh

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

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

All: We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid with judgment.

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, God who came down to be with us. Humble us, that we might be true servants to the broken and lost. Open our frozen hearts, so that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

One: This is the good news: in Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished.
You are forgiven, you are made new.

**Many: We will complete God's joy, by sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope, with everyone we meet.
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: 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 God and may the peace of Christ be with us. Amen.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹²Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For 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. ¹⁴Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵Now 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. ¹⁶And 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.

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

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

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

A Reflection on the Word

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

by The UMC

One: Let us pray...

Many: God of infinite patience. As we give our gifts to empower your church, help us to see the things that really matter, places where we can provide for others in need, and deepen our trust in you to take care of us. This, we pray in the name of Jesus, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

One: Christ invites us here. This meal is what connects us to each other and to believers all over the world. 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!

One: What a generous God we worship! What an extravagant Creator, what a Source of abundance! God has filled the universe with stars and galaxies beyond number, has filled the world with creatures and objects, colors and shapes, types and varieties, more than we can apprehend, has built it all on atoms and molecules, too small to see, too many to imagine!

Many: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You.

One: What a vibrant life this is! What an amazing array of experiences, relationships and opportunities! God has provided us with minds and bodies, hearts and souls to perceive and enjoy all that life contains, and has called us to appreciate each unique moment, each special gift!

Many: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You.

One: What an amazing Savior is ours! What a self-giving, compassionate Lord! God has entered our world and shared its challenges, has lived and died as one of us, has risen, and has opened the door to full, eternal and exuberant life! We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You.

Many: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You.

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.

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*