

# 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*

*January 18, 2026*

[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.

#### **Opening with Prayer**

One: Let us pray...  
Many: Lord, open our hearts to the surprising ways in which you offer to us your love and your presence.  
Help us to truly believe in the wondrous ways that you work in our lives. Give us hearts and spirits to be in service with you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

#### **Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: We wait patiently for our God.  
Many: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One who calls us here.

One: We will not chase after other gods.  
Many: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One in whom we can trust.

One: We will tell of all God has done for us.

Many: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One whose salvation is for all.

**\*Hymn of Gathering**

**Christ the Lord is Risen Today**

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!
2. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Dying once He doth all save, Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
3. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!  
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

**Call to Confession**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: It is clear that God wants to hear our prayers and forgive us, for God is willing to lean close to our hearts to listen to our failures, our poor choices, all the things we have done wrong. Please join me, as we pray together our prayer of confession as printed in our bulletin

**Prayer of Confession and Letting Go**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: Let us pray...

Many: You are faithful, Patient God, even as we continue to live in the shadows of life. We could delight in your hopes for us, but choose to do things our way. We could serve the most vulnerable around us, but long to pal around with the powerful. We could share the glad news of deliverance, but prefer to swap stories and gossip.

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...

Many: There is none like you, Redeemer of all. You lean over to listen to our prayers, and whisper forgiveness to our souls. You lift us out of the holes we dig for ourselves, and set us on hope's solid ground. You strengthen our weak faith with the life, grace, and love of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior.

**Words of Forgiveness and Assurance**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: Come, dear friends and receive God's grace; see all the God is doing for you; follow Jesus, as he leads you closer to God.

Many: I will sing of God's love for me; I will sing a new song of hope and wonder.  
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: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace with among ourselves. Let us get up as we are able, and pass the peace of Christ.

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**

**By Rev. Thom Shuman**

One: Let us pray...

**Many: May the reading of Your word help us to be people of living faith. May we live as people of gospel power. May we embody the spirit of self-discipline and love—the spirit that is ours by the grace and power of God, through Jesus Christ. Amen**

### **Scripture Readings for Today**

**John 1:29-42**

**The Lamb of God**

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup>And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

### **The First Disciples of Jesus**

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup>He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup>He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

### **A Refection on the Word**

**\* Hymn of Response**

**Just As I Am**

1 Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, and waiting not  
to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

**Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives**

One: In Heaven it's believed that there is no good thing lacking. There is no scarcity, no shortage. We have the opportunity today to mirror Heaven. Let's bring whatever we are led to the altar, so that abundance may flow and that God's people and house lack no good thing. 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: Ever-Present and Calling God, knowing us from the beginning, naming us as your own, receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them—and us—to proclaim your justice, to shine your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify your name. In the name of Christ, your Servant and our Savior, we pray. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

Please drop off any prayer requests in the basket located in the narthex, 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**

**One:** Having learned new words from our God,

**Many:** we will let our light warm others in the bleak midwinter of life, to whisper to them of grace and hope.

**One:** Having learned new ways to serve from Jesus,

**Many:** we will go to clear paths for those lost in oppression, to wait with those on life's margins

**One:** Having learned new songs from the Spirit,

**Many:** we will go to sing of peace in all the broken places, to light the way out of the shadows of injustice.

One: Having worshipped our risen Lord and Savior, 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***

