

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

April 19, 2026

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 Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

One: Let us pray...

Many: Living God, you are the fire that burns within us. You open our hearts to your presence, revealed in word and song, in hospitality and friendship, in sacrament and presence. Open our minds again so that we may recognize you when you meet us in unexpected moments. Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Lift your voices to God.

Many: We call on the One who promises to hear us.

One: In life, in death, in every moment, God deals graciously with us.

Many: We rejoice in the One who saves us.

One: We will break the Bread of life in thanksgiving to God.

Many: We will lift up the Cup of salvation, drinking deeply from it.

***Hymn of Gathering 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]

Call to Confession

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: When we confess our lives, we are calling on God who promises, not only to hear us, but to heal us with forgiveness and hope. Join me, as we pray together our prayer of confession...

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

Many: We cut you to the heart, Loving God, with the silly choices we make. We had hoped our lives would reflect your presence, but those around us can see how we fall short. We had hoped our words might bring healing, but they end up hurting others around us. We had hoped to find Jesus, but cannot see him in all those you send to us.

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: Oh, how foolish we are to think we can go on without your mercy, Lord God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, you judge us impartially from the depths of your heart, so we may be born anew by your grace, to continue the journey into your future. Amen

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: This we know for certain - we are forgiven by our gracious God.

This good news never ceases to astound us!

Many: This promise is passed on to us, so we may share it 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: The Peace of Christ be with you:

Many: And also with you.

One: We Share the Peace of God God's peace passes all understanding; It guides our hearts and directs our minds; 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. Dr. Joanne Carson Brown

One: Let us pray...

Many: Gracious God, open our ears to hear your words of challenge, open our eyes to see your words of blessing, open our hearts to receive the spirit of your wisdom moving in our midst. Amen

Scripture Readings for Today

Luke 24:13-35

The Walk to Emmaus

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.

³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

A Refection on the Word

By Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

*** Hymn of Response O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee**

1 O Master, let me walk with thee

In lowly paths of service free;

Tell me thy secret, help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

4 In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broad'ning way,
In peace that only thou canst give,
With thee, O Master, let me live.

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: 1 Peter 1:21 tells us that, "Through [Jesus], you have come to trust in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God." Let us give glory to the Living God by demonstrating that trust and hope in the offering of gifts to meet the needs of our community and to manifest the love of God in us

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

One: Let us pray...

Many: Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don't recognize you.

You speak, and our hearts burn within us. You break the bread, and our eyes are opened. Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news. Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. In Jesus' name 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 Crown Him with Many Crowns**

**1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**

**3 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
who rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

**2 Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
all hail redeemer hail
for thou hast died for me
praise and glory shall not fail
Throughout eternity.**

**4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n,
one with the Father known
One with the Spirit thro' Him giv'n
From yonder glorious throne
To thee be endless praise
For thou for us hast died
Be thou, O Lord, thro' endless days
Adored and magnified**

*** Charge and Benediction**

By Rev. Thom Shuman

One: The stone has been rolled away!
Many: We will go to share this good news!

One: Jesus walks with us on our journey.
Many: We will go with him wherever the road takes us.

One: Jesus has opened our eyes.
Many: We will go to serve everyone we see.

One: Follow Jesus as you walk 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! You are always welcome here!