

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 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: Holy God, we come before You knowing you go before us and You keep us in safety. We come to this place in space and time across distance and difference as Your offspring to receive an inheritance of your promise and to renew our lives. Let our spirits receive Your word and our hearts ignite with Your compassion, mercy, and righteousness. Let Your kingdom dwell in us and through us as we worship and follow You. Amen.

Announcements

Call to Worship

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: From the moment we open our eyes each morning, until we close them at night, God is with us.
Many: There is no one like you, our God!

One: In times when we are surrounded with struggles, in all the surprising places we find hope, Jesus is with us.

Many: **There is no one like you Jesus, our Brother!**

One: When we feel orphaned by the world, when we are welcomed into faith's family, the Holy Spirit is with us.

Many: **There is no one like you, Witnessing Spirit!**

***Hymn of Gathering Come, Ye Thankful People Come Vs. 1,2 & 4**

1 Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field,
fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown
are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come,
bring thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home.

Call to Confession

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: When we fail to live as God's people, we are like flowers which give way to weeds. But God seeks us out, not to condemn us, but to comfort, to forgive, and to bring us home. Let us stop playing hide-and-seek with our God, as we confess our sins together, saying,

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Let us pray...

All: **Disrespectfully we turn against You, God of truth. When we follow those desires that control us; when we live for ourselves, shutting off the gifts of those around us; when we think we do not need to share love, hope, peace with others, we show how we have joined those who ignore Your way of life.**

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: Yet, You have chosen to adopt us as your children, God, forgiving us and making us inheritors with Jesus of Your grace and joy. So, lead us by the Spirit, that we might follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into creation which aches for love and healing. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness and Assurance

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: In sorrow so deep we cannot find our way out, God cradles us in comfort;
in moments so shadowed we trip over our fears, God lights the way for us;
in joy which cascades into our souls, God fills us with healing.

Many: Even when we cannot see it, God's hope is all around us, surrounding us with peace and healing. 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: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to each other. The peace of the Lord be with you all. May 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: Open our hearts to listen, and our minds to think, as we hear your word today God. Amen.

Scripture Reading for Today

Matthew 13:24-30; 36 - 43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

²⁴ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and

gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

A Refection on the Word

by Rev. David Robberts-Mosser

* Hymn of Response In the Bulb There is a Flower

1. In the bulb, there is a flower
In the seed, an apple tree
In cocoons, a hidden promise
Butterflies will soon be free
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

2. There's a song in every silence
Seeking word and melody
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me
From the past will come the future
What it holds, a mystery
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

3. In our end is our beginning
In our time infinity
On our doubt there is believing
In our life, eternity
In our death, a resurrection
At the last, a victory
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

Offering of Our Gifts and Our Lives

One: God's gifts are generous and abundant. Give in the spirit of sufficiency and trust that God has provided for all of our needs. Our gifts enable us to share abundance so that all may feast and rejoice in God's creation. 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: Holy One, may these gifts reflect our trust in You and Your provision. Magnify them for Your purpose and grant us discernment to be caretakers of the resources entrusted to us. 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 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find that promised rest.
Take away our bent to sinning, Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish then Thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love and praise!

*** Charge and Benediction**

by Rev. Thom Shuman

One: Go forth as God's people.

Many: We will greet everyone as one of the family.

One: Go forth as followers of Jesus.

Many: We will serve everyone we meet, especially those who have been thrown aside by the world.

One: Go forth with the gifts of the Spirit in you.

Many: We will be that hope which everyone longs to see.

One: Go forth 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***

