

OCTOBER 11, 2026



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Trinity United Church of Christ

Deerfield, Illinois

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

A wholeheartedly inclusive Christian community
called by a challenging and progressive faith
to live lives of love and justice

Virtual Worship

To Dial In by Phone Only 1 (312) 626-6799 - MTG ID 874 9506 6741

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495066741?pwd=NjdvYnNycy80SWpldVJQZmQ4UDd0QT09>

Participant ID (Not required. None provided) **“Otherwise just press #”**

Meeting Password: **760760**

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

FALL WORSHIP SERIES

TO LOVE OR NOT TO LOVE - OUR ONGOING QUESTION

With Music

What The World Needs Now Is Love

by Burt Bacharach

With Meditation

“We can disagree and still love each other unless your disagreement is rooted in my oppression and denial of my humanity and right to exist.”

— Robert Jones Jr.

“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; it is also what it takes, on occasion, to sit down and listen.”

— William Arthur Ward

*Please stand in body or spirit

INVOKING THE SPIRIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. David Wywialowski

Leader: We come from different places, carrying different stories, experiences, hopes, and convictions.

People: Yet God calls us together.

Leader: We will not always agree with one another.

People: Yet God calls us to love one another.

Leader: Love does not ask us to erase our differences.

People: Love asks us to see one another with compassion and grace.

Leader: When understanding comes easily, may we give thanks.

People: When understanding is difficult, may we remain open to one another.

Leader: When disagreement divides us, may the love of God show us another way.

People: A way of courage, humility, justice, and peace.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose love is greater than all that separates us.

All: Let us worship God together.

*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth #28

(see insert)

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

We share “happenings” in the community, and lift up concerns for prayer.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

PROCLAIMING THE WORD FOR OUR LIVES

Reading from the Epistles

Philippians 4:1-13

Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon

Love Beyond Agreement

Rev. Wywialowski

HYMN OF RESPONSE

We Are Your People #309
(vv 1-4)

(see insert)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Leader: God of love, you call us into community with people who do not always think, believe, or see the world as we do.

People: Teach us to love beyond agreement.

Leader: When we are quick to speak and slow to listen,

People: Give us humility to hear one another.

Leader: When disagreement becomes anger, and anger threatens to become contempt,

People: Help us remember the humanity and sacred worth of one another.

Leader: When we must speak difficult truths or stand against injustice,

People: Give us courage to speak with compassion and love.

Leader: When relationships require healthy boundaries,

People: Give us wisdom to know when to step closer and when to step away.

Leader: When understanding seems difficult and agreement seems impossible,

People: Teach us to ask, “What does love require of us?”

Leader: God of grace, open our hearts to the difficult, courageous, and transforming work of love.

All: Teach us to love beyond agreement. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

(an offering plate is available by the door in the Narthex or you may mail your gift)

Duke Ellington's Sound of Love

by Charles Mingus

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord's Prayer (using “debts” and “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.

*HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing #593

(see insert)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

by Moses Hogan

FLOWERS

Today's flowers are given by the Holtz Family in honor of Will's birthday

WELCOME

We're glad you've chosen to worship with Trinity today! If you're new, please introduce yourself, we'd love to get acquainted. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask Pastor Dale!

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor

Rev. Dale Susan Edmonds, M.Div.

847-722-6756

PastorDale@trinitydeerfield.org

Minister of Music

Rev. Dr. Pamela J. Keckler

Guest Preacher

Rev. David Wywialowski

Guest Musician

Kevin Kizer, saxophone

Office Manager

Heather Hughes

Lay Officers

Council President

Vice President

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Church Email

Church Office Telephone

Church Office Hours

Church Website

Steve Jahraus

Jean Harris

Scott Peterson

Dixie Inman

tuccdf@gmail.com

847-945-5050

Tue.–Wed. 9-12

trinitydeerfield.org

Prayer Concerns

Our deepest condolences and prayers for Judy Desenis, Scott Peterson and family upon the death of Joanne Desenis

Prayers for brand-new parents Mike and Kristen and baby Maverick who are suddenly dealing with a diagnosis of significant cancers in the mother

Continued prayers for Janet Raciti upon the death of her brother, Salvatore Raciti

Continued prayers for Barbara Struthers upon the death of her sister, Nancy Rose

Stephany Pond, Jean Harris' daughter

Andrew Hargitt as he recovers from surgery

The Kerschkes as they settle into their new community

Walter Eduardo Jimenez and all those now living in fear...

Joyce Black, friend of Marge Magnani

Sarah Hughes as she recovers

Levi Chisholm, continuing slow & steady recovery from drowning accident

Don Inman

Mary Ferrante

Irene Santos and Family on the sudden passing of her brother

Carmen Ruiz & Fernando Rodriguez, Barbara Struthers' daughter-in-law's parents in Puerto Rico

The People of Ukraine and Leaders of all nations

For youth who feel alienated or without hope

For all whose lives are torn by disasters of human making

For those suffering devastation in the Middle East

***Please let Heather know when there should be changes to the prayer list. We don't want to remove anyone prematurely or omit anyone that should be held in all of our hearts.**

Today is Laity Sunday, the day we celebrate the many astounding gifts of people who are not authorized or ordained ministers and yet serve the church in manifold ways. On this day, we remember that the priesthood of all believers means that every person has a vital part to play in the life of local congregations.

Laity Sunday is a day of joy, a day to remember that when we focus on standing with one another, even as we maintain a variety of perspectives or behaviors, we are living God's dream for us. Laity Sunday is a day to remember the gladness of giving into the spaciousness of God's call and purpose for all people. Laity Sunday is a day to focus on, as the letter writer exhorts in the epistle to the Philippians, "whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise."

Laity Sunday is a day to remember that this journey can be full of wonder and bursting with possibility. In short, Laity Sunday is a perfect day to play together. If you haven't already, it's a good day to check out *"Grow Your Church: A Board Game for Engaging the Marks of Faithful and Vital Local Congregations"*.

This game is designed to get people talking about church vitality through the Marks of Faithful and Vital Local Churches. It will help deepen relationships with each other and with the congregation's covenantal partners while laughing, thinking creatively and having critical conversations.

This game is for the decision makers and strategic thinkers. It's for the board room and the dining room table. It's for the flower arranging committee and the deacons. This game is for people who love their church and want to experience it grow in vitality and faithfulness. Roll the dice and move about a garden path with your church friends!

You can learn more about the *"Grow Your Church: A Board Game for Engaging the Marks of Faithful and Vital Local Congregations"*, and order one for your own congregation at uccresources.org.

For the Beauty of the Earth

*St. 1-3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.**St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the splen - dor of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in - spires, for a world where none ex - clude,

For the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev - er tires, and for ev - ery heart re - newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Folliott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain

Conrad Kocher, 1838

Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

We Are Your People

Brian Wren, 1973; rev. 1993

Unison

1 We are your peo - ple: Spir - it of grace,
 2 Joined in com - mu - ni - ty, trea - sured and fed,
 3 Rich in di - ver - si - ty, help us to live
 4 Glad of tra - di - tion, help us to see

you dare to make us Christ to our neigh - bors
 may we dis - cov - er gifts in each oth - er,
 clos - er than neigh-bors, o - pen to strang - ers,
 in all life's chang-ing, where Christ is lead - ing,

1 & 6 *Last time, end* 2-5

of ev - ery cul - ture and place.
 will - ing to lead and be led.
 a - ble to clash and for - give.
 where our best ef - forts should be.

5 Give, as we ven-ture
 jus-tice and care
 (peace-ful, in-sist-ing,
 risk-ing, re-sist-ing),
 wis-dom to know when and where.

6 Spir-it, u-nite us,
 make us, by grace,
 will-ing and read-y,
 Christ's liv-ing bod-y,
 lov-ing the whole hu-man race.

Originally written in 1973 for the hymnal of the United Reformed Church in England and Wales, New Church Praise, this text was revised by Brian Wren in 1993. The tune is named for the composer's father-in-law, who served as chair of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

Tune: WHITFIELD Irr.
 John Wilson, 1975

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.

1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has

har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your

rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the

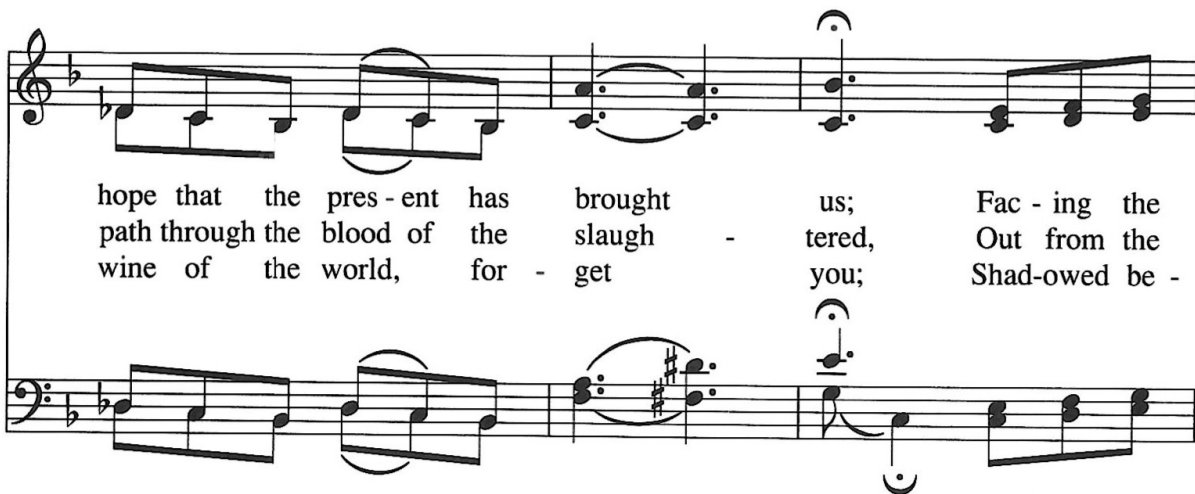
roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the

Poet James Weldon Johnson was the first African-American to pass the bar examination in the state of Florida, and served as U.S. consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua. He collaborated with his composer brother, John Rosamond Johnson, to write Broadway operettas and edit song collections. John appeared in vaudeville, directed London musicals, and headed the Music School Settlement in New York.

Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE Irr.
 J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921



faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the



hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -



ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our



on till vic - to - ry is won.
gleam of our bright star is cast.
God, true to our na - tive land.