

WHEN  
ALL  
SEEMS  
LOST



# Trinity United Church of Christ

Deerfield, Illinois

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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**

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## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

### SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES

### GOSPEL TAPAS

With Music

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

in Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

arr Lloyd Larson

With Meditation

*“What you will allow is what will continue...”*

*- Elizabeth Gilbert*

\*Please stand in body or spirit

# INVOKING THE SPIRIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dale Susan Edmonds

OPENING PRAYER *Evil*

(adapted) Steve Garnaas-Holmes

There can be evil in this good world  
because in the beginning  
when God said “Let there be light”  
the world was born from wanting.  
Wanting can go many ways—  
divorced from trusting, many bad ones.

**The spark inside every evil is urge —  
energy toward something,  
which is movement, transformation —  
which is divine.**  
**Every evil carries the seed  
of its own redemption.**

All the evil in the world  
is no different from mine.  
It’s merely the fear  
that we don’t have what we need.

**But I do.**  
**I just need to practice needing God.**  
**When my trust overtakes my wanting,**  
**I am on the right road.**

\*HYMN

*Stand By Me*

(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 Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 [29-36]

Reading from the Letters

Romans 10:5-15

Sermon

*What we will allow...*

Rev. Edmonds

HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Spirit of Jesus #590*

(see insert)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Free Us From the Spell*

(adapted) Rev. Cameron Trimble

God beyond every “favored” or division,

**give us eyes clear enough  
to recognize danger  
and hearts honest enough  
to recognize ourselves.**

When power crushes the vulnerable,  
make us brave.

When fear demands an enemy,  
make us discerning.

**When anger demands purity,  
return us to the complicated truth  
of our shared humanity.  
Release us from the need  
to place all evil outside ourselves.**

Keep our resistance rooted in love,  
our courage free from cruelty,  
and our speech faithful to what is true.

**Teach us to grieve  
what has been lost  
without sacrificing one another  
on the altar of our fear.**

Help us protect those in danger  
without becoming captive  
to the logic of domination.

**May we name harm clearly,  
repair what we can,  
and refuse every spell  
that requires another person  
to become less human. Amen.**

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

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

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

by Robert Lowry, 1872  
arr Lloyd Larson

## 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

*Come Labor On #532*

(see insert)

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Here I Am Lord*

by Daniel Schutte  
arr Marianne Kim

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## 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!

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## 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

### Office Manager

Heather Hughes

### Lay Officers

Council President

Steve Jahraus

Vice President

Jean Harris

Treasurer

Scott Peterson

Financial Secretary

Dixie Inman

Church Email

tuccdf@gmail.com

Church Office Telephone

847-945-5050

Church Office Hours

Tue.–Wed. 9-12

Church Website

trinitydeerfield.org

## When All Seems Lost

Joseph was a dreamer. He was also the child his father loved the most, which didn't sit well with his brothers. So much so, they plotted to kill their younger sibling. But not wanting Joseph's blood on their hands, they threw him in a pit instead. When the pit didn't ease their guilty conscience, they then sold the boy for 20 pieces of silver to a group of Ishmaelites on their way to Egypt.

Yes, Joseph was a dreamer. And yes, he was the family's golden child. But I believe what really spurred the brothers' hatred was that Joseph dared to dream.

"Here comes the dreamer," his brothers would say with a biting sarcasm when Joseph approached. Here comes the one with lofty ideas, with bold plans, with a vision that quite honestly isn't enviable but downright frightening because it holds a mirror to our inability to embrace a new way of living.

And that's the thing about dreams. They have the power to unsettle others. A reason why many life coaches advise against sharing too freely our most treasured dreams with everyone, because not everyone will understand and be supportive. Many a dream has been squashed by a naysayer who thought they were listing all the cons out of love and concern for the dreamer.

What a shame it is that in our lives we give too much power to the opinions of others, especially when it comes to our dreams, for those dreams just might be from God who, in the Bible, often communicated in nocturnal slumbering.

And when a dream is a God dream, they are never then the sole property of the dreamer. They are for the making of a better world, which comes at the price of the old world having to come to an end or at least make some big changes. Thus, why people often seek to kill dreams.

Yes, here comes the dreamer. No, I am not referring to Joseph, but to you, for we all have dreams. Some so big they might seem impossible, but they are not. Some within reach, ready to be grabbed hold of. And all with the ability to change life as we know it.

As Harriet Tubman once said, "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars and to change the world."

If all seems lost right now for you, my dear dreamer, it is not. Keep reaching. Keep believing. God is with you.

*Inspiring God, may today we find ourselves daring to dream once again. May we find the strength to take those forgotten dreams off the dusty shelves of our hearts. May we believe beyond belief, that with You, all things are indeed possible. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

*(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)*



## **Prayer Concerns**

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

Prayers for the family of Kaye Dufern, life-long friend of Roger Dart, who are grieving her death

Prayers for the family of Jim McGrain, life-long friend of Roger Dart, who continues in home hospice

Continued prayers for Barbara Struthers upon the death of her sister, Nancy Rose Stephany Pond, Jean Harris' daughter

Long-time Deerfield resident Barry Clark

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.**

# Stand by Me

Charles Albert Tindley, 1905

$\text{♩} = 105$

1. When the storms of life are rag - ing, Stand by  
2. In the midst of trib - u - la - tion, Stand by  
3. In the midst of faults and fail - ures, Stand by  
4. In the midst of per - se - cu - tion, Stand by  
5. When I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble, Stand by

me (stand by me); When the storms of life are rag - ing, Stand by  
me (stand by me); In the midst of trib - u - la - tion, Stand by  
me (stand by me); In the midst of faults and fail - ures, Stand by  
me (stand by me); In the midst of per - se - cu - tion, Stand by  
me (stand by me); When I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble, Stand by

me (stand by me); When the world is toss - ing me Like a  
me (stand by me); When the hosts of hell as - sail, And my  
me (stand by me); When I do the best I can, And my  
me (stand by me); When my foes in battle a - rray Un - der-  
me (stand by me); When my life becomes a bur - den, And I'm

ship up - on the sea Thou who rul - est wind and wa - ter, Stand by me (stand by me).  
strength be - gins to fail, Thou who nev - er lost a bat - tle, Stand by me (stand by me).  
- friends mis-un - der-stand, Thou who know-est all a - bout me, Stand by me (stand by me).  
take to stop my way, Thou who sav - ed Paul and Si - las, Stand by me (stand by me).  
near - ing chill-y Jordan, O Thou "Li - ly of the Vall-ey," Stand by me (stand by me).

## Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor

590

Brian Wren, 1973; rev. 1994

Rom. 13:8-14

*Unison*

1 Spir - it of Je - sus, if I love my neigh - bor,  
 2 And if, when I have an - swered need with kind - ness,  
 3 If I am hug - ging safe - ty or pos - ses - sions,

out of my knowl - edge, lei - sure, power or wealth,  
 my neigh - bor ris - es, wak - ened from de - spair,  
 un - curl my spir - it, as your love pre - vails,

o - pen my mind to un - der - stand the an - ger of  
 o - pen my heart to hear the cry for jus - tice that  
 to join my neigh - bors, work for lib - er - a - tion, and

help - less - ness that hates my power to help.  
 strug - gles for the chang - es that I fear.  
 find . . . my free - dom at the mark of nails.

Brian Wren gave this poem the subtitle "Pilgrimage of Confession" when it was first written, referring in part to the walk made by nine white South Africans in 1972 to draw other whites' attention to the injustice of migrant labor laws.

Tune: BENJAMIN 11.10.11.10.  
 Jonathan McNair, 1994

## Come, Labor On

532

Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859, rev. 1863; alt.

Matt. 9:37-38; 20:1-7

1 Come, la-bor on. Who dares stay i - dle on the har-vest plain  
 2 Come, la-bor on. Claim the high call-ing an - gels can-not share;  
 3 Come, la-bor on. A - way with gloom-y doubts and faith-less fear!  
 4 Come, la-bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west-ern sky,

while all a - round us waves the gold-en grain? And to each ser - vant  
 to young and old the gos - pel glad-ness bear. Re - deem the time; its  
 No one so weak but may do ser - vice here; Though fee - ble a - gents,  
 till the long shad-ows o'er the path-way lie, And a glad sound comes

does the Sav-ior say, "Go work to - day."  
 hours too swift-ly fly. The night draws nigh.  
 may we all ful-fill God's righ - - - teous will.  
 with the set-ting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Jane Laurie Borthwick, along with her sister, Sarah, was a member of the Scottish Free Church and translated many German hymns. English-born Thomas Tertius Noble was organist-choirmaster at St. Thomas' Church, New York City, for thirty-five years.

Tune: ORA LABORA 4.10.10.10.4.  
 Thomas Tertius Noble, 1918