



Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

"We take the Bible seriously, but we don't take it literally."

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<http://www.tippemission.org>

Welcome To Worship

October 19, 2025

9:30 a.m.



*Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind thoughts are the roots,
Kind words are the flowers,
Kind deeds are the fruits,
Take care of your garden
And keep out the weeds,
Fill it with sunshine,
Kind words, and kind deeds.*

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

"Cultivating Kind Thoughts" Rev. Trish Eckert

✧Candle-lighting and Chimes

✧**Prelude** 288 *Spirit of the Living God* ~Tippe Musicians

✧Welcome and community news

DI orientation sessions for the upcoming season will be held on:

Sunday, October 26 | 4:00pm-5:30pm

Sunday, November 2 | 4:00pm-5:30pm

Sunday, November 9 | 4:00pm-5:30pm

RSVP's to tippechurch@gmail.com are helpful as we prepare for each date. We are working on adding a Zoom option. Volunteers need attend only one.

Tippe Membership Classes “Being Presbyterian”

If you are interested in becoming a member at Tippe, or are curious about how Presbyterian theology and history shapes our faith tradition today, please join us on 3 Sundays after worship (about 11:15 am - 1pm) October 26, November 2, and November 9. Questions? Contact Pastor Trish.

Committee of Interfaith Understanding is hosting a *Food and Faith Event* Sunday, October 26 at 2 PM, Tricklee Bee Cafe, 4424 W. North Ave

✧Readying Ourselves for Worship

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

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✧A Poem as we Center Ourselves in this Moment

The Guest House by Jalaluddin Rumi, translated by Coleman Barks

This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival.

A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they're a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still, treat each guest honorably.
He may be clearing you out
for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice,
meet them at the door laughing,
and invite them in.

Be grateful for whoever comes,
because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond.

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other - Our Check-in**

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: And also with you

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Gathering as God's People: Cultivating Kindness**

This is the second in our 4-week worship series, "Cultivating Kindness," and this Sunday we consider what it means to cultivate kind thoughts, and how we create space and build support to do so going forward. This might include practicing self-compassion, engaging in mindfulness, and performing intentional acts of kindness.

Throughout this stewardship season, we're turning our attention to what we want to cultivate, grow, and build here at Tippe, as well as within ourselves and among our community. We are called to stand where Jesus stands—with and for those whom society often seeks to exclude, erase, or diminish. The gospel we proclaim insists that our neighbor's need is the occasion for our love and that our public life is shaped by justice, mercy, and a commitment to the common good.

This week I've been carrying around this anonymous observation about kindness, entitled, "A kind heart always wins."

People often mistake kindness for weakness--but that's far from the truth. Many struggle to be kind. It's easier to be selfish, cold, or mean.

But here's what they forget:

A kind person makes others feel seen.

A kind person becomes the breath of fresh air the world forgot to give.

Kindness lingers.

It makes people feel safe.

It feels like home.

And in a world that's already heavy...

A kind heart becomes shelter.

Never doubt it: kindness always wins.

In the coming weeks, let us contemplate love through the lens of kindness – in our hearts, in our thoughts, through our words and through our actions.

✧ **Time for Young Hearts *Connecting with Kindness***

✧ **Gathering Hymn 423 *Great is Your Faithfulness*** (v 1-3) *New Century Hymnal*

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

Throughout the ages, disciples have said,
"I will follow you wherever you go."

**God, give us the freedom to follow you
in the ways of love.**

We come from busy homes, filled with little time
to consider Christ in our lives.

**God, give us the strength to follow you
in the ways of peace.**

In times of struggle, we look to God for help.

**God, give us the opportunity to follow you
in the ways of kindness.**

Today, we lift up the fruits of the spirit,
and the joy of following God.

**God, give us the patience to follow you
in the ways of faith. Amen.**

✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Holy One,

we come before you today:

full of hope,

full of desire,

full of promise.

Help us take up the mantle of faith

you have laid before us,

that we may use our own gifts of the Spirit

to face the challenges before us.

Help us face the turmoil

within and around us,

that we may face the future unafraid.

Show us your way, your truth,

and your life. Amen.

✧ **Special Music *Ripple*** by Ahlay Blakely (*modified lyrics in italics*)

(1) What if what we are doing right now ripples out beyond what the eye can see?
What is this step a part of that's bigger than me, bigger than me, bigger than me?
What is happening through me? happening, happening, happening through me?

(2) What if what we are *thinking* right now ripples out beyond what the eye can see?
What is this *thought* a part of that's bigger than me, bigger than me, bigger than me?
What is happening through me? happening, happening, happening through me?

(3) What if what we are *saying* right now ripples out beyond what the eye can see?
What *are these words* a part of that's bigger than me, bigger than me, bigger than me?
What is happening through me? happening, happening, happening through me?

Repeat v1

What if?

✧ **Prayer of Intention**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your gracious Word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching**

Galatians 5: 22-26

22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. 24 And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Philippians 4: 4-8

4 Rejoice in the Sovereign always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Sovereign is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, 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, think about these things.

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

✧ **Message “Cultivating Kind Thoughts”** Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Reflection Questions**

- Do I remain mindful of kindness toward myself and practice self-love and self-forgiveness?
- When have I been able to make a blessing of the brokenness in my life? In what ways has my pain expanded my compassion for others who suffer?
- Do I endeavor to face the pain of the world and match it with forgiveness?

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Hymn 451 *Be Now My Vision*** *New Century Hymnal*

✧ **Our gifts of support** God’s generous compassion is limitless. As we open our hearts to courageously and generously share our resources, we join the movement of God’s compassion in the world. God shares abundantly, we share faithfully, others share generously, and God’s love and compassion grow endlessly.

Offertory Hymn 712 *As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought* (v2)

Offertory Blessing

✧ **Prayers of the People**

Community Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother
who is in us here on earth,
holy is your name
in the hungry
who share their bread and their song.

Your Kingdom come,
which is a generous land
flowing with milk and honey.

Let us do your will,
standing up when all are sitting down,
and raising our voice
when all are silent.

You are giving us our daily bread
in the song of the bird and the miracle of the corn.

Forgive us
for keeping silent in the face of injustice,
and for burying our dreams;
for not sharing bread and wine,
love and the land,
among us, now.

Don't let us fall into the temptation
of shutting the door through fear,
of resigning ourselves to hunger and injustice,
of taking up the same arms as the enemy.

But deliver us from evil.
Give us the perseverance and the solidarity to look for love,
even if the path has not yet been trodden,
even if we fail;
so we shall have known your Kingdom
which is being built forever and ever. Amen.

✧ **Benediction**

May the transforming love of God
work in your lives, today and always.
Go forth into the world with, love, peace and kindness.
Follow wherever Christ leads you.
Fulfill the promise found in the fruit of the Spirit. Amen.

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response:**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧ **Postlude** 27 *Sacred of the Body*