



# 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 26, 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 Words" Rev. Trish Eckert*

## ✧Candle-lighting and Chimes

✧**Prelude** *Open Now the Gates of Glory* played by Zo Trembley

## ✧Welcome and community news

**DI orientation** sessions begin this Sunday, for three Sundays in a row:

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](mailto: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 starting this Sunday after worship (about 11:15 am - 1pm) and for the two following Sundays: November 2, and November 9. Questions? Contact Pastor Trish.

**Session members** are reminded to attend the joint Grace/Tippecanoe training Saturday morning, Nov 1st at Grace Presbyterian Church, sponsored by the Presbytery. Vince Racioppo will lead us. Exact start time will be communicated by email.

## ✧Readying Ourselves for Worship

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***

✧ **A Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment**

***a blessing for when you might not be kind today*** ~ by Kate Bowler

God, I can't tell which person I will be today:

kind and loving,

turn-the-other-cheek and I'll-be-right-here,

soft but strong.

I will keep no record of wrongs.

I might be someone else entirely:

brittle and judgmental,

I'm-taking-my-share and you-deal-with-it-alone,

hard but weak.

I will keep every record, *dammit*.

I am an accountant in this world

that does not give me what I need.

God, these multiple selves, you know

(of course you know) are parts of a whole.

You send the love I have to give.

You grieve the pain that causes me to withhold.

You send your spirit every day

not to stitch us back together

but to heal every tender part from the inside out.

So, in the meantime, bless this generous self,

bless this breakable self,

bless these many parts and make them whole.

~ **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

✧ **Time for Young Hearts *Live in Love***

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

On this third of our four-week worship series, "Cultivating Kindness," we will explore what it means to cultivate kind words. Last week, when we discussed kind thoughts, we noted that practicing self-compassion and engaging in mindfulness were key in shaping our thoughts. This carries through when you consider that our thoughts go on to shape our words. Certainly, most of us struggle to use encouraging and gentle words with ourselves, let alone with others! But let us be mindful that kindness is a fruit of the Spirit, not a bootstraps effort in which we have to remake our personalities or start wearing a muzzle. The psalmist got it right when they sang, "Let the words of my mouth... be pleasing in your sight, O God, my rock and my redeemer." You may feel as if this is an insurmountable goal—until you remember the power of God to change us from the inside out.

In 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. Through this series, let us continue to contemplate love through the lens of kindness – in our hearts, in our thoughts, through our words and through our actions.

### ✧ **Gathering Hymn 174 *Seek the Ways of Wisdom***

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

Children of God: welcome!

**Welcome to this place of love and grace,**

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

**God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,**

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

**We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

#### ✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Awaken us to the Oneness of all things,

to the beauty and truth of Unity.

May we become aware of the

interdependence

of all living things,

and come to know You in everything,

and all things in You.

For as we attune to your Presence within us,

we know not separation,

and joy becomes our dwelling place.

~ (excerpted from "Psalm 106," Nan Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*)

✧ **Special Music** *Flower Song* by Leo De Libes, played by Zo Trembley & Willie Gonwa

#### ✧ **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**

##### **Proverbs 16: 20-24**

20 Those who are attentive to a matter will prosper,  
and happy are those who trust in God.

- 21 The wise of heart is called perceptive,  
and pleasant speech increases persuasiveness.
- 22 Wisdom is a fountain of life to one who has it,  
but folly is the punishment of fools.
- 23 The mind of the wise makes their speech judicious  
and adds persuasiveness to their lips.
- 24 Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,  
sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

### **Ephesians 4: 29-32**

29 Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. 31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

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 Words”** Rev. Trish Eckert

### ✧ **Reflection Questions**

- What helps me accept and endure hurt without letting it degrade me and without passing it on?
- Am I willing to try to heal my pain by talking about it with others?
- Do I cultivate the qualities of kindness through my listening and speaking?
- When in my life have I spoken a word of hope for others? When have others spoken a word of hope for me?

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Hymn 316 *Where Charity and Love Prevail***

### ✧ **Our gifts of support**

God is the giver of all good things,  
the one who fashioned each of us with unique gifts  
that together make the Body of Christ whole.

In gratitude for all we have received,  
we offer our lives back to God — we share our time, our skills, our money  
and in so doing, we say “yes” to God’s invitation  
to join in Her Kin-dom building work here on earth.

**Offertory Hymn 19 *God of Great, and God of Small* (v 1)**

*God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong.  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

**Offertory Blessing**

✧ **Prayers of the People**

**Community Prayers**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Creator, you are all around us and within us.**

**We praise you with many different names.**

**Help us live as we understand we should**

**from knowing you**

**in harmony and connectedness with each other,**

**with all creatures of the earth,**

**and with the earth and the universe itself.**

**Help us to use your resources wisely**

**so that we might be sustained.**

**Help us take responsibility when we fail to live harmoniously,**

**and help us understand and forgive when others let us down.**

**Let us know you well enough that we are not tempted**

**to live outside of your love,**

**and empower us to work together to overcome evil.**

**We believe that you created the world**

**and that you will be all around us and within us forever. Amen.**

~ Adapted by Lyn Seils Robertson

✧ **Benediction**

*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** *Ashokan Farewell* played by Willie Gonwa