

October 2026 Worship Guide

CHERRYVALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 709 CHERRY HILL DR, STAUNTON VA - 540 885 0098

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of October 2026. If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch online on our website and YouTube channel. Even if we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, and claim the promises for you and your family.

Dear Cherryvale Church Family,

October is one of those months when we can see the seasons changing all around us. The days begin to grow shorter, the air becomes cooler, and the leaves remind us that change is simply part of life. Yet through every changing season, we worship a God who remains faithful.

That has been one of the great themes running through our journey in Scripture this year. We began with Abraham and his family in Formed by Promise. Then we walked with Israel out of Egypt and through the wilderness in Formed for Freedom. Now we are beginning the next part of that journey as we consider what it means to be Formed for Faithfulness.

God did not simply bring Israel out of Egypt and then leave them on their own. God continued shaping them into a people who would trust Him, follow Him, and bear witness to Him in the world. And God continues doing the same work in us.

The Christian life is not simply about believing something once. It is about allowing the grace of God to continually shape who we are becoming.

God forms us through worship.

God forms us through prayer.

God forms us through Scripture.

God forms us through serving one another.

God forms us through the life we share together as the Church.

John Wesley often spoke about these practices as “means of grace”; ordinary ways through which God works in our lives. Sometimes we expect God to transform us through one extraordinary moment, but much of Christian discipleship happens through the faithful, ordinary practices of following Jesus day after day.

That is also why the life of the church matters so much. Every Sunday when we worship together, every time someone serves a meal, teaches a child, visits someone who is lonely, gives generously, prays for another person, sings in worship, or simply takes time to encourage someone who is struggling, God is at work forming us into the people He has called us to be.

As we move through this fall season, I hope each of us will ask a simple question:

How is God calling me to be faithful in this season of my life?

The answer may not be something dramatic. Sometimes faithfulness looks like showing up. Sometimes it looks like forgiving someone. Sometimes it means serving quietly where there is a need. Sometimes it means trusting God when we cannot see what comes next.

Whatever this season holds for us individually and for Cherryvale Church, we can move forward with confidence because the God who has carried His people through every generation is still with us.

Thank you for the many ways you continue to worship, serve, give, pray, and care for one another. It is a blessing to see the life of Christ expressed through this congregation.

May God continue to form us by His grace, strengthen us in faith, and teach us to walk faithfully wherever He leads.

*Grace and peace,
Pastor Jonathan Greer*

October Worship

October 4

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Exod 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps 19; Acts 4:5-12; Matt 21:33-46

Call to Worship

Come, let us worship the God who brings His people out of bondage. Not into chaos, but into abundant life. We come to worship the Lord who leads us in the way of freedom. The God who delivered Israel from Egypt still calls His people today. Teach us Your ways, O Lord, that we may walk in Your paths. Let us worship the One whose commandments are not burdens, but gifts of grace. We come to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, You have delivered us from the power of sin and called us into the freedom of Your covenant. Yet we confess that we often mistake freedom for doing whatever we please instead of becoming the people You created us to be. We have placed other gods before You. We have trusted possessions more than Your provision, our opinions more than Your wisdom, and our desires more than Your will. Forgive us for the ways we have broken fellowship with You and with one another. Write Your law upon our hearts, shape us into the likeness of Christ, and teach us that true freedom is found in joyful obedience to Your love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, You have fed us at Your table with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. As You formed Israel through Your covenant, form us through the grace we have received in Jesus Christ. Bless what we have offered this day. And now, send us into the world not merely as people who know Your commandments, but as disciples whose lives reflect Your love. Strengthen us by Your Spirit to worship You alone, to love our neighbors faithfully, and to walk in the freedom that comes through joyful obedience. May our lives become a witness that Your grace both saves and transforms. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

October 11

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Exod 32:1-14; Ps 106:1-6, 19-23; Acts 8:14-25; Matt 22:1-4

Call to Worship

When we grow impatient, we are tempted to put our trust in what we can see and control. But our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. When fear leads us to settle for lesser gods, the living God calls us back to Himself. We will worship the Lord God, who is faithful and merciful. Come, let us turn our hearts again to the God who cannot be made in our image or controlled by our desires. We come to lift our songs to the God who is merciful and mighty—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Holy is God's name!

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, You alone are worthy of our worship, yet we confess that we often place our trust in things we can see, possess, and control. Like Your people in the wilderness, we grow impatient when Your ways are not our ways and Your timing is not our timing. We make idols of our plans, our desires, our security, and even our expectations of You. Forgive us for trying to shape You into the God we want rather than trusting You as the God You are. Turn our hearts away from every false god and teach us to trust in Your steadfast love and faithfulness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Faithful God, everything we have comes from Your gracious hand. Receive these gifts and receive our lives. Free us from trusting in what we can possess, see, or control, and teach us to trust in You alone. Use these offerings for the work of Your kingdom, that others may know Your mercy and steadfast love. And as we go from this place, keep our hearts fixed upon You—the God beyond our sight, whose glory no image can contain and whose life no human hands can control. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

October 18

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Exod 33:12-23; Ps 99; Acts 10:34-43; Matt 22:15-22

Call to Worship

Moses prayed, “Show me your glory.” We come seeking the presence of the living God. God said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” We will trust the God who goes with us and before us. We cannot contain God’s glory, yet in grace God draws near and makes his goodness known. We come to worship the God whose glory fills the heavens and whose presence is with his people. Let us lift our songs to the King of glory!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and holy God, we confess that we often desire signs of Your presence while failing to recognize the ways You are already with us. We ask to see Your glory, yet our hearts and minds are easily distracted by lesser things. We rely upon our own strength, follow our own way, and forget that without Your presence we cannot go where You call us. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our hearts toward You, open our eyes to Your goodness, and teach us to trust Your presence even when we cannot see the way ahead.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of glory and grace, all that we have and all that we are come from You. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them to reveal Your goodness, extend Your mercy, and make Your presence known in our community and throughout Your world. As we leave this place, go with us and before us, that our lives may reflect the light of Your glory and proclaim that You alone are our King. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

October 25

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Deut 34:1-12; Ps 90:1-6, 13-17; Acts 10:44-48; Matt 22:34-46

Call to Worship

From generation to generation, God remains faithful. God’s work continues among His people. God calls His servants to rise and follow where He leads. We will be strong and courageous, trusting in the Lord. The Lord promises, “I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.” The Lord our God is with us wherever we go. Come, let us worship the God who leads His people forward. We will trust the Lord and follow where He leads.

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, You have guided Your people from generation to generation, yet we confess that we sometimes struggle when familiar seasons come to an end. We cling to what we know rather than trusting where You are leading. We allow fear of change to keep us from seeing the new work You are doing. We forget that Your purposes are greater than any one person or generation. Forgive us when we hesitate to follow. Forgive us when fear is greater than faith. Forgive us when we look backward so long that we fail to hear Your call to move forward. Give us courage to answer when You call, faith to follow when the way is uncertain, and confidence that You are with us wherever we go.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Faithful God, You have carried Your people from generation to generation, and Your work continues still. Receive these gifts and use them for the work of Your kingdom. Raise up faithful disciples and servants who will carry the good news of Jesus Christ into the future. Give us courage to do the work You have placed before us today, trusting that You will continue Your purposes through those who come after us. Through Christ our Lord, who has called each of us to carry on His work, we pray. Amen.

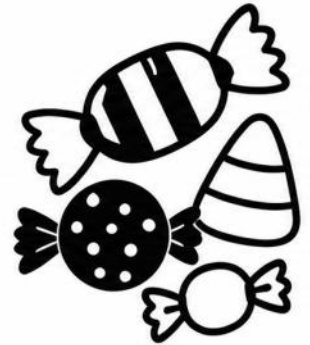
October is Pastor appreciation month.

October 18, we will have a pot luck luncheon after service and recognize Pastor Greer and his family at that time.

If you wish to send Jonathan & Laney a note of thanks or a gift, you can either bring it to the luncheon or mail to the parsonage:
2606 Eston Dr, Staunton VA 24401



Candy Donations = NEEDED = FOR TRUNK OR TREAT — October 31 —



Thank you to those who purchased a 'Mum' in our fall Mum sale fundraiser.
We sold 114 Mums raising \$1140 towards the missions of Cherryvale.

Movie Night - Friday, October 16 @ 6pm
The Adventures of Ichabod Crane & Mr. Toad
Join us for a great movie and popcorn.



Operation Christmas Child

Collection of Shoeboxes

Oct 15 to Nov 15



God never intended for us to live as independent beings.

If there's one thing essential to understanding the Christian life, it's the communal nature of our being: We are made in the image of God, a communion of three persons we call the holy Trinity. Think about that: You are made in the image of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—three in one, a communion, a community. The implications couldn't be more profound for how we live our lives. Though the world tells us otherwise, constantly selling a myth of radical individualism and self-actualization, the truth is that we become ourselves only when we live in communion with God and others: The Christian life—the process of our sanctification, which is properly understood as becoming truly human—is simply inconceivable without other persons, divine and mortal both.

In Jesus' famous illustration about the vine and its branches, we learn the importance of abiding in Him—that there's no life to be found if we are cut off from the source of our being (John 15). And yet, it's possible to focus so much on each of us being a branch, connected to the Lord's vine, that we fail to really consider one branch alone can't create a barrel of wine. In Jesus' thinking, in fact, the point of being a branch is not simply that our lives would become heavy laden with fruit. The greater point is that we ultimately would come to understand our “branch-ness” means we are part of a great and eternal vineyard—that the wine of new life would overflow from our devotion to and communion with God to a world of desperate thirst. That as a result of our love for one another, it will be possible for neighbors, colleagues, friends, family, and even our enemies to taste and see the Lord is good (John 13:34-35). It's the same principle at play in 1 Corinthians 12, where the apostle Paul outlines one of those most potent metaphors for our life in Christ:

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body (1 Cor 12:12-20).

We may find it easy enough to assent to this idea intellectually, but the modern way of life—with all its on-demand technologies, seemingly eliminating our reliance on our community one app at a time—can lead us to a false sense of autonomy. The more power we have at our fingertips, the more self-sufficient we appear to become and the deeper we fall into the delusion that we have no need for God or others. Walking with God day by day “is a life of working in harmony with the Holy Spirit. It is not a life of struggling alone to please a distant King. There are no solo chores. There are no marching orders. The Spirit-filled life is a relationship wherein two—you and God—work as one.” In considering these wise words, we should take care to remember that this relationship “wherein two work as one” does not preclude the very necessary presence or dependence on others.

The Spirit-filled life is one where we don't struggle alone, it isn't one where struggle isn't present. Hard times will come to all of us who believe, just as they have from the earliest days of the church. How much better to go through life with others by our side, bearing our burdens with us (Galatians 6:2), in the grace of God?

Yes, Christ is sufficient for each of us, and the Holy Spirit carries us through our greatest trials. But God gives us the blessing of sisters and brothers who ear us up when the weight grows too heavy, just as He strengthens our legs to support our fellow travelers when they falter. This is where we find the richness of following Christ: in walking together.

Water in the Bible Word Search.

S N N S T E F G L H A D E I S C Z O Q A Z S K R Q O E P C H
A D O S N A Z O X E W E X U A E S R M F J N H Z N B O K G A
I G X R D E F V S Y E A P F P R A Y B B S T M L V O N N M L
R Q M C D Y B T Z A R D Y O M H U O W E I X V C L Y I K G E
E G O X S I A X L Y V S Q P O O R N F R K K U O E K R R T H
B Y I Q O E K A J I P E D N I L N A E G C R F G E G E D I S
I H R H R P S K S U W A K L M M O H T Z A G E H D V D H G F
T R A G O B R O O K Z E R E D Q C F Z E I L T N I C M A R O
F M E B A N Q F Q O R O B W V K X V B B S F I R G O P S I L
O Q L V I I R D F A R A M O O U B O E E O R N L P R I S S O
A D L L I R R I F B O B Q O A M R O O L T A I K E I S A R O
E G L G N R E A V B X Q R A E J N D O E D H I V P E H M I P
S G N O H C N M M E I B F D O D I O N R A S E E E K O R V Q
R I C N U T M O P A R P I L V H P R O X H N R S J R N G E G
L H R E D S E A N B S T D A P P O J F O A E S K D M R T R Y
S O U S U N H R G R E F S U W G E S N Q V W C G R A I L J D
A N W G G K K K E R A O O P E P Q R P I M N X C E X V A G B
T S T E C C X V R N R E T L R D I T R X P Z O V X L E N W P
D P C R R Z X A T E N J D V O V D A T W M Z S S H U R A R O
E R Q O U P N K K V X I V F E O N U P P E R P O O L F C O O
E I L M I E O V G W A T H R H A P H A R P A R R I V E R S L
M N R H A J A O N Y Y I X C B T P Y G E F O K O O R B A E O
Y G E N N L D G L C M R L A F W B Y N U B L N L K Q I B B F
V L S E L A I I Y D D D Z U E O R I V E R N I L E L V E K S
F E D E F T S B L K H C W P L U A R V T X S P R X M L H O I
A L Y J U T W A B E M T Y E T F R E V I R K O B B A J C O L
H A I K E Z E H F O L O O P R O O Z S L I U P H J O U P R O
B G Q X L I C F B J X B H R W U Y X I O Z R C S T T B M B A
I L P G C H I G T G B U H J R H X B Q B X H C Y T M X Y X M
S Y A S B Y S O D X D E C M I P W P T U K L P E I V O E I K

Water in the Bible Word Search - Find the **40** bodies of water mentioned in the bible. Just for fun or use as a teaching aide with younger family members.

Jordan River

Red Sea

Sea of Galilee

Dead Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Sea of Joppa

Sea of Chinnereth

Sea of Tiberias

Great Sea

River Nile

Euphrates River

Tigris River

Kishon River

Jabbok River

Arnon River

Chebar Canal

Abana River

Pharpar River

Gihon River

Pishon River

Sorek Valley

Brook of Egypt

Brook Kidron

Brook Besor

Brook Cherith

Brook Zered

River of Egypt

Pool of Bethesda

Pool of Siloam

Pool of Gibeon

Pool of Hezekiah

Pool of Samaria

Pool of Shelah

Pool of the King

Upper Pool

Lower Pool

Gihon Spring

En Rogel

Mara

Meribah

Massah

Verona Food Pantry

This list is a guide line, any item you can give is welcomed.

Drop off at the office before the end of the month.

January - cereal and instant oatmeal cups

February - peanut butter and jelly jars

March - canned milk and dry milk powder

April - Mac n Cheese

May - canned meats and fish

June - canned fruit, fruit snacks and fruit cups

July - canned or boxed soup and soup cups

August - cereal bars / granola bars

September - peanut butter

October - canned pasta and pasta cups

November - anything thanksgiving

December - paper goods and personal hygiene items

In addition to the above list we are collecting Kleenex, Lysol wipes and hand sanitizer for the teachers and kids at AR Ware Elementary.

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box, but it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.

10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.