

OCTOBER 2025 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 2025.

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 Friends in Christ,

The turning of October always feels like a threshold. The long, warm days of summer give way to crisp mornings and earlier sunsets. Leaves flame into color before gently falling, and the earth prepares to rest. Nature preaches her own quiet sermon this time of year—about change, about letting go, and about trusting in God’s steady rhythm of renewal.

In the life of the church, October often becomes a season of gratitude and preparation. We give thanks for God’s harvest, for the blessings that sustain our families and community, and for the many hands that work together in ministry. At the same time, we prepare—whether for upcoming holy days, for stewardship commitments, or simply for the busy season that will soon be upon us.

In all these things, I am reminded of Paul’s words to the Galatians: “Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up” (Galatians 6:9). Even when our days feel hurried, even when the news weighs heavy, even when the ground beneath us seems to shift—God’s promise remains sure. The seeds of faith, hope, and love that we sow in Christ will bear fruit in God’s good time.

So this October, let’s walk with eyes open to the small graces all around us—the beauty of a leaf, the laughter of a child, the faithfulness of a friend, the joy of worship together. And let’s continue sowing the seeds of kindness, generosity, and prayer that God uses to bring forth a harvest greater than we can imagine.

May the peace of Christ guard your hearts and guide your steps in this season.

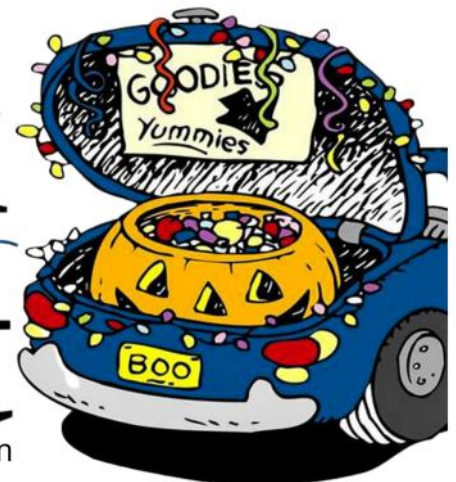
In love and gratitude,
Pastor Jonathan Greer


**& FACE
PAINTING**
October 31st @ 5pm

JOIN US HERE FOR

**Trunk
or
Treat**

www.cherryvaleumc.com



OCTOBER WORSHIP

October 5

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Lam 1:1-6; Ps 137; 2 Tim 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

Call To Worship

The Lord is our rock and our refuge, even when we feel surrounded by injustice and turmoil. We cry out to God, who hears our complaints and will reveal a vision of hope. Let us lift our hearts and spirits to the One who is faithful, even when the world seems unsteady. We gather to worship the Lord, trusting that the righteous shall live by faith, and believing that in God's time all things will be made beautiful.

Prayer of Confession

God of justice and mercy, we confess that we grow weary in the face of violence, injustice, and suffering. We become impatient, questioning Your timing and Your plans. Forgive us when we doubt Your faithfulness, and when we fail to trust that Your vision of righteousness will prevail. Forgive us when we fail to strive for your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Strengthen our hearts and grant us courage to live faithfully, trusting Your promises.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give You thanks for this holy mystery in which Your faithfulness is experienced. Even when the world is full of injustice and suffering, You are our refuge. We rejoice that the righteous shall live by faith and trust in Your promises. Bless the gifts that we have offered today, that they may bring hope, mercy, and justice to the world. Bless us as You send us in Your Spirit, to live with joy and gratitude, remembering that this is Your world and we are Your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

~~~~~

## **October 12**

**Scriptures to read and meditate on:** Jer 29:1, 4-7; Ps 66:1-12; 2 Tim 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

### **Call To Worship**

Come, all who are weary, all who are broken, all who long to be made whole. We come, for Jesus meets us on the way. Lift up your voices in thanksgiving, for Christ has healed us and made us new. With grateful hearts we return to give Him praise! We worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

### **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, like the lepers who cried out to Jesus, we too long for healing and mercy. Yet so often, when blessings come, we forget to return in gratitude. We take Your gifts for granted, chase after our own ways, and overlook those still waiting for wholeness. Forgive us, Lord. Heal us of ingratitude, selfishness, and pride. Restore us to the joy of Your salvation, that our lives may overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Generous and merciful God, all that we are and all that we have come from You. Like the one who returned to give thanks, we bring our offerings with grateful hearts. Receive these gifts and our lives as tokens of gratitude for Your healing, mercy, and love. Use them to bring wholeness where there is brokenness, hope where there is despair, and joy where there is sorrow. May our gratitude be more than words—may it be seen in lives of service, compassion, and praise. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who makes us whole. Amen.

# OCTOBER WORSHIP

## **October 19**

**Scriptures to read and meditate on:** Jer 31:27-34; Ps 119:97-104; 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

### **Call To Worship**

Come, beloved of God, lift up your hearts. We lift them to the One who hears our cries day and night. God is our righteous Judge, patient and merciful. We come, not losing heart, but trusting in His faithfulness. We come to worship the Lord our God, who is holy and just!

### **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, You have called us to pray always and not lose heart. Yet we confess that our faith often falters. We grow weary in waiting, doubtful that You hear us, and quick to rely on our own strength. Forgive us when we lose sight of Your justice, when we give up too soon, and when we fail to trust Your timing. Renew our hope, deepen our faith, and teach us again to persevere in prayer.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of justice and mercy, we thank You that You never tire of hearing the prayers of Your people. As we bring our offerings, we bring also our trust, our hope, and our longing for Your kingdom to come. Bless these gifts, that they may bring relief to the weary, courage to the faithful, and a witness to Your steadfast love. Strengthen us, so that with perseverance and joy, we may serve You in all we do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~~~~~

October 26

Scriptures to read and meditate on: Joel 2:23-32; Ps 65; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Call To Worship

Come and worship, not trusting in your own goodness, but in God's mercy. For Jesus told a parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous. We are not here to exalt ourselves or to condemn others. We come as Pharisee and tax collector, saints and sinners, to seek God's mercy and grace. God meets us here with both truth and love. Let us worship the God who loves both Pharisee and tax collector and calls us to new life. Let us sing of God's marvelous and wonderful love!

Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, We confess that we are quick to judge others and slow to see our own need. We fall into the trap of saying, "Thank you, God, that I am not like them." We live as if good works could save us, or as if sin does not matter. Forgive us when we exalt ourselves, when we measure others, when we choose truth without grace or grace without truth. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Like the tax collector we pray, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Merciful God, we thank You that You do not measure us by our deeds but by Your grace. We thank You that all we have and all we are comes from Your mercy. We offer these gifts and our lives, not to earn Your favor, but in gratitude for Your unending grace. May they be used to proclaim Your love and to serve Your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Encouragement for Fall



Fall – to lose the old, to have its proper place. This is just part of the many definitions of what the dictionary says “fall” is. What is crazy is that the dictionary is talking about fall like ‘I fell down’, not fall like ‘the season’ and yet how appropriate the definition is.

There is lots to love about Fall!! The color change, the weather change, the smell change.....its about change. But to change means that something must go.

Just look out of your window, you can see Fall happening all around. Leaves are falling; what was once a tree deep in rich green, then a tree with vibrant shades of red and orange, now is soon becoming a tree that will be empty. Nothing left but the branches. Perhaps our human side finds that sad and we wish the color stayed, we think the only thing that makes the tree beautiful is the colorful leaves ...why does it have to be so bare but that’s a sign of what is to come.

But for every beginning there is an end and for every ending there is a new beginning. What is amazing is that those trees still stand. Those branches still reach out and upward. Not like the plants in the front yards of our neighbors houses that have to be cut back and will re-grow from their roots next spring. Those trees still stand. There is beauty in the strength of those branches.

This is such a picture of what Jesus does in our lives. We go through all kinds of seasons. Some are seasons of hard times, some loneliness, seasons of loss or other things such as financial hardships. And those seasons change us. We have seasons that are bright and beautiful and rich in life. Then we have seasons that He allows things in our life to enter so that we don’t remain the same. But through all those seasons He is telling us let go and let Me. Let go and let me show you what I can do. Let go and let me show you what I can teach you... There is strength in your branches with Me. We have to let go grow a new perspective.

***Is 43: 18-19** “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold I am doing a new thing: now it springs forth , do not perceive it? It will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the dessert.”*

The weight is too heavy for you to carry and still look up. We cannot continue in our walk with Jesus and never let go. We must go through these seasons so that we continue to learn to surrender our control and in the process we desire to be more like Him, to trust Him more, to fall in love with Him more. He did not create us to still look the same this season as the next season. The Bible is clear on that.

***I Peter 2: 2** “Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you grow in respect to salvation”*

***I Corinthians 13: 11** “When I was a child , I used to speak like a child , think like a child, reason like a child: when I became a man, I did away with childish things.”*



Out With the Old: In With the New



Total surrender is hard. But that is because total surrender means giving up control of our hearts, our souls and our minds. When we control our heart, our heart begins to lose heart for the things of Jesus. When we control the depths of our souls we control the wounds and the spaces that are not yet His. And when we control our minds, we allow fear, anxiety, shame to invade and soon we believe what we are thinking instead of resting on what our Father says is true.

Luke 10: 27 *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind...* ”

We cannot hold on to parts of us and say we have surrendered. God wants all of us. God wants us to let go of the things that are holding us. When we do and those things fall... and new life comes from it. Change happens in us and through us. He reminds us that He is still there standing strong and He still holding us up, much like the tree and the branches. He says let go of it and I will hold you.

Isaiah 41: 10 *“Fear not , for I am with you, be not dismayed , for I am your God: I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous hand.”*

God knows the depths of your world. He knows the depths of your hurt, the depths of your fear, the depths of your insecurities, the depths of your loss but He promises if you let it go He will bring new life and you will be a vessel ready to be used by your creator.

I Peter 5: 6, 10 *“Humble yourselves , therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that in proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you ...and the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen and establish you.”*

We cannot accept the gift of salvation and then do it our way with our limits, holding on to the parts of our life we don't want to let go. Our relationship with Jesus is worth more than just a part of us...let go and let God! And remember letting go is much like the leaves that will fall this autumn....it is a sign of what is to come. Surrender means to give up oneself into the power of another. So today ...whatever part you still holding on to surrender it...and allow God to bring newness of life.



Mark Word Search

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

Find the **27 bold** words or phrases from Mark 12: 28-34

The Greatest Commandment

²⁸ One of the **teachers** of the **law** came and **heard** them **debating**. Noticing that Jesus had given them a **good answer**, he asked him, “Of all the **commandments**, which is the **most important**?”

²⁹ “The most important one,” **answered Jesus**, “is this: ‘**Hear, O Israel**: The **Lord our God**, the Lord is one. ³⁰ **Love** the Lord your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **mind** and with all your **strength**.’ ³¹ The **second** is this: ‘Love your **neighbor** as **yourself**.’ There is no commandment **greater** than these.”

³² “**Well said, teacher**,” the man replied.

“**You are right** in saying that God is one and there is **no other but him**. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your **understanding** and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all **burnt offerings** and **sacrifices**.” ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had **answered wisely**, he said to him, “You are not far from the **kingdom of God**.” And from then on **no one dared** ask him any more **questions**.

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.

The following list was shared by a food bank volunteer.

There are some excellent suggestions if you are ever unsure what to give, or if you see these items on sale. Fresh items should be taken directly to the food pantry.

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.