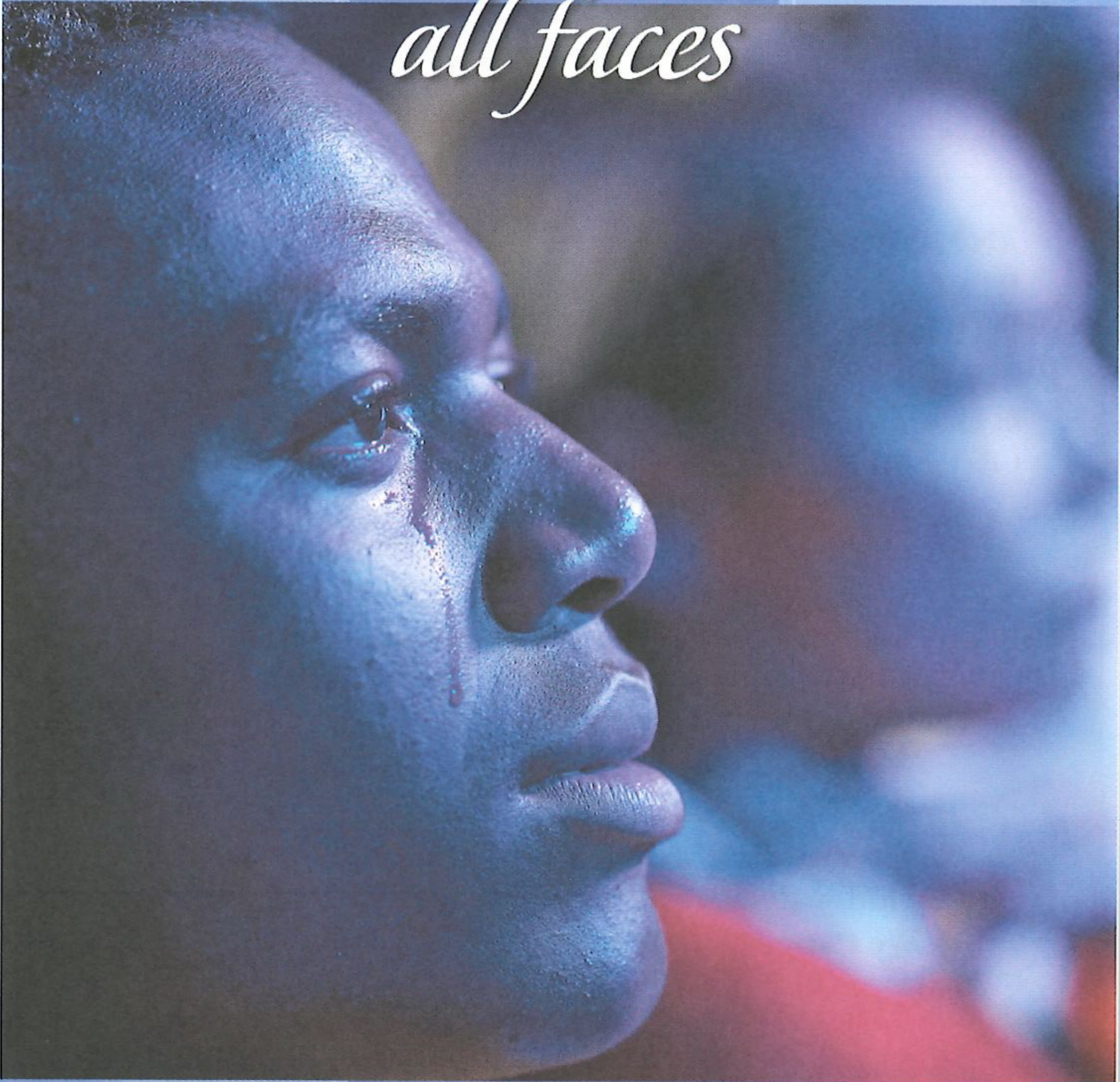


*God will
wipe away
the tears
from
all faces*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

October 31, 2021

We welcome all who are visiting with us today.

It is good to have you in worship with us. Please introduce yourself to
Pastor Phil this morning and let us know if there is any way
we might be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection:

"The significance of the law of love is precisely that it is not just another law, but a law which transcends all law." - Reinhold Niebuhr

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Listen and hear, all you people of the book!

There is one God who created all time and space.

ALL: Our hope is in God who made heaven and earth.

All creatures of the land and sea come from God.

ONE: You shall love God with all your heart and soul.

You shall honor God with all your mind and strength.

ALL: We will praise God as long as we live.

We will sing of God's glory all through our lives.

ONE: A second commandment is like the first:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

ALL: God watches over strangers and widows and orphans.

We honor God by honoring these, our sisters and brothers.

CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

We have not kept faith with you, righteous God. There are so many distractions that occupy our time! There are so many groups to claim our loyalty. There are so many activities that bid for our attention. Even the church involves us in business that keeps us from matters of greater importance. In these moments, we seek to know you and to be known by you, that in an honest exchange our relationship with you and with the people around us might be strengthened. In your name, and joining with you, we seek justice for the oppressed, food for the hungry, and healing for all. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**GLORIA PATRI****A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

Prayer for the children (*unison*): We send blessings upon our children for all God's love, all Christ's friendship and all the caring of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Song Response

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

SCRIPTURES:

Ruth 1: 1-18 *(Insert)*
Hebrews 9: 11-14 *(Insert)*
Mark 12: 28-34 *(Insert)*

HYMN

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

132

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SERMON

HYMN

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

419

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INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

GIVE THANKS:

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

Receive from us, O God, the best we have to give. All we have comes from you. We return a portion with joy to accomplish the work we intend to do together in your name. We bring ourselves as well, to be a significant offering. May our lives praise you! Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

Ruth 1: 1-18 (First Lesson)

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. **2** The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. **3** But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. **4** These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, **5** both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. **6** Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. **7** So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. **8** But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. **9** The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. **10** They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

(continued on next page)

¹¹ But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹² Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³ would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.” ¹⁴ Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶ But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” ¹⁸ When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Hebrews 9: 11-14 (Second Lesson)

¹¹ But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come,^[a] then through the greater and perfect^[b] tent^[c] (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹² he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit^[d] offered himself without blemish to God, purify our^[e] conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Mark 12: 28-34 (Gospel)

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹ Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall 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, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³² Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³ and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face; and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.

* HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

572

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person
Accompanist

Donna Lowe
Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John: Ella Boggy and Cindy Roll

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Carol Zweck, and the family of a friend of John Zweck

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

George Anderson, November 2
Rhonda Schmidt, November 3

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, October 24, 2021

St. John's – 11

St. Jacob - 40

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Monday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Secretary's office hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Jacob Phone: 618-644-2142 / St. Jacob E-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

Web-site: stjacobucc.org

Pastor Phil Barbier Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: pastor@hometel.com

Each week the churches of the Illinois South Conference are asked to pray for congregations and their pastors and other ministries of the UCC. This week we are asked to pray for:

Churches & Pastors

-Trenton St. John UCC, Rev. Christy (Donald) Eckert

-Troy Friedens UCC, Rev. Dr. Tim (Danielle) Harrison

Retired Pastors

- Revs. Pamela Smith and Earl Menchhofer, Conyers, GA

HALO PROGRAM NEEDS GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Hoyelton's Healing and Loving Oneself (HALO) program is in need of gift card donations. HALO provides resources, counseling and mentoring to high-risk youth and young adults ages 11 to 25. Youth are at-risk or confirmed survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Gift cards should be in denominations of \$10 and can be from Wal-Mart or Dollar General. You may leave the gift cards in the offering plate, drop them in the basket on the table in the St. Jacob Narthx, or drop them off at the church office.

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOYLETON

We will be participating in Hoyleton's Christmas gift program again this year. We have committed to provide 45 gifts for children in their residential program. The cards with the gift requests are available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx. Gifts will need to be brought to church by Sunday, Nov. 28th for delivery to Hoyleton.

REMEMBER TO FALL BACK

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 7. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour, or you'll be an hour early for Sunday service next week.

PASTOR PHIL'S INSTALLATION NOV. 14

The Installation of Rev. Philip Barbier will be held Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. at St. Jacob UCC. If you are attending, please RSVP to 618-644-2142 or stjucc@hometel.com by Nov. 5 for the meal count. Following the service, refreshments and a meal will be held in Heritage Hall. A freewill offering will be collected for DuBois Center. The service will also be streamed live on:

-Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjacobucc> and

-YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6d06ER30xAarVN3hKSvyGg>

NO SERVICE AT ST. JACOB NOV. 14

Due to preparing for the installation ceremony, there will be no 10:15 a.m. service at St. Jacob on Nov. 14. Anyone wanting to attend church service that morning is welcome to attend St. John's service at 8:45 a.m.

SNOW SHOVELING

Winter weather will be here before you know it. Please volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthx. Thank you!

OCTOBER 31, 2021

(B)

ALL SAINTS DAY

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

SECOND LESSON. Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

GOSPEL. John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

