



I have called you in

righteousness

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

January 8, 2023

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 fulness of the Spirit is not a question of our getting more of the Holy Spirit, but rather of the Holy Spirit getting more of us." ~ Oswald J. Smith, *The Enduement Of Power: Being Filled With The Holy Spirit* (1933)

ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: A voice of power and majesty calls out to us:

I am you God; I have called you in righteousness.

ALL: We are amazed that God knows us and calls us.

By God's breath and spirit, we receive life.

ONE: God takes us by the hand and leads us.

In covenant with God, we extend light to the world.

ALL: Eyes are opened and prisoners are freed.

Justice and peace prevail, by God's strength.

ONE: Worship with joy and give glory to God's name.

Listen for the new thing God declares.

ALL: We remember that we have been baptized.

May we live as those with whom God is pleased.

Rise in body or spirit as you are able for our first hymn...

* HYMN *We Come, O Christ, to You*

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of glory, we confess that our lives have not glorified you. God of justice, we admit our complicity with systems of injustice. God of light, we are aware of the shadows we create that keep others from seeing you. All-inclusive God, we repent of our narrow vision and our tendency to exclude. Purge us of the idols that keep us from full commitment to the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. 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:

Isaiah 42:1-9

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

HYMN*Fairest Lord Jesus*

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SERMON**HYMN***When Jesus Came to Jordan*

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REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM*(insert)***INVITATION TO OFFERING****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)*

We pray, O God, that our offerings delight you. We bring them to encourage all who work for justice and peace on our behalf, that they may not grow faint or be crushed by opposition. May the oppressed find healing, the discouraged receive hope, and those who are bound discover freedom, through and beyond our efforts. Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER**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***Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

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Remembrance of Baptism



Greeting

One: Dear friends, on this day of re-creation we recall Christ's baptism, and we claim and remember our own.

People: **We gather at this font of living water to celebrate the gift of God's redeeming grace.**

One: 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.

People: **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female—and were all made to drink of one Spirit.**

One: Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

***Affirmation of Faith**

One: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

One: Do you believe in God?

People: **I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth.**

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only one begotten of God before all worlds.**

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in God, the Holy Spirit.**

One: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and community, in the breaking of bread, and in prayer?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

One: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

One: Let us pray.

People: **In this and all we do, keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ, forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing of Water

One: Let us pray.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Noah you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. In the time of Moses and Miriam your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb. Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all nations by water and the Holy Spirit.

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water that by it we may be reminded of our baptism into Jesus Christ and that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may be kept faithful until you receive us at last in your eternal home.

People: **Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.**

The Congregation Remembers Baptism

One: Eternal God, you have come to us in Jesus Christ, given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins, Bless us now with the grace we need to fulfill what we have promised.

People: **Keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ, forever and ever.
Amen.**

You are invited to come up the center isle to the baptismal font to touch the waters of baptism and receive a blessing.

If you are unable to come forward, please let the usher know and Pastor Phil will bring the water to you.

One: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Duane Woods
Liturgist	George Anderson
Accompanist	Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean, Cindy Roll, Jeffrey Thornton, and the family of Danny Kunz

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Erica Kynion, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, JoAnn Swip, and Carol Zweck

IL South Conference: 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:

Church & Pastors

- Hookdale St. Peter's UCC, Rev. Jerry Bennett
- Hoyleton Zion Evangelical UCC, Rev. Sharon Patton
- * Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister

Retired Pastor

Rev. Gus and Suzanne Kuether, Belleville, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Lauren Hill & Sara Schreiber, Jan. 8

Brian Meyer, Jan. 9

Jerid Ahrens, Katie Prange, & Sandy Rujawitz, Jan. 12

Debbie Zobrist, Jan. 14

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

St. John's – 12 St. Jacob – 21

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(Mondays by appointment)

Secretary's office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

Website: stjacobucc.org

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

BLESSING BOX LOCATED AT ST. JACOB UCC

The "Blessing Box" (located on the east side of St. Jacob UCC) contains non-perishable food, hygiene products, and other items for anyone in need. Please help us keep the "Blessing Box" stocked. Anyone can donate -- items are anonymously given and received. Please consider blessing our neighbors in need, and if you are in need, please feel free to stop by.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

With the inflation these past few months, use of local food pantries has been high, and donations have been low. To help our communities we have a donation tub/box for food pantry donations in the sanctuary at St. John's and St. Jacob.

Requested items for St. John's (Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries Food Pantry): Long shelf-life fresh produce: apples, oranges, celery, onions, potatoes, and carrots, etc.

Requested items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Toilet paper, paper towels, peanut butter, jelly, baked beans, crackers, peas, canned potatoes, canned yams, pasta sides, rice sides, mac-n-cheese, Ramen noodles, Hamburger Helper, & cake mixes

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday: ELFs meeting, 10 a.m.

Jan. 15: Strawberry Festival planning meeting, immediately following worship

Jan. 17: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

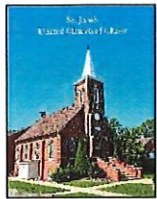
Jan. 18: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

January 22: St. John's annual meeting, noon

January 29: St. Jacob annual meeting, immediately following worship

DEGREEN CHURCH TODAY

Please join us for "degreening" the church sanctuary and Narthx, immediately following worship TODAY at St. Jacob.



ST. JACOB CHURCH DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

The current St. Jacob church directory is available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx. Please limit one booklet per family at this time, until we see what the level of interest is - Thank you.

ST. JACOB 2023 ENVELOPE BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

The St. Jacob 2023 envelope booklets are available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATION

In case of inclement weather, we have implemented the following procedure: No later than 8 a.m., Sunday morning there will be a message on the church answering machine (618-644-2142) stating whether church will be cancelled. Also, the cancellation of service will be posted on our Facebook page and Channel 5.

SNOW SHOVELING

Winter weather is here -- Please volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthx. Thank you for those members who have signed up! We still have many slots needing volunteers.

***** THE UPPER ROOM** (January - February) magazines are available on the table in the Narthx at St. Jacob UCC.

JANUARY 8, 2023

(A)

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

SECOND LESSON. Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

GOSPEL. Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

