An aerial photograph of a rugged mountain range, likely the Dolomites, covered in snow. The mountains are layered and rise above a thick sea of white clouds. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*We have
found
the*
Messiah

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

January 15, 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: "To be a Christian who is willing to travel with Christ on his downward road requires being willing to detach oneself constantly from any need to be relevant, and to trust ever more deeply the Word of God." ~ **Henri Nouwen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Have you understood God's thought toward us?
Have you listened to glad news of deliverance?

ALL: We are here to receive God's message.
Our hearts are open to the Word we will hear.

ONE: Listen, all who are near and all who are far away;
God is calling us as servants and as saints.

ALL: Usually we do not think of ourselves in that way.
We resist lowly roles, but we do not aspire to sainthood.

ONE: Do not be afraid to serve God with your whole being.
Neither fear the call to join the saints of Jesus Christ.

ALL: We trust that God will strengthen us for our tasks.
We are ready to be led into new responsibilities.

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

* HYMN *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

72

Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.wcll.com CC BY License # 20849486

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We come back to you, O Holy One, to renew our commitment. We confess that pride has led us to embrace false gods. We spend more time with our hobbies than with your cause. We pay more attention to our toys than to your truth. Your law is no longer in our hearts. We have neglected the spiritual gifts entrusted to us. We have forgotten that we have been named and baptized and commissioned for service. O God, bring us back to yourself. 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:

Psalm 40:1-11 (*insert*)

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

458

Arthur Henry Mann | John Ernest Bode © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 20849486*

SERMON

HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

560

Arabella Katherine Hankey | Don Chapman | William Gustavus Fischer © Words: Public Domain Music: 2007 Hearts to God Music, Inc. *For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 20849486*

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*)

God of the saints in every age and time, we are grateful for the privilege of being numbered among them as we invest our gifts from you. Because of your generosity, we have not lacked for anything we really need. Grant now that our words and deeds may follow our offering into loving service in your realm. 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

The Summons

350

John L. Bell © Words: 1987 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland (Admin. by Wild Goose Resource Group) Music: Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 20849486*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Duane Woods
Liturgist	Andy Scheiber
Accompanist	Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean, Cindy Roll, and Jeffrey Thornton

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

-Irvington Friedens UCC, Rev. Stacy (Mark) Tate

* Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister

Chaplains

-Shawnee Correctional Center, Rev. Lauren (Greg) Lambert-Goheen, Vienna, IL

-St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Rev. Chance (Christopher Guelbert) Beeler, O'Fallon, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Koenig, Jan. 16

Kay Guse, Jan. 21

Lisa Kelley, Jan. 21

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

St. John's – 12

St. Jacob – 40

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

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of United Church Press from *Gathered by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1994 by United Church Press.

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: Strawberry Festival planning meeting, immediately following worship

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

Wednesday: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

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

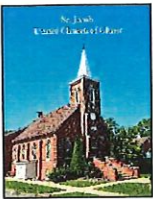
January 29: St. Jacob annual meeting, immediately following worship

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are looking for volunteers willing to read scripture, no long-term commitment, just one Sunday at a time. Everyone from the congregation is invited to take part in helping lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthx.

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. A BIG thank you to those members who have signed up! However, we still have many weeks needing volunteers.



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.

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.

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.

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

JANUARY 15, 2023

(A)

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

SECOND LESSON. 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL. John 1:29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.



Psalm 40:1-11 (First Lesson)

I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD. Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods. You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD. I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation. Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

