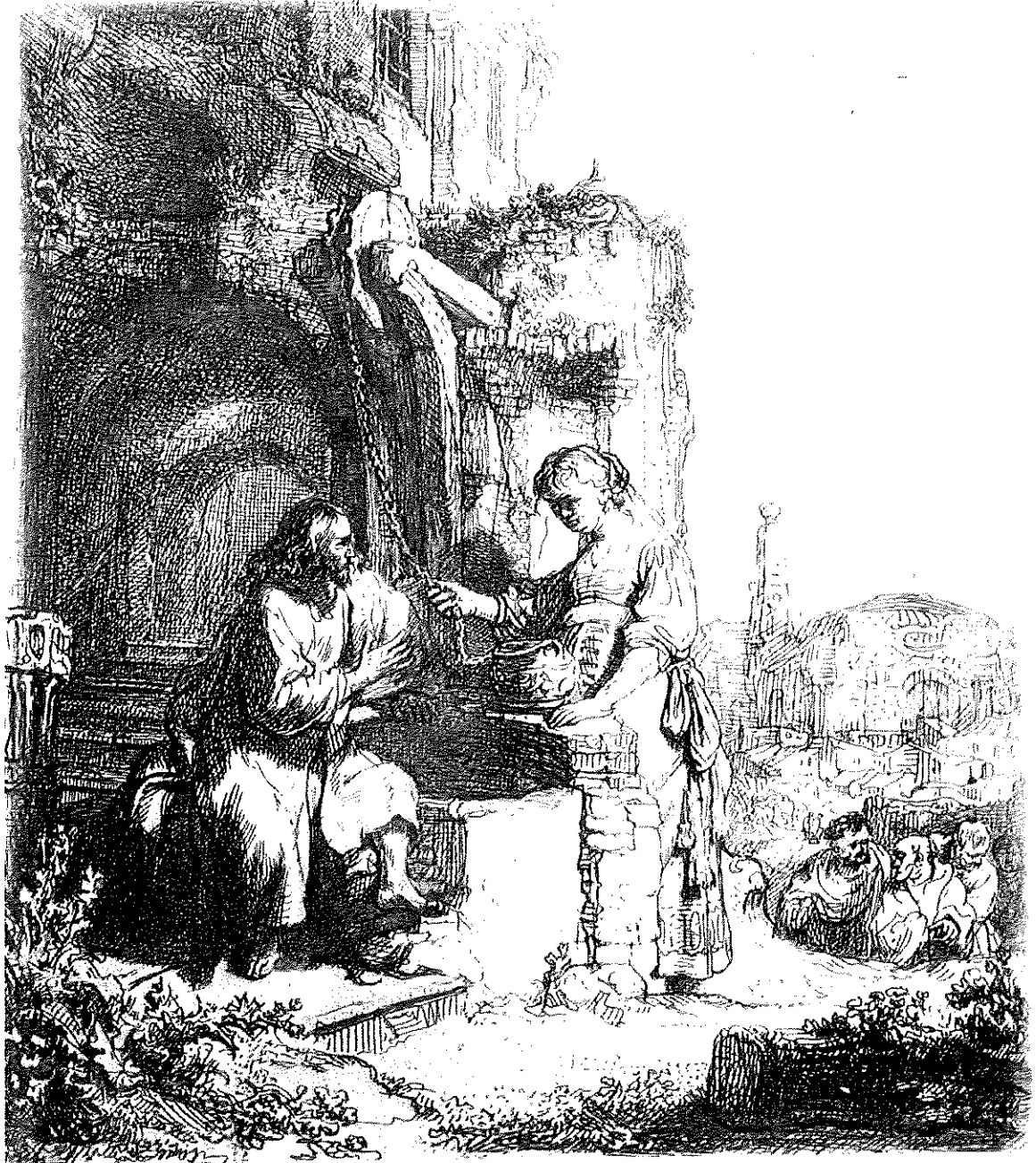


*Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,
but whoever drinks from the water that I will give
will never be thirsty again.*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

MARCH 12, 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: "Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendor."

~ Charles Spurgeon, *Morning and Evening* (1866)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, let us sing a new song to our God.

Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

ALL: Let us enter God's presence with thanksgiving.

Make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

ONE: God is a great ruler, above all other gods.

The depths of the earth are in God's hands.

ALL: The highest mountains belong to God.

The farthest reaches of the universe are God's own.

ONE: O come, let us worship and bow down.

Let us kneel before God our Maker.

ALL: We are the people of God's pasture.

Today we will listen to God with open hearts.

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1606-1669. Christ and the Woman of Samaria, Among Ruins

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

What will you do with us, God? We are never satisfied with our lot. We rebel and complain when things don't go our way. Our hearts chase after things that become gods to us and consume our time, energy, and attention. We spend little time in communion with you and then begin to doubt your presence. You seem far away and unavailable. We create barriers among ourselves that separate us from one another and from you. Send your living waters to cleanse us, O God. Empower us to worship in spirit and in truth. 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:

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

John 4:5-42

HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

INSERT

SERMON

HYMN

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come

638

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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*)

Thank you, God, for all the ways we have benefited from the labor of others. We here offer our best for the sake of brothers and sisters who need the love and encouragement you are eager to share through us. Keep us from being ungrateful as we continue to receive so much more than we stop to realize. When life is difficult, help us to endure and to hope because your love is sure and certain, ours to receive and to give, in Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN

One Bread, One Body

689

John B. Foley | Gary Alan Smith Words & Music © 1978 John B. Foley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person: Kay Guse
Liturgist: Kay Guse
Accompanist: Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Dave Krausz, Gail Miller,
Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, 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

-New Athens St. John UCC, Rev. Dr. Robert (Cathy) Koch

ISC Conference Minister

-Rev. Shana (Rev. Todd Bean) Johnson, O'Fallon, IL

Retired Pastor

-Revs. Janis Dashner & Robert Goddard, O'Fallon, IL

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, MARCH 5, 2023

St. John's – 20

St. Jacob – 43

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): Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, pudding cups, large box instant mashed potatoes, laundry detergent-small bottles, cake mix, paper towels, toilet paper, canned potatoes, Ramen noodle bowls, and Nutri-Grain bars

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FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the Lord commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people argued with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, "Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the Lord?"

But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?"

So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me."

The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel's elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd's rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. I'll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink." Moses did so while Israel's elders watched. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites argued with and tested the Lord, asking, "Is the Lord really with us or not?"

SECOND LESSON: Psalm 95

Come, let's sing out loud to the Lord! Let's raise a joyful shout to the rock of our salvation! Let's come before him with thanks! Let's shout songs of joy to him! The Lord is a great God, the great king over all other gods. The earth's depths are in his hands; the mountain heights belong to him; the sea, which he made, is his along with the dry ground, which his own hands formed.

Come, let's worship and bow down! Let's kneel before the Lord, our maker! He is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the sheep in his hands.

If only you would listen to his voice right now! "Don't harden your hearts like you did at Meribah, like you did when you were at Massah, in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me and scrutinized me, even though they had already seen my acts. For forty years I despised that generation; I said, 'These people have twisted hearts. They don't know my ways.' So in anger I swore: 'They will never enter my place of rest!'"

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food.

The Samaritan woman asked, "Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (Jews and Samaritans didn't associate with each other.)

Jesus responded, "If you recognized God's gift and who is saying to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would be asking him and he would give you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you don't have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life."

(continued from inside cover)

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!"

Jesus said to her, "Go, get your husband, and come back here."

The woman replied, "I don't have a husband."

"You are right to say, 'I don't have a husband,'" Jesus answered. "You've had five husbands, and the man you are with now isn't your husband. You've spoken the truth."

The woman said, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you and your people say that it is necessary to worship in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you and your people will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You and your people worship what you don't know; we worship what we know because salvation is from the Jews. But the time is coming—and is here!—when true worshipers will worship in spirit and truth. The Father looks for those who worship him this way. God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth."

The woman said, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ. When he comes, he will teach everything to us."

Jesus said to her, "I Am—the one who speaks with you."

Just then, Jesus' disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who has told me everything I've done! Could this man be the Christ?" They left the city and were on their way to see Jesus.

In the meantime the disciples spoke to Jesus, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

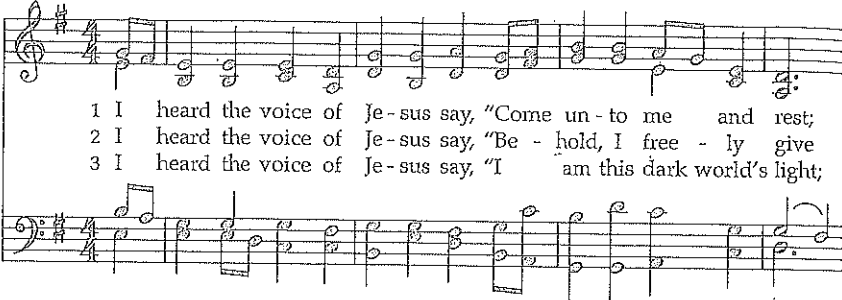
Jesus said to them, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

The disciples asked each other, "Has someone brought him food?"

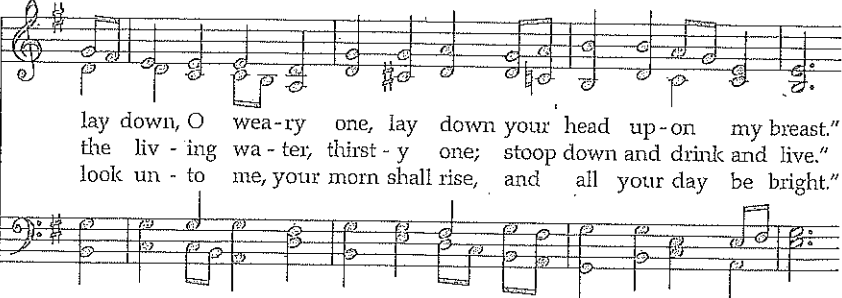
Jesus said to them, "I am fed by doing the will of the one who sent me and by completing his work. Don't you have a saying, 'Four more months and then it's time for harvest'? Look, I tell you: open your eyes and notice that the fields are already ripe for the harvest. Those who harvest are receiving their pay and gathering fruit for eternal life so that those who sow and those who harvest can celebrate together. This is a true saying, that one sows and another harvests. I have sent you to harvest what you didn't work hard for; others worked hard, and you will share in their hard work."

Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's word when she testified, "He told me everything I've ever done." So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. Many more believed because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this one is truly the savior of the world."

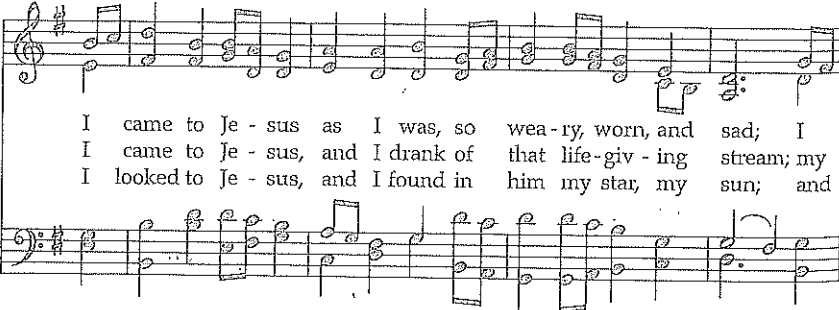
182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



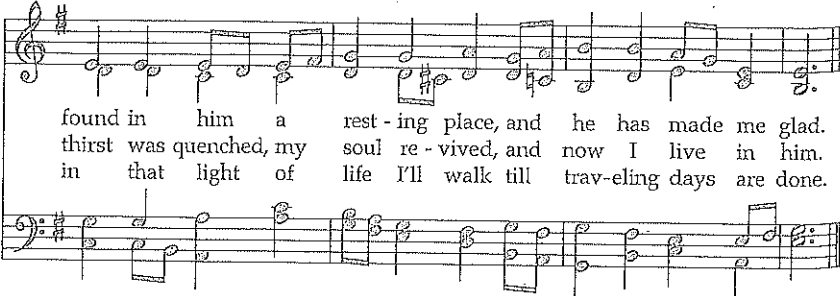
1 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast."
 the liv-ing wa-ter, thirst-y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un-to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream; my
 I looked to Je-sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and



found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav-eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

March 16-21: Pastor Phil will be away.

March 19: Pastor Nancy will be leading worship.

March 21: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

LENTEN STUDY SERIES

A **Lenten Study Series** will begin at 7 p.m., each Wednesday in March at St. Jacob Heritage Hall. All are welcome.

ELF BOOK SALE, LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

This year as part of the St. Jacob community yard sale (May 4-6), the ELFs will hold a book sale in the Heritage Hall. As you prepare for spring cleaning, if you have any books you would like to donate, they can be placed on the cart in the Narthx. Funds raised will go toward supporting children in need through partner organizations in our community and within the wider church.

ST. JACOB 2022 GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2022 Giving Statements are available on the table in the St. Jacob UCC Narthx.

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.

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.

BEST CHOICE LABEL COLLECTION

The ELFs organization is collecting Best Choice labels/UPC portion (proof of purchase). There is a box on the table in the Narthx to place the labels.