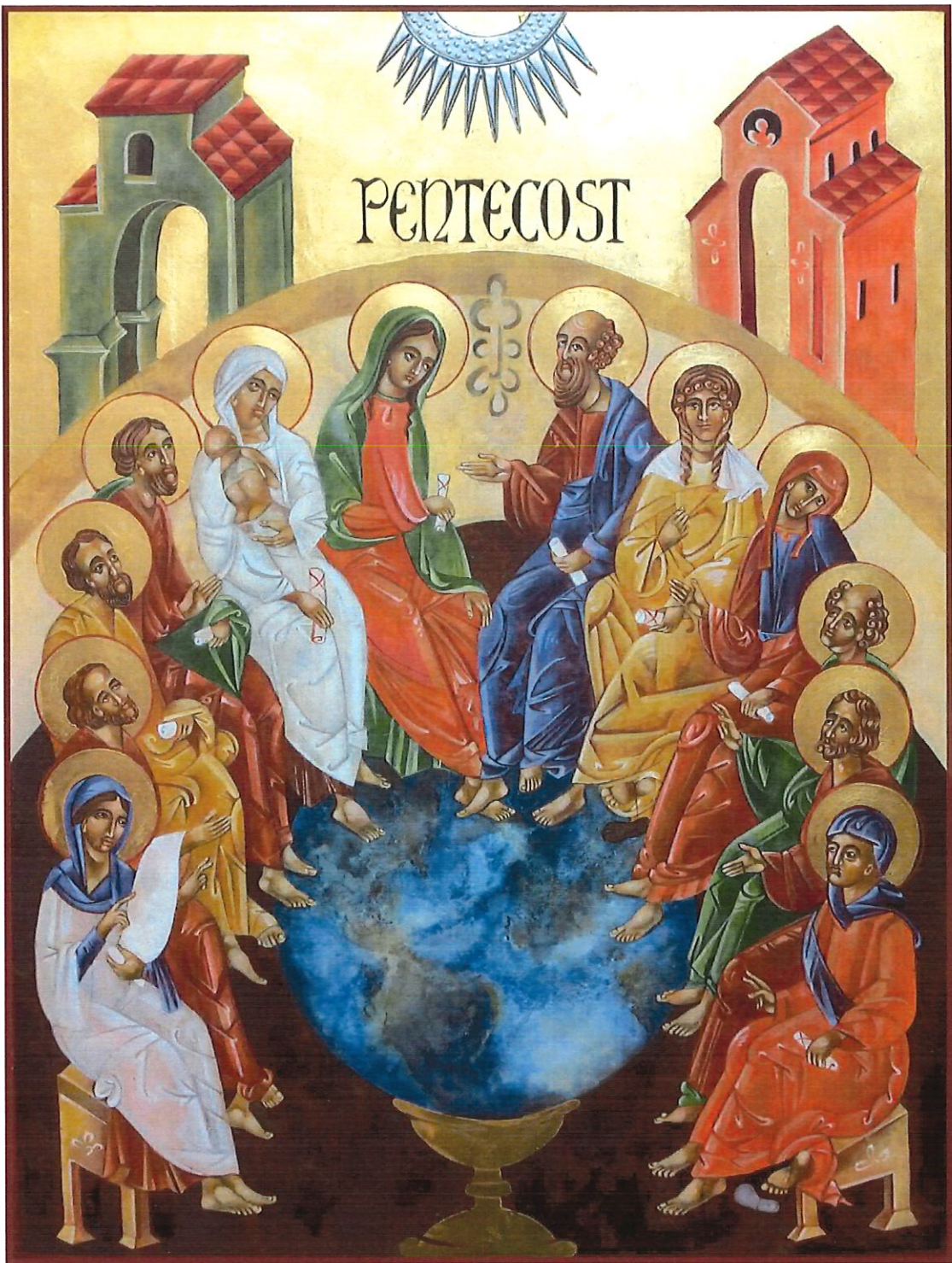


PENTECOST



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 26, 2024

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: "I am confident because I believe that I am a child of God. I am
humble because I believe that everyone else is too." ~ **Glennon Doyle**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The day of Pentecost has come, and we are together.

Will the works of God be known among us today?

ALL: We live in the valley of dry bones.

Around and within us is emptiness.

ONE: God comes to us as a gentle breath or violent wind.

Cath your breath, God's breath, and live.

ALL: There are stirrings deep within that give us hope.

There is a Spirit linking us to one another.

ONE: The fires of love dispel life's shadows.

God's Spirit comes to give us new life.

ALL: Surely God is in this place!

May the glory of God be known among us today!

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

When your face is hidden from us, mighty God, we forget that there is more to life than the daily pursuits that occupy our attention. We are weak because we have not tapped the resources you place within us. We are engaged only by what we can see and touch and hear. Our frantic self-centeredness dries up our bones and we lose hope. Call us out of the graves in which we have chosen to live, the depths that keep us from knowing the fullness of life you reveal when we welcome your Spirit. 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.

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 2:1-21

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

HYMN*On Pentecost They Gathered*

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Words © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (Admin. Westminster John Knox Press)**SERMON****HYMN***Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*

329

© Words: 1979 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 2001 Hope Publishing Company**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*)

How manifold are your works, amazing God! When there are dry-bones times in our lives, we can look to you for new breath and hope and renewal of life. Your Spirit comes, and we are lifted up and linked to one another. We bring our offerings as an expression of thanksgiving for all your gifts. May your glory be proclaimed in all we give and all we do, when we are together and when we scatter to do your will in other places. 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***They'll Know We are Christians*

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person/Liturgist Beth Frank
Accompanist Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

- St. John's:** Don Koenig, Sharon Koenig, Fred Lanning, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll, Dave Williams, and Margie Foxworthy's son Sean & stepson Dustin
- St. Jacob:** Sandy Autry, Carol Casperson, Marvin Docter, Lori Foley, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Carol Schmitt, 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

- Edwardsville St. Paul UCC Rev. Dana (David) Schindler
- Evansville St. John UCC Pastor Kevin Hirsch

Retired Pastor

- Rev. Charles (Rev. Karla Frost) Preston

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Mason Shirley, May 27
Tonia Ahlmeyer, May 30
Andrew Becker, May 30
Beth Frank, May 30
Ellise Duncan, June 1

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, May 19, 2024

St. John's – 9 St. Jacob – No Worship

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) can use donations of non-perishable food, hygiene products, and other items for those in need. 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.

Items for St. John's (For Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries): Canned goods including: vegetables, fruit, beans, soups, stews, pasta, chili, sloppy Joe, beef, sausage, chicken, salmon, and tuna. Boxed goods including pasta & noodles, rice, mashed potatoes, cereal, oatmeal, stuffing, and mac & cheese. Other pantry staples including flour, sugar, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, BBQ sauce, ramen, cake mix, Jello, and pudding. Nonfood items including trash bags, storage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, & toiletries.

Items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Pop-tarts, oatmeal, cheese cracker sandwiches, beef jerky, fruit cups, Vienna sausages, ketchup, mustard, broth, cooked ham, pasta sauce, jelly, pancake mix, & syrup

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

This year both St. John's UCC and St. Jacob UCC are helping with their local Summer Lunch Programs.

-St. John's UCC is accepting monetary donations which will be used to purchase needed lunch supplies. There is an envelope at St. John's to place your donation. The money will then be used to buy supplies through Amazon.

-St. Jacob UCC needs volunteers to help with the free school lunch program this summer. We are also accepting monetary donations which will be used to purchase the lunch supplies. Lunches will be provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Thursdays and Fridays. Lunches will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob Elementary School (outdoor classroom). Volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. For more information, or to volunteer call Audrey Yann at 618-567-8013, or Judy Bolton at 618-830-0526.

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. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:1-21

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!"

(continued from inside)

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions.

Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.

The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it’s not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn’t hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don’t see, we wait for it with patience.

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don’t know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God’s will.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

“When the Companion comes, whom I will send from the Father—the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. You will testify too, because you have been with me from the beginning.

“I didn’t say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I go away to the one who sent me. None of you ask me, ‘Where are you going?’ Yet because I have said these things to you, you are filled with sorrow. I assure you that it is better for you that I go away. If I don’t go away, the Companion won’t come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will show the world it was wrong about sin, righteousness, and judgment. He will show the world it was wrong about sin because they don’t believe in me. He will show the world it was wrong about righteousness because I’m going to the Father and you won’t see me anymore. He will show the world it was wrong about judgment because this world’s ruler stands condemned.

“I have much more to say to you, but you can’t handle it now. However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you in all truth. He won’t speak on his own, but will say whatever he hears and will proclaim to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and proclaim it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine. That’s why I said that the Spirit takes what is mine and will proclaim it to you.