



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

June 9, 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: "Pay attention to the things that bring a tear to your eye or a lump in your throat because they are signs that the holy is drawing near."

~ Frederick Buechner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Gather to give thanks with your whole heart.

Rejoice in God's love and faithfulness.

ALL: We bow down, for this is God's holy temple.

We pour out our thanks in songs of praise.

ONE: God answers us when we call.

Our Creator increases our strength of soul.

ALL: Great is the glory of our God!

We rejoice in God's steadfast love.

ONE: Wait for God, and hope in God's Word.

Open your hearts to the holy presence in our midst.

ALL: Our ears are attentive to the voice of God!

We open our lives to God's direction.

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Holy Family stained glass window in Warsaw, with Holy spirit, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/art-imagelink.pl?RC=55243>. Original source:

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We confess, O God, that we often act as if we know better than you what is right for us. We make decisions without considering your larger purposes. Our own convenience and desires are more important to us than your commands. We go our own way and then blame others for our mistakes. Our inner confusion creates division and brokenness. We hide from you rather than admitting our needs. O God, we want to face our sin and find forgiveness. Help us! 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:

1 Samuel 8:4-20

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

HYMN *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

405

SERMON

HYMN *Who is My Mother, Who is My Brother*

602

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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 your faithfulness. We bring ourselves and some of what we have accumulated to praise you and do the work you call us to do. Fulfill your purpose for this church as you enlist our offerings and our lives. In amazement at the work of your hands, we reach out our hands to help others and invite them to join us. In our labors for you, we will not lose heart. Help us to do your will. 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** *O God of Every Nation*

626

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person/Liturgist Kay Guse
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, Norma Logsdon, Gail Miller, Jackie 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

-Fieldon UCC
-Floraville St. Paul UCC Pastor Matt (Laura) Friz

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Earl (Rev. Pamela Smith) Menchhofer Conyers, GA

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Jetson Lowe, June 9
Samantha Rehg, June 13
Tim Hirsch, June 15

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, June 2, 2024

St. John's – 15 St. Jacob – 32

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

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY: Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m.

JUNE 17: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

JUNE 18: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

-**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.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 8:4-20

So all the Israelite elders got together and went to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, "Listen. You are old now, and your sons don't follow in your footsteps. So appoint us a king to judge us like all the other nations have." It seemed very bad to Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us," so he prayed to the Lord.

The Lord answered Samuel, "Comply with the people's request – everything they ask of you – because they haven't rejected you. No, they've rejected me as king over them. They are doing to you only what they've been doing to me from the day I brought them out of Egypt to this very minute, abandoning me and worshiping other gods. So comply with their request, but give them a clear warning, telling them how the king will rule over them."

Then Samuel explained everything the Lord had said to the people who were asking for a king. "This is how the king will rule over you," Samuel said:

"He will take your sons, and will use them for his chariots and his cavalry and as runners for his chariot. He will use them as his commanders of troops of one thousand and troops of fifty, or to do his plowing and his harvesting, or to make his weapons or parts for his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, or bakers. He will take your best fields, vineyards, and olive groves and give them to his servants. He will give one-tenth of your grain and your vineyards to his officials and servants. He will take your male and female servants, along with the best of your cattle and donkeys, and make them do his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and then you yourselves will become his slaves! When that day comes, you will cry out because of the king you chose for yourselves, but on that day the Lord won't answer you."

But the people refused to listen to Samuel and said, "No! There must be a king over us so we can be like all the other nations. Our king will judge us and lead us and fight our battles."

(Continued from inside cover)

SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

We have the same faithful spirit as what is written in scripture: I had faith, and so I spoke. We also have faith, and so we also speak. We do this because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and he will bring us into his presence along with you. All these things are for your benefit. As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God's glory.

So we aren't depressed. But even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day. Our temporary minor problems are producing an eternal stockpile of glory for us that is beyond all comparison. We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal.

We know that if the tent that we live in on earth is torn down, we have a building from God. It's a house that isn't handmade, which is eternal and located in heaven.

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

Jesus entered a house. A crowd gathered again so that it was impossible for him and his followers even to eat. When his family heard what was happening, they came to take control of him. They were saying, "He's out of his mind!"

The legal experts came down from Jerusalem. Over and over they charged, "He's possessed by Beelzebul. He throws out demons with the authority of the ruler of demons."

When Jesus called them together he spoke to them in a parable: "How can Satan throw Satan out? A kingdom involved in civil war will collapse. And a house torn apart by divisions will collapse. If Satan rebels against himself and is divided, then he can't endure. He's done for. No one gets into the house of a strong person and steals anything without first tying up the strong person. Only then can the house be burglarized. I assure you that human beings will be forgiven for everything, for all sins and insults of every kind. But whoever insults the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. That person is guilty of a sin with consequences that last forever." He said this because the legal experts were saying, "He's possessed by an evil spirit."

His mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and sent word to him, calling for him. A crowd was seated around him, and those sent to him said, "Look, your mother, brothers, and sisters are outside looking for you."

He replied, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" Looking around at those seated around him in a circle, he said, "Look, here are my mother and my brothers. Whoever does God's will is my brother, sister, and mother."