



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

June 23, 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: "There are some things you learn best in calm, and some in storm." ~ Willa Cather

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Gather in awe before God, who laid the foundations of the earth.

Open your hearts to the steadfast love God offers.

ALL: The deeds of God are beyond our knowing.

Yet we catch glimpses of God's mercy and care.

ONE: God does not forsake us when we are dismayed and afraid.

Our Creator is with us in all times and places.

ALL: God is a stronghold for the oppressed and troubled.

The needy and the poor are not forgotten.

ONE: God is ready to listen to us in these moments together.

See, now is the acceptable time, the day of salvation.

ALL: Surely God will meet us here in our faith community!

How good it is when we sense our unity in Christ!

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1606-1669. Storm on the Sea of Galilee, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=57953>. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rembrandt_Christ_in_the_Storm_on_the_Lake_of_Galilee.jpg.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Help us, God for we do not have the wisdom to help ourselves. When the good we have known crumbles beneath our feet and we are mired down in hopelessness and self-pity, we need you. When we cannot hide from the evil that is all around us because some of it is also in us, we cry out for your saving mercy. We confess that it is easier to see the problems than the promise. We have been more ready to complain than to accept your help. O God, we open our hearts to you. We want to be healed. 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 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49

Mark 4:35-41

SERMON

HYMN

Stand By Me

495

Music: Arr. © 1965 Abingdon Press (Admin. The Copyright 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*)

Thank you, God, for meeting us in our need. We give that others in even greater need might not be forgotten. We are grateful for the trust you place in us. We give that others might respond to the good news of your love. We are hearing the word Jesus spoke in the midst of a storm: "Peace! Be still!" With fresh calm and confidence, we give ourselves that others might live. Thank you, God for your steadfast love endures forever. 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

When Peace Like a River

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person
Accompanist

Audrey Yann
Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: June Boggy, Don Koenig, Sharon Koenig, Fred Lanning, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll, Dave Williams, and Margie Foxworthy's son Sean & stepson Dustin, and the family of Rusty Schiefer

St. Jacob: Sandy Autry, Carol Casperson, Marvin Docter, Lori Foley, Norma Logsdon, Gail Miller, Jackie Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Carol Schmitt, Carol Zweck, and the family of Charlie Kynion

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

-Godfrey Evangelical UCC Rev. Tim (Rev. Janet Darmour-Paul) Darmour-Paul

-Granite City St. John UCC Rev. Karla (Rev. Charles Preston) Frost

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Michael (Elizabeth) Marx, Owensboro, KY

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Margie & Wally Foxworthy, 17 years, June 23

DiAnn & Gary Rufer, 50 years, June 23

Collin Woods, June 23

Micah Lowe, June 28

Onis Zweck, June 28

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, June 16, 2024

St. John's – 11 St. Jacob – 26

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

-**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 are provided weekdays, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Thursdays and Fridays. Lunches are 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. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthex.

LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please volunteer to mow the church lawn. We still need volunteers for the weeks of July 22-28, July 29-Aug. 4, Aug. 12-18 & Aug. 19-25. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49

The Philistines assembled their troops for war at Socoh of Judah.

A champion named Goliath from Gath came out from the Philistine camp. He was more than nine feet tall. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore bronze scale-armor weighing one hundred twenty-five pounds. He had bronze plates on his shins, and a bronze scimitar hung on his back. His spear shaft was as strong as the bar on a weaver's loom, and its iron head weighed fifteen pounds. His shield-bearer walked in front of him.

He stopped and shouted to the Israelite troops, "Why have you come and taken up battle formations? I am the Philistine champion, and you are Saul's servants. Isn't that right? Select one of your men, and let him come down against me. If he is able to fight me and kill me, then we will become your slaves, but if I overcome him and kill him, then you will become our slaves and you will serve us. I insult Israel's troops today!" The Philistine continued, "Give me an opponent, and we'll fight!" When Saul and all Israel heard what the Philistine said, they were distressed and terrified.

They are with Saul and all the Israelite troops fighting the Philistines in the Elah Valley."

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So David got up early in the morning, left someone in charge of the flock, and loaded up and left, just as his father Jesse had instructed him. He reached the camp right when the army was taking up their battle formations and shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines took up their battle formations opposite each other. David left his things with an attendant and ran to the front line. When he arrived, he asked how his brothers were doing. Right when David was speaking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, came forward from the Philistine ranks and said the same things he had said before. David listened.

"Don't let anyone lose courage because of this Philistine!" David told Saul. "I, your servant, will go out and fight him!"

"You can't go out and fight this Philistine," Saul answered David. "You are still a boy. But he's been a warrior since he was a boy!"

"Your servant has kept his father's sheep," David replied to Saul, "and if ever a lion or a bear came and carried off one of the flock, I would go after it, strike it, and rescue the animal from its mouth. If it turned on me, I would grab it at its jaw, strike it, and kill it. Your servant has fought both lions and bears. This uncircumcised Philistine will be just like one of them because he has insulted the army of the living God.

"The Lord," David added, "who rescued me from the power of both lions and bears, will rescue me from the power of this Philistine."

"Go!" Saul replied to David. "And may the Lord be with you!"

Then Saul dressed David in his own gear, putting a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. David strapped his sword on over the armor, but he couldn't walk around well because he'd never tried it before. "I can't walk in this," David told Saul, "because I've never tried it before." So he took them off. He then grabbed his staff and chose five smooth stones from the stream bed. He put them in the pocket of his shepherd's bag and with sling in hand went out to the Philistine.

The Philistine got closer and closer to David, and his shield-bearer was in front of him. When the Philistine looked David over, he sneered at David because he was just a boy; reddish brown and good-looking.

The Philistine asked David, "Am I some sort of dog that you come at me with sticks?" And he cursed David by his gods. "Come here," he said to David, "and I'll feed your flesh to the wild birds and the wild animals!"

But David told the Philistine, "You are coming against me with sword, spear, and scimitar, but I come against you in the name of the Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel's army, the one you've insulted. Today the Lord will hand you over to me. I will strike you down and cut off your head! Today I will feed your dead body and the dead bodies of the entire Philistine camp to the wild birds and the wild animals. Then the whole world will know that there is a God on Israel's side. And all those gathered here will know that the Lord doesn't save by means of sword and spear. The Lord owns this war, and he will hand all of you over to us."

The Philistine got up and moved closer to attack David, and David ran quickly to the front line to face him. David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone. He slung it, and it hit the Philistine on his forehead. The stone penetrated his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41

Later that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." They left the crowd and took him in the boat just as he was. Other boats followed along.

Gale-force winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat so that the boat was swamped. But Jesus was in the rear of the boat, sleeping on a pillow. They woke him up and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?"

He got up and gave orders to the wind, and he said to the lake, "Silence! Be still!" The wind settled down and there was a great calm. Jesus asked them, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?"

Overcome with awe, they said to each other, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"