



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

July 14, 2024

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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.

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Silent Reflection: "I can't see what God's plan is. I just know I've got to live with  
it." ~ Muhammad Ali

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Blessed be the God and parent of our Savior Jesus Christ!  
Thank God for every spiritual blessing.

**ALL:** May the glory of God be known in this place!  
May God's peace dwell in this and every land!

ONE: Who shall ascend the hill to reach for God?  
Who shall stand in God's holy place?

**ALL:** Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,  
Those who are not false or deceitful.

ONE: God speaks peace to those who are faithful.  
Lift up your heads and your hearts to God.

**ALL:** We have come to hear the word of truth.  
We turn to God, eager to receive salvation.

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## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of all hope and blessing, hear us as we turn to you with all our hearts. We have not been faithful to your word of love. We have hurt others and held grudges. We have been jealous and deceitful and ungrateful. We have turned from your Word and resisted the Holy Spirit. We have wanted our inheritance from you without the responsibilities that go with it. O God, we plead for your forgiveness and healing that we might respond with joy to the spiritual blessings you offer. 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:

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

## SERMON

## 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)*

With joyous praise and dancing spirits, we dedicate this offering, acknowledging our covenant responsibility to share your word and love all your people. In gratitude for the gospel of salvation, we pledge our first loyalty and highest faithfulness as disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank you for the wisdom and insight we have received. Help us now to live according to the best we know, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### HYMN *One Bread, One Body*

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### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *(insert)*

### 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 *Have Thine Own Way, Lord!*

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### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION

ONE: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

ALL: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

ONE: God be with you

ALL: And also with you

ONE: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ONE: Holy God, our loving Creator, you are as close to us as our breathing and you are as distant as the farthest star. We thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith around the world and of every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, who you sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our prayers with the entire family of your faithful people, everywhere and in every time:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest!

ONE: Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ. We remember that Jesus ate and drank with the poor and with the wealthy, with the sinful and righteous alike. When he saw the multitude that followed him with nothing to eat, he took some loaves of bread, and a few fish, and after giving thanks to you he divided the bread and gave it to the multitude. And all ate and were filled. When his arrest seemed near, Jesus sat at table in an upper room,

with his closest friends and disciples. As he had done so many times before, he took the bread and after giving thanks to you he shared it among the disciples, vowing to continue his work in spite of the risk. He said, "I will not eat this again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after the meal, he took the cup and after giving thanks he gave it to them saying, "Truly I tell you, I will never drink of the fruit of the vine until I drink it new with you in the kingdom of God." Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For a time it seemed that all was lost. Jesus was executed by the authorities, and his disciples scattered in fear and despair. But at an evening meal in Emmaus, and at a breakfast campfire by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus once more took the bread, and after giving thanks to you he divided it and gave it to his disciples, opening their eyes, binding up their wounded hearts, continuing the meal, and revealing plainly that your steadfast love is stronger even than death, and your labor with us continues, for the sake of your realm.

Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**ONE:** Holy one, pour out your blessings on this food we have gathered for your people. May it be multiplied like the loaves and fishes at Galilee and feed and bless them and bring them closer to you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this bread and cup, and on us, your children. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

**ALL: Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*Juice in the center ring and wine in the outer rings.*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)**

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person  
Accompanist

Dian & Ty Gansmann  
Melody Hollis

## IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**St. John's:** June Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Don Koenig, Sharon Koenig, Fred Lanning, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll, Dave Williams, and Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

**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

-Hookdale St. Peter UCC Rev. Jerry (Bette) Bennett  
-Hoyleton Zion Evangelical UCC Rev. Sharon Patton

### Retired Pastor

Rev. Gustav (Suzanne) Kuether Belleville, IL

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Charles Zweck, July 15  
Dian Gansmann, July 16  
Robbie Meyer, July 16  
Marlene & Larry Robison, July 18



## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, July 7, 2024

St. John's – 12 St. Jacob – 18

### 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](mailto:stjucc@hometel.com)

Website: [stjacobucc.org](http://stjacobucc.org)

Pastor Phil Barbier: Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: [pastor@hometel.com](mailto:pastor@hometel.com)

### **BBQ MEAT BONANZA DRAWING AUG. 25**

The ELFs organization, in conjunction with Korte Meat Processing, Inc., are offering you a chance to win one of three bundles of barbeque meats in exchange for your donation. Tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10. An envelope of ticket packets for each family (as well as additional ticket packets) are available on the table in the Narthex for you to sell to friends, family, or purchase yourself. The proceeds will be used for mission giving, including purchasing new armchairs for Heritage Hall, providing summer lunches, paying off the delinquent lunch debts, supplying emergency supplies for DuBois Center campers, and sponsoring a girl in Kentucky, etc. The drawing will be held immediately following worship on Aug. 25, where three lucky winners' names will be drawn. You can drop your donation/tickets in the Barbeque safe in the foyer at church or mail them to the church office at: 207 West Main Street. St. Jacob, IL 62281.





## CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MONDAY:** St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

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

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### **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

The flowers on the altar are to the Glory of God and in honor of our precious grandson Robbie as he celebrates his 13th birthday July 16; from Angel Grandpa Charlie and Grandma Carol Kynion.

### **SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS**

-St. Jacob UCC *needs volunteers July 18, 25 & 26, and Aug. 2* 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.

-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.

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### **FIRST LESSON: Psalm 24**

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants too.  
Because God is the one who established it on the seas; God set it firmly on the waters.

Who can ascend the Lord's mountain? Who can stand in his holy sanctuary?

Only the one with clean hands and a pure heart; the one who hasn't made false promises, the one who hasn't sworn dishonestly.

That kind of person receives blessings from the Lord and righteousness from the God who saves.  
And that's how things are with the generation that seeks him – that seeks the face of Jacob's God.

Mighty gates: lift up your heads! Ancient doors: rise up high! So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king? The Lord—strong and powerful! The Lord—powerful in battle!

Mighty gates: lift up your heads! Ancient doors: rise up high! So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king? The Lord of heavenly forces – he is the glorious king!

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*(Continued from inside cover)*

### **SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14**

Bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing that comes from heaven. God chose us in Christ to be holy and blameless in God's presence before the creation of the world. God destined us to be his adopted children through Jesus Christ because of his love. This was according to his goodwill and plan and to honor his glorious grace that he has given to us freely through the Son whom he loves. We have been ransomed through his Son's blood, and we have forgiveness for our failures based on his overflowing grace, which he poured over us with wisdom and understanding. God revealed his hidden design to us, which is according to his goodwill and the plan that he intended to accomplish through his Son. This is what God planned for the climax of all times: to bring all things together in Christ, the things in heaven along with the things on earth. We have also received an inheritance in Christ. We were destined by the plan of God, who accomplishes everything according to his design. We are called to be an honor to God's glory because we were the first to hope in Christ. You too heard the word of truth in Christ, which is the good news of your salvation. You were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit because you believed in Christ. The Holy Spirit is the down payment on our inheritance, which is applied toward our redemption as God's own people, resulting in the honor of God's glory.

### **GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29**

Herod the king heard about these things, because the name of Jesus had become well-known. Some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and this is why miraculous powers are at work through him." Others were saying, "He is Elijah." Still others were saying, "He is a prophet like one of the ancient prophets." But when Herod heard these rumors, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised to life."

He said this because Herod himself had arranged to have John arrested and put in prison because of Herodias, the wife of Herod's brother Philip. Herod had married her, but John told Herod, "It's against the law for you to marry your brother's wife!" So Herodias had it in for John. She wanted to kill him, but she couldn't. This was because Herod respected John. He regarded him as a righteous and holy person, so he protected him. John's words greatly confused Herod, yet he enjoyed listening to him.

Finally, the time was right. It was on one of Herod's birthdays, when he had prepared a feast for his high-ranking officials and military officers and Galilee's leading residents. Herod's daughter Herodias came in and danced, thrilling Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the young woman, "Ask me whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." Then he swore to her, "Whatever you ask I will give to you, even as much as half of my kingdom."

She left the banquet hall and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?"

"John the Baptist's head," Herodias replied.

Hurrying back to the ruler, she made her request: "I want you to give me John the Baptist's head on a plate, right this minute." Although the king was upset, because of his solemn pledge and his guests, he didn't want to refuse her. So he ordered a guard to bring John's head. The guard went to the prison, cut off John's head, brought his head on a plate, and gave it to the young woman, and she gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard what had happened, they came and took his dead body and laid it in a tomb.