



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

August 4, 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: “It is hard for us to recognize it now, but Peter and Paul were introducing the first Christian family to an entirely new community, a community that transcends the rigid hierarchy of human institutions, a community in which submission is mutual and all are free.” ~ Rachel Held Evans, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Wait for God, who deals gently with us.

Watch for God’s appearance among us.

ALL: Out of the depths we cry out to God.

Will God hear the voice of our supplications?

ONE: In all times and places, we can rely on God.

We can know steadfast love, here and now.

ALL: We keep our morning watch together.

We will support one another as we seek to know God.

ONE: Find home in God’s power to redeem us.

Give thanks for the new day God promises to us.

ALL: Life’s battles cannot destroy us.

The losses we suffer are not the last word.

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Koenig, Peter. Cross of the Eucharist - Parish of St. Edward, Kettering, UK, 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=58608>. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O Holy Spirit, how we have grieved you! How often our words have been bitter, filled with malice and anger. How easily have we uttered lies of pretention and self-protection. How readily we take for ourselves the reward of another's labor. Forgive all that is false and evil within us and among us. Free us from the self-justifying excuses that keep us from reaching out to one another. We want to believe, to trust, to live as imitators of Jesus Christ. Help us, gracious God. 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 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

SERMON

HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other*

Music © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

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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 continuing providence, even when we complain. Thank you for the living bread, Jesus Christ, who feeds our spirits. In gratitude for undeserved grace and unlimited opportunity, we dedicate our offering and ourselves. Let our talk and our resources build up the body of Christ for greater service. May the needs of many be addressed in ways that bring hope, grace, and love to your children. 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** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Carol Kynion
Liturgist	George Anderson
Accompanist	Melissa Anderson Taylor

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, Jane Schmidt, Carol Zweck, and the family of Ronald Rujawitz

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

-Lenzburg St. Peter's UCC Rev. Earl (Johanna) Crecelius

-Maeystown St. John UCC Rev. Patrick (Kathy) Poole

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Herbert (Bennie) Schafale

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Carol & Steven Casperson, 49 years, Aug. 15

Steve May, Aug. 15

Ronda & Eric Schmidt, 26 years, Aug. 15

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, August 4, 2024

St. John's – 14 St. Jacob – 21

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

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

AUGUST 19: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

AUGUST 20: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

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. Drop off 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.



LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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.

***** THE UPPER ROOM** (September - October) magazines are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 130

I cry out to you from the depths, Lord – my Lord, listen to my voice!

Let your ears pay close attention to my request for mercy!

If you kept track of sins, Lord – my Lord, who would stand a chance?

But forgiveness is with you – that’s why you are honored.

I hope, Lord.

My whole being hopes, and I wait for God’s promise.

My whole being waits for my Lord – more than the night watch waits for morning;

yes, more than the night watch waits for morning!

Israel, wait for the Lord! Because faithful love is with the Lord; because great redemption is with our God!

He is the one who will redeem Israel from all its sin.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Therefore, after you have gotten rid of lying, *Each of you must tell the truth to your neighbor* because we are parts of each other in the same body. *Be angry without sinning.* Don’t let the sun set on your anger. Don’t provide an opportunity for the devil. Thieves should no longer steal. Instead, they should go to work, using their hands to do good so that they will have something to share with whoever is in need.

Don’t let any foul words come out of your mouth. Only say what is helpful when it is needed for building up the community so that it benefits those who hear what you say. Don’t make the Holy Spirit of God unhappy – you were sealed by him for the day of redemption. Put aside all bitterness, losing your temper, anger, shouting, and slander, along with every other evil. Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ.

Therefore, imitate God like dearly loved children. Live your life with love, following the example of Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. He was a sacrificial offering that smelled sweet to God.

GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41-51

Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

The Jewish opposition grumbled about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.”

They asked, “Isn’t this Jesus, Joseph’s son, whose mother and father we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’”

Jesus responded, “Don’t grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless they are drawn to me by the Father who sent me, and I will raise them up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets, *And they will all be taught by God.* Everyone who has listened to the Father and learned from him comes to me. No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God. He has seen the Father. I assure you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”