



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

October 13, 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: "Following Jesus is simple, but not easy. Love until it hurts, and then love more." ~ Mother Teresa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We look in the mirror and what do we see?

ALL: We see people who try to be faithful,
even as questions and struggles challenge our faith.

ONE: We look in the mirror and what do we see?

ALL: We see with hearts which are open to God's love, with lives which
seek to trust when all the evidence tells us not to be so foolish.

ONE: We look in the mirror and what do we see?

ALL: We see Jesus, the One who struggles with the questions we raise,
who models faithfulness for all who would follow.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We stand before you, Saving God, stripped of our pretensions and pride, for nothing we do or say – or do not do or say – can be hidden from you. You hear the angry words we preach to ourselves; you sift through the rubble of hurt we have caused; you see how we stumble, weighed down by all the ‘stuff’ which keeps us from following Jesus. As you empty our hands of the wealth of unneeded things we cling so tightly to, fill them with your grace and hope. As we let go of all which might hold us back, give us the trust to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that life with which he offers to each of us.

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:

Psalms 22:1-15

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

SERMON

INVITATION TO OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

Gracious God, we present these gifts and renew our commitment to leave everything behind and follow you. Give us the courage to fulfill your will so that with everything we do and say we can become a living offering worthy of being called your disciples. Amen.

HYMN *O Come to Me, the Master Said*

346

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *(insert)*

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE Into My Heart

485

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

Come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

* HYMN *The Summons*

350

Words and Music: 1987 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland (Admin. by Wild Goose Resource Group)

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

he 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

Hosts are gluten free.

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	Donna Lowe
Liturgist	Beth Frank
Accompanist	Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Brian Bielong, Wally Foxworthy, Don Koenig, Sharon Koenig, Christy Lanning, Fred Lanning, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll, and Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Marvin Docter, Lori Foley, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Kathleen Ritter, Jane Schmidt, 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

- Red Bud St. Peter UCC - Pastor Cory (Geraldine) Hartz
- Smithton St. John UCC - Rev. Brian (Dawn) Damrow

Retired Pastor

- Retired Pastor - Rev. Jean Carmean

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Kevin Hollis, Oct. 13

John Lowe, Oct. 13

Dash Zobrist, Oct. 15

Donna Lowe, Oct. 19

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, October 6, 2024

St. John's – 12 St. Jacob – 19

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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: green beans, corns, carrots, mixed vegetables, stew, chili, soup, fruit, spaghetti sauce, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, potatoes (boxed/bags), Rice a Roni, macaroni and cheese, pasta, Ramen noodles, Jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, powdered sugar, brown sugar, oil, Crisco, dish soap, laundry detergent (quart bottles/sheets/pods), dryer sheets, paper towels, toilet paper, baggies (sandwich/qt./gal.) plastic wrap, toilet bowl cleaner, and cleaning solution

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

TODAY: Communion Sunday (moved from Oct. 6)

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

OCTOBER 21: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

FREE FLU IMMUNIZATION CLINIC OCT. 24

St. Jacob Township annual free flu immunization clinic will be held from 3 to 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 24 at Heritage Hall. The clinic is **only for residents of St. Jacob Village and Township**, and you must be 18 years or older (proof of residency is required). For more information contact Diane Frey at (618) 644-9319.

HIGHLAND'S MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS DRIVERS

Highland's Meals on Wheels needs volunteer drivers. Meals are delivered from 11 a.m. to noon weekdays. For more information, or to sign up call (618) 954-0356.

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

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 22:1-15

My God! My God, why have you left me all alone?

Why are you so far from saving me – so far from my anguished groans?

My God, I cry out during the day, but you don't answer; even at nighttime I don't stop.

You are the holy one, enthroned. You are Israel's praise.

Our ancestors trusted you – they trusted you and you rescued them;

they cried out to you and they were saved; they trusted you and they weren't ashamed.

But I'm just a worm, less than human; insulted by one person, despised by another.

All who see me make fun of me – they gape, shaking their heads:

"He committed himself to the Lord, so let God rescue him;

let God deliver him because God likes him so much."

But you are the one who pulled me from the womb, placing me safely at my mother's breasts.

I was thrown on you from birth; you've been my God since I was in my mother's womb.

Please don't be far from me, because trouble is near and there's no one to help.

Many bulls surround me; mighty bulls from Bashan encircle me.

They open their mouths at me like a lion ripping and roaring!

I'm poured out like water. All my bones have fallen apart. My heart is like wax; it melts inside me.

My strength is dried up like a piece of broken pottery.

My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you've set me down in the dirt of death.

(Continued from inside cover)

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 4:12-16

Because God's word is living, active, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates to the point that it separates the soul from the spirit and the joints from the marrow. It's able to judge the heart's thoughts and intentions. No creature is hidden from it, but rather everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of the one to whom we have to give an answer.

Also, let's hold on to the confession since we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens, who is Jesus, God's Son; because we don't have a high priest who can't sympathize with our weaknesses but instead one who was tempted in every way that we are, except without sin.

Finally, let's draw near to the throne of favor with confidence so that we can receive mercy and find grace when we need help.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus continued down the road, a man ran up, knelt before him, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to obtain eternal life?"

Jesus replied, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except the one God. You know the commandments: Don't commit murder. Don't commit adultery. Don't steal. Don't give false testimony. Don't cheat. Honor your father and mother."

"Teacher," he responded, "I've kept all of these things since I was a boy."

Jesus looked at him carefully and loved him. He said, "You are lacking one thing. Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me." But the man was dismayed at this statement and went away saddened, because he had many possessions.

Looking around, Jesus said to his disciples, "It will be very hard for the wealthy to enter God's kingdom!" His words startled the disciples, so Jesus told them again, "Children, it's difficult to enter God's kingdom! It's easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter God's kingdom."

They were shocked even more and said to each other, "Then who can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them carefully and said, "It's impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God."

Peter said to him, "Look, we've left everything and followed you."

Jesus said, "I assure you that anyone who has left house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, or farms because of me and because of the good news will receive one hundred times as much now in this life – houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and farms (with harassment) – and in the coming age, eternal life. But many who are first will be last. And many who are last will be first."