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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

November 24, 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: "The kingdom of God is available to you in the here and the
now. But the question is whether you are available to the kingdom."

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Strong One of Israel, we gather in your name.

ALL: Rock of Israel, in the light of morning, your praise is upon our lips.

ONE: Everlasting Covenant, it is right and proper that we come into your
presence.

**ALL: You are worthy to be lifted, exalted, and worshiped, for you are
Sovereign!**

ONE: Christ rules!

ALL: To God be the Glory!

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Christ the King of Kings, Greece - c. 1600, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55319>. Original source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_King_of_Kings_\(Greece,_c._1600\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_King_of_Kings_(Greece,_c._1600).jpg).

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Mighty God, the choices we make reveal who we are. Choosing the lies of the world, you Word has not been on our lips. Choosing independent and isolated lives, we do not reflect your Spirit in our actions toward others. Choosing to exalt the powerful of our day, we are unable to follow the One whose weakness gives us life. Forgive us, O God. Do not turn your face from us, but help us to face ourselves honestly. Free us from our captivity to sin, so we may faithfully follow your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and savior. 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 132:1-12

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* 71

SERMON

HYMN *We've a Story to Tell the Nations* 562

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*)

Our offerings measure more than our faithfulness to you, mighty God. They are witness to the importance we place on sharing your Word, ministering to one another, and reaching out to make a difference in your world. As we have been influenced by your love in Jesus Christ, help us to communicate that love by what we do and say. Let us become as lamps brightening a cloudy day, as light breaking forth at dawn. To that end, we dedicate ourselves with our gifts. Amen.

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** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* 232

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Ty Gansmann
Liturgist	Kay Guse
Accompanist	Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Don Koenig, Christy Lanning, Fred Lanning, and Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Marvin Docter, Lori Foley, Jackie Miller, Kathleen Ritter, and to the family of 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

- Wood River St. John UCC - Rev. John (Jackie Jordan-Pawloski) Pawloski
- Addieville Zion UCC - Rev. William Groennert

Retired Pastor

- Retired Pastor - Rev. Fred (Shirley) Wehrenberg

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Herkenhoff, Nov. 24

Jackie Miller, Nov. 24

Henry Peer, Nov. 24

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, November 17, 2024

St. John's – 16 St. Jacob – 39

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

THURSDAY: Happy THANKSGIVING!

HOYLETON'S HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS DRIVE

St. Jacob: This year we are providing gifts for children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton. On the table in the Narthex you will find a basket with slips. Each slip lists possible gifts and has a number at the top. There is a sheet next to the basket with the same number on it. Please put your name next to the slip you take. The gifts are due to church by Sunday, Dec. 1, and we'll get them to Hoyleton that week. Please include the top half of the slip with the child's name on the gift.

St. John's: Again this year the council will be coordinating the purchase of gifts for the children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton through their on-line wish-list. Please place your donation in the envelope on the bulletin board.

ST. JACOB NEEDS COUNCIL MEMBERS

St. Jacob needs members to serve on the church council. Currently we have only nine of the 12 positions filled. Two of those nine members will finish their term at the end of this year, which will leave us with five positions vacant for 2025. Please consider volunteering, it's really a small commitment of your time, as the council meets just once a month for about an hour, and then serves as the council person for one month to assist at worship. The success of our church depends on volunteers like you. For more information call the church office, 618-644-2142.

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.

SNOW SHOVELING

Winter weather will be here before you know it. Please volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

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

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 132-1-12

Lord, remember David – all the ways he suffered and how he swore to the Lord, how he promised the strong one of Jacob: “I won’t enter my house, won’t get into my bed. I won’t let my eyes close, won’t let my eyelids sleep, until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the strong one of Jacob.”

Yes, we heard about it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar.
Let’s enter God’s dwelling place; let’s worship at the place God rests his feet!
Get up, Lord, go to your residence – you and your powerful covenant chest!
Let your priests be dressed in righteousness; let your faithful shout out with joy!
And for the sake of your servant David, do not reject your anointed one.

The Lord swore to David a true promise that God won’t take back: “I will put one of your own children on your throne.
And if your children keep my covenant and the laws that I will teach them, then their children too will rule on your throne forever.”

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4-8

John, to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace and peace to you from the one who is and was and is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before God’s throne, and from Jesus Christ – the faithful witness, the firstborn from among the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, who made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father – to him be glory and power forever and always. Amen.

Look, he is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. This is so. Amen. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “the one who is and was and is coming, the Almighty.”

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

Pilate went back into the palace. He summoned Jesus and asked, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others spoken to you about me?”

Pilate responded, “I’m not a Jew, am I? Your nation and its chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”

Jesus replied, “My kingdom doesn’t originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn’t have been arrested by the Jewish leaders. My kingdom isn’t from here.”

“So you are a king?” Pilate said.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever accepts the truth listens to my voice.”