

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

February 2, 2025

---

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:** "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like."

~ Saint Augustine

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Today the words of God come to us, in love,

**ALL: Inviting us to not be afraid, but to place our faith in God.**

ONE: Today, the word of God comes to us, in faith,

**ALL: Inviting us to trust in the One who knows us,  
to place our home in the One who saves us.**

ONE: Today, the word of God comes to us, in hope,

**ALL: Inviting us to be gracious in our love and in our service to others.**

---

### **Bulletin Cover Attribution:**

Jesus Mural of Faith, Hope, Love, and Peace, Chicago, IL, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56412>.

Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/36847973@N00/3342340183> - CC BY 2.0.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of incredible patience, we must confess that our love is not always what we might hope it would be. We focus so much on ourselves that the needs of others pale in significance. Too often, we find ourselves rejoicing in the miseries of others, believing they must have done something to deserve what comes their way. Forgive us, O God, and have mercy on us. As you rescue us from ourselves, may we become your people. As you touch us with faith, may we be witnesses to the world of your dreams. And as you pour out hope upon us, may we share your compassion to those who hurt. 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 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

**HYMN**

*Lord, Speak to Me*

**593**

**SERMON**

**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*)

We awe and wonder before you, O God, and we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those oppressed and misunderstood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings preach and teach and heal. Amen.

**HYMN**

*We Meet as Friends at Table*

**704**

© Words: 1996 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1996 Hope Publishing Company

**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**

*Here I am, Lord*

**559**

Text and music © 1981, OCP. All rights reserved.

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **SERVING YOU TODAY**

Council Person  
Liturgist  
Accompanist

Cathy Frutiger  
Angela Imming  
Melody Hollis

### **IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

**St. John's:** Sherry Christ, Christy Lanning, Fred Lanning, Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

**St. Jacob:** Edie Haller Bridges, Carol Casperson, Marvin Docter, Lori Foley, Sylvia Hoerchler, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, and Darik Zobrist

**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**

- East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith UCC - Pastor Norma Patterson
- Edwardsville St. Paul UCC - Rev. Dana (David) Schindler

#### **Retired Pastor**

- Retired Pastor - Rev. Allen (Lynn) Reiter

### **UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

Barbara Baer, Feb. 2  
Ashley Ahrens, Feb. 3  
Steven Shirley, Feb. 4  
Austin Becker, Feb. 8

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, January 26, 2025

St. John's – 11 St. Jacob – 37

### 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](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)

### **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

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of Abingdon Press from *Litanies and Other Prayers for the Revised Common Lectionary Year C* by Phyllis Cole and Everett Tilson. Copyright 1991.

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of United Church Press from *Gathered by Love: Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 2001.

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of Thom M. Shuman from *Bearer of Grace and Justice: Lectionary Liturgies for Year C* by Thom M. Shuman. Copyright 2012.

## CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY:** Strawberry Festival meeting following worship at St. Jacob UCC

---

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT ST. JACOB**

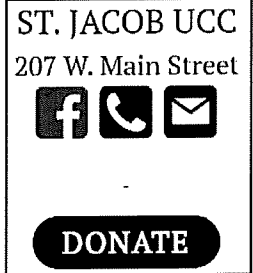
Our adult Bible Study on the 10 Commandments will be held this Wednesday, Feb. 5 & Feb. 19. Each session will offer two options to attend, beginning at either 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. For more information call the office: 618-644-2142.

### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

This year's Lenten Bible Study will be held each Wednesday, March 5 - April 9 at 7 p.m., and we'll be using the book *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects* by Jill Duffield.

### **ON-LINE GIVING OPTION**

An on-line giving option is available on the St. Jacob UCC's web site (<https://stjacobucc.org/>). There are two ways to access the on-line giving option: the first is the "DONATE" button located on the top-right corner of the "Home Page," and the second is by clicking on "RESOURCES" and then "DONATE." If you have any issues using the on-line giving option, please contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.



### **ST. JACOB ENVELOPE BOOKLETS/GIVING STATEMENTS**

There are still a few St. Jacob 2025 Envelope Booklets, and 2024 Giving Statements available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthex.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. JACOB**

Sunday School will be held before worship (9-10 a.m.) the 2nd & 4th Sundays through May and is open to all children kindergarten through 6th grade. For more details and registration information visit the St. Jacob UCC Facebook page ([facebook.com/stjacobucc](https://facebook.com/stjacobucc)).

### **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!

**FIRST LESSON: Psalm 71:1-6**

I've taken refuge in you, Lord. Don't let me ever be put to shame!  
Deliver me and rescue me by your righteousness! Bend your ear toward me and save me!  
Be my rock of refuge where I can always escape.  
You commanded that my life be saved because you are my rock and my fortress.

My God, rescue me from the power of the wicked; rescue me from the grip of the wrongdoer and the oppressor because you are my hope, Lord. You, Lord, are the one I've trusted since childhood.  
I've depended on you from birth – you cut the cord when I came from my mother's womb. My praise is always about you.

**SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever.

Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

**GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30**

He began to explain to them, "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled just as you heard it."

Everyone was raving about Jesus, so impressed were they by the gracious words flowing from his lips. They said, "This is Joseph's son, isn't it?"

Then Jesus said to them, "Undoubtedly, you will quote this saying to me: 'Doctor, heal yourself. Do here in your hometown what we've heard you did in Capernaum.'" He said, "I assure you that no prophet is welcome in the prophet's hometown. And I can assure you that there were many widows in Israel during Elijah's time, when it didn't rain for three and a half years and there was a great food shortage in the land. Yet Elijah was sent to none of them but only to a widow in the city of Zarephath in the region of Sidon. There were also many persons with skin diseases in Israel during the time of the prophet Elisha, but none of them were cleansed. Instead, Naaman the Syrian was cleansed."

When they heard this, everyone in the synagogue was filled with anger. They rose up and ran him out of town. They led him to the crest of the hill on which their town had been built so that they could throw him off the cliff. But he passed through the crowd and went on his way.



# 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**

*Hosts are gluten free.*

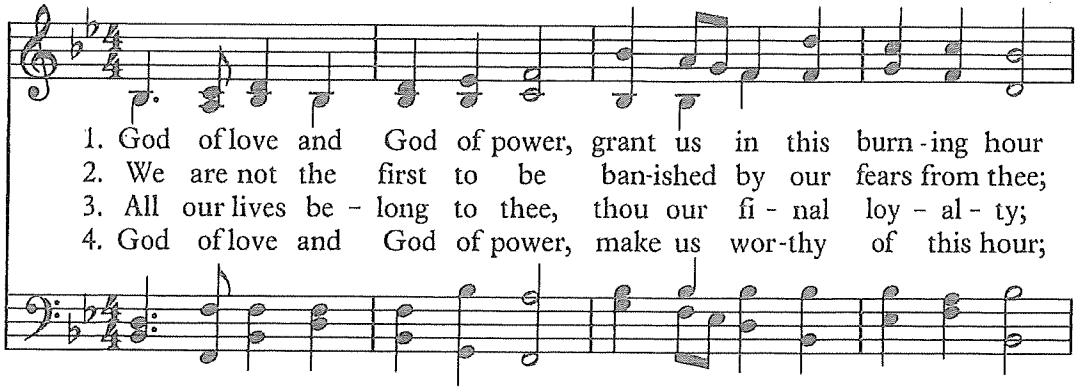
*Juice in the center ring and wine in the outer rings.*

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

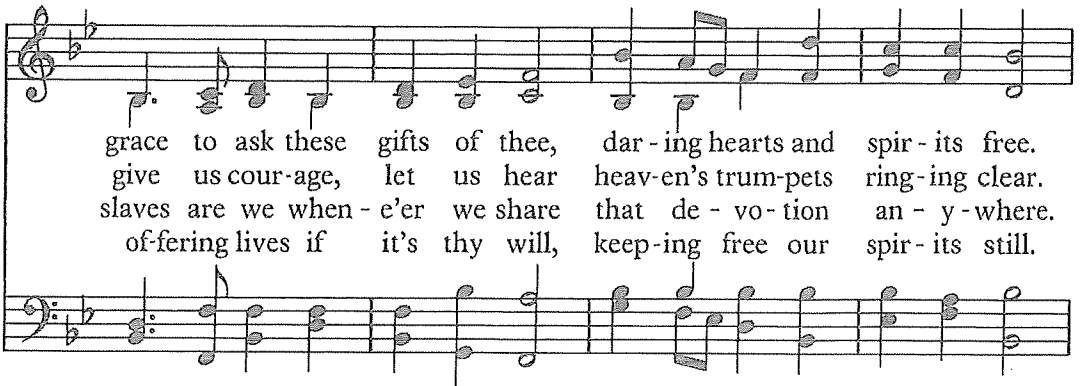
Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# God of Love and God of Power

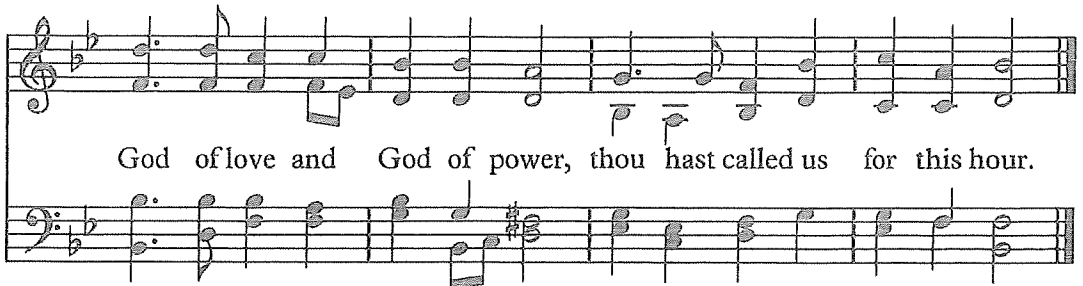
578



1. God of love and God of power, grant us in this burn-ing hour  
2. We are not the first to be ban-ished by our fears from thee;  
3. All our lives be-long to thee, thou our fi-nal loy-al-ty;  
4. God of love and God of power, make us wor-thy of this hour;



grace to ask these gifts of thee, dar-ing hearts and spir-its free.  
give us cour-age, let us hear heav-en's trum-pets ring-ing clear.  
slaves are we when-e'er we share that de-vo-tion an-y-where.  
of-fering lives if it's thy will, keep-ing free our spir-its still.



God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

WORDS: Gerald H. Kennedy, ca. 1939  
MUSIC: Joachim Neander, 1680

UNSER HERRSCHER  
77.77.77

