



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

February 9, 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: "Faith is not belief without proof, but trust without reservation."

~ D. Elton Trueblood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Blessed are those who trust in God.

ALL: We come in trust, to be grounded in God's love.

ONE: Blessed are those who hope in God.

ALL: We come in hope, trusting in the One who gives us life.

ONE: Blessed are those who delight in God's word.

ALL: We come to hear God speak, hoping for healing and joy.

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

JESUS MAFA. The Sermon on the Mount, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imageLink.pl?RC=48284>. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Holy God, the seductions of this world gnaw away at our hearts. We have more and more to choose from, and so we forget those whose only choice is hunger. Knowing that you love us leads us to think that we are your favorites and that others are not. We are so consumed with saving enough for the future that we overlook those who have so little. Forgive us for thinking we are the center of your world, O God. Pour your living water into us so the roots of your word may grow deep in our hearts and we might become the people you created us to be. 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:

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalms 1

Luke 6:17-26

HYMN *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* 457

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED – *Insert*

HYMN *If You Will Trust in God to Guide You* 429

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 the consolation you offer, the hunger you satisfy, and the healing you produce in those who respond to your love. You have touched our lives in ways that make us rich. Now use what we have shared to provide fulfillment in other lives, among our neighbors, near and far. Enlist our best efforts in the extension of your realm, that our offering of ourselves may bear fruit daily. 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** *A Charge to Keep I Have* 588

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person: Cathy Frutiger

Accompanist: Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Kirsten Bohentstiehl, 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

- Farina Friedens UCC

- Fieldon UCC

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Karen Steinkoenig, Feb. 16

Judy Bolton, Feb. 19

Rachel Yann Mueller, Feb. 20

Tavey Duncan, Jan. 22

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, February 9, 2025

St. John's – 12 St. Jacob – 59

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

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 *Bearers of Grace and Justice: Lectionary Liturgies for Year C* by Thom M. Shuman. Copyright 2012.

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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.

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).

ON-LINE GIVING OPTION

An on-line giving option is available on our 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.

SNOW SHOVELING

We still have several weeks of winter weather remaining, and several weeks still need volunteers to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thank you to all those who have volunteered!

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATION

In case of inclement weather, we have implemented the following procedure: No later than 8 a.m., Sunday morning there will be a message on the church answering machine (618-644-2142) stating whether church will be cancelled. Also, the cancellation of service will be posted on our Facebook page and Channel 5.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 17:5-10

The Lord proclaims: Cursed are those who trust in mere humans, who depend on human strength and turn their hearts from the Lord.

They will be like a desert shrub that doesn't know when relief comes. They will live in the parched places of the wilderness, in a barren land where no one survives.

Happy are those who trust in the Lord, who rely on the Lord. They will be like trees planted by the streams, whose roots reach down to the water. They won't fear drought when it comes; their leaves will remain green. They won't be stressed in the time of drought or fail to bear fruit.

The most cunning heart – it's beyond help. Who can figure it out?

I, the Lord, probe the heart and discern hidden motives, to give everyone what they deserve, the consequences of their deeds.

SECOND LESSON: Psalm 1

The truly happy person doesn't follow wicked advice, doesn't stand on the road of sinners, and doesn't sit with the disrespectful. Instead of doing those things, these persons love the Lord's Instruction, and they recite God's Instruction day and night! They are like a tree replanted by streams of water, which bears fruit at just the right time and whose leaves don't fade. Whatever they do succeeds.

That's not true for the wicked! They are like dust that the wind blows away. And that's why the wicked will have no standing in the court of justice – neither will sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

The Lord is intimately acquainted with the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is destroyed.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

Jesus came down from the mountain with them and stood on a large area of level ground. A great company of his disciples and a huge crowd of people from all around Judea and Jerusalem and the area around Tyre and Sidon joined him there. They came to hear him and to be healed from their diseases, and those bothered by unclean spirits were healed. The whole crowd wanted to touch him, because power was going out from him and he was healing everyone.

Jesus raised his eyes to his disciples and said:

“Happy are you who are poor, because God's kingdom is yours.

Happy are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied.

Happy are you who weep now, because you will laugh.

Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and condemn your name as evil because of the Human One. Rejoice when that happens! Leap for joy because you have a great reward in heaven. Their ancestors did the same things to the prophets.

But how terrible for you who are rich, because you have already received your comfort.

How terrible for you who have plenty now, because you will be hungry.

How terrible for you who laugh now, because you will mourn and weep.

How terrible for you when all speak well of you. Their ancestors did the same things to the false prophets.”

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the universal Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

