



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 25, 2025

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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.

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**Silent Reflection:** "God loves you unconditionally, as you are and not as you should be, because nobody is as they should be." ~ **Brennan Manning**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**ONE:** God calls us to this place, a haven for healing hope.

**ALL:** **We come, with the pain of our burdens,  
We come to hear God's Word of hope for us.**

**ONE:** Together, we will sing songs of joy; each of us will hear God whisper our name, 'Beloved of my heart.'

**ALL:** **We join our voices in prayer and praise;  
We sing of our longing for new lives.**

**ONE:** Here, our shadowed corners are filled with Light;  
here we discover that God dwells in us.

**ALL:** **And not just us, for God would teach all to love;  
God's Spirit would lead all peoples in peace.**

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### **Bulletin Cover Attribution:**

Everett, Trey. Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57820>. Original source: Trey Everett, <https://www.treyeverettcreates.com/>.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Because you dwell in our hearts, Eternal God, you know how the anger, the pain, and the bitterness in our lives tries to crowd you out. The noise of the world deafens us to that Word which can heal us. We want our children and grandchildren to be good, kind, and gentle to others, but then they hear us call others names, and speak of them with dehumanizing words. Our desire for revenge towards those who have hurt us shows that your peace is not in us. Create in us a new spirit, Forgiving God. Heal our hearts that are shattered by our sin. Place your Word deep within our souls, so that we may live in love and faithfulness. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### GLORIA PATRI

734

## 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:

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

John 14:23-29

**HYMN**                      *Shall We Gather at the River*                      522

**SERMON**

**HYMN**                      *All Who Love and Serve Your City*                      625

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**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*)

For the hospitality of your good earth, for the people you have given us to love, for the tasks you have called us to do, we give thanks, gracious God. Our offerings are a measure of our faith and an evidence of our gratitude. We dedicate ourselves with our gifts, that your reign of light may be realized in the places where we live and work and far beyond our personal reach. Amen.

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

**PRAYER RESPONSE**                      **Hear Our Prayer, O Lord**                      490

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;  
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.*

**\* HYMN**                      *Healer of Our Every Ill*                      630

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**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

## **SERVING YOU TODAY**

Council Person  
Accompanist:

Beth Frank  
Melody Hollis

## **IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

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

**St. Jacob:** Carol Casperson, Gracie Emmerich, Lori Erwin, Lori Foley, Sylvia Hoerschler, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, 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**

- Zion UCC, New Baden - Rev. Steven (Molly) Stark
- Zoar UCC, New Hanover - Rev. R.J. Morgan

### **Retired Pastors**

- Rev. Dr. Richard (Johann) Ellerbrake

## **UPCOMING BIRTHDAY**

Trisha Christ, May 25  
Mason Shirley, May 27  
Tonia Ahlmeyer, May 30  
Andrew Becker, May 30  
Beth Frank, May 30

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, May 18, 2025

St. John's – 15    St. Jacob – No worship

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### 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)

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### **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**

**JUNE 1:** Robbie Meyer will be confirmed during worship at St. Jacob UCC

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### **SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS**

Volunteers and donations are needed for the free school lunch program this summer. We're accepting monetary donations to purchase lunch supplies. Lunches will be provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lunches will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob Elementary School (outdoor classroom). Volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. For more information, or to volunteer contact Audrey Yann, 618-567-8013 or Carol Kynion, 618-401-8805

### **WALK WITH GOD**

St. Jacob UCC is planning a walking group called "Walk with God." Anyone who likes to take walks, be in nature and share in unity is encouraged to join us. We hope to get members of the church together a couple times a week to walk and be visible in the community. We will meet at the church and decide from there where we would like to walk. Days and times are to be determined by the participants. If you're interested in participating and would like more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: [stjucc@hometel.com](mailto:stjucc@hometel.com).

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

An on-line giving option is available on 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.

### **LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Please volunteer to mow the church lawn. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

**FIRST LESSON: Acts 16:9-15**

A vision of a man from Macedonia came to Paul during the night. He stood urging Paul, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" Immediately after he saw the vision, we prepared to leave for the province of Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We sailed from Troas straight for Samothrace and came to Neapolis the following day. From there we went to Philippi, a city of Macedonia's first district and a Roman colony. We stayed in that city several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the riverbank, where we thought there might be a place for prayer. We sat down and began to talk with the women who had gathered. One of those women was Lydia, a Gentile God-worshipper from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. As she listened, the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul's message. Once she and her household were baptized, she urged, "Now that you have decided that I am a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house." And she persuaded us.

**SECOND LESSON: Psalm 67**

Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God make his face shine on us,  
so that your way becomes known on earth, so that your salvation becomes known among all the nations.

Let the people thank you, God! Let all the people thank you!  
Let the people celebrate and shout with joy  
because you judge the nations fairly and guide all nations on the earth.  
Let the people thank you, God! Let all the people thank you!

The earth has yielded its harvest. God blesses us – our God blesses us!  
Let God continue to bless us; let the far ends of the earth honor him.

**GOSPEL: John 14:23-29**

Jesus answered, "Whoever loves me will keep my word. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word that you hear isn't mine. It is the word of the Father who sent me.

"I have spoken these things to you while I am with you. The Companion, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I told you.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give to you not as the world gives. Don't be troubled or afraid. You have heard me tell you, 'I'm going away and returning to you.' If you loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than me. I have told you before it happens so that when it happens you will believe.