



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

June 1, 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:** “Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire!” ~ St. Catherine of Siena

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**ONE:** We gather in this place; some empty, some filled, some whole, some broken;

**ALL:** Yearning for the Holy Spirit to fill us.

**ONE:** We come together, ordinary people, seeking the way;

**ALL:** Trusting that God will continue to illumine our hearts.

**ONE:** We come to the table of grace, so we might be fed by the Bread of Life.

**ALL:** That given grace, we may serve others; that healed, we may bring hope to the world.

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

O God, you call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice. We watch our clocks to make sure we spend more time with ourselves than with you. We are hesitant to witness to your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives. Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may go into the world and proclaim your good news. 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:**

Psalm 23

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

## SERMON

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

### 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*)

For the life you have offered, for the vision you have granted, for the ministry of Jesus Christ that empowers our witness, we give thanks. May these offerings of gratitude extend the positive influence of Christ's church into parts of the world that have not experienced good news. By the act of giving, may our own commitment be deepened. Amen.

### HYMN            *The Summons*            350

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### CONFIRMATION – *Insert*

### HYMN            *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      *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            *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*            358

# CONFIRMATION OF ROBBIE MEYER

## Invitation

## Questions of the Candidate

## Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

**People: I believe in God.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

## Prayers of the Candidate

## Prayers of the Congregation

Pastor: And we pray,

**All: Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, and self-control in all things. Strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Act of Confirmation

## Prayer of Confirmation

## Question about Participation

## Welcome

**Pastor:** Let us, the members of St. Jacob United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**People:** **We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

## Prayer

## Benediction

**Pastor:** Go in the peace of Christ.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

# 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: It is a right and good thing to praise you, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Almighty God. You claim us as your people, bathe us in forgiveness through Baptism and Confirmation, and draw us together into your church. You call us to be your royal priesthood, a holy people, and you give us this holy meal as food for our journey.

Today this confirmand has professed his faith in Christ and your presence within his journey. Today he claims your gracious love for himself and seeks to live into a deeper and mature faith. Give him your grace and peace as he, and we, join with your people on earth and all the company of heaven to praise your name.

**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: Holy are you and blessed is Jesus Christ, who came to live among us. As a young person, Jesus traveled with his family to Jerusalem, then stayed behind in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them, and asking questions. Jesus grew in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor, setting for us as example of spiritual growth. He calls us now to walk in God's ways on a journey of faith.



On the night before his own journey in the flesh ended, 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. 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."

In remembrance of Christ's gracious acts on our behalf, we offer ourselves to you O God, as we proclaim the promises of 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**

*Host 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.**



## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Audrey Yann
Liturgist	Robbie Meyer
Accompanist:	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 Hoerchler, 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

- O'Fallon UCC, O'Fallon - Rev. Dr. Martha Thierheimer
- St. Paul, Okawville

#### Retired Pastors

- Rev. Chris (Lena) Edwards

### UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

Mindy Schiefer, June 2  
Debbie & Duane Zobrist, 51 years, June 7

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, May 25, 2025

St. John's – 13    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](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

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## CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JUNE 11:** Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m.

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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: Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside still waters;  
He restores my soul  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:15-23**

Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength. God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. God put everything under Christ's feet and made him head of everything in the church, which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of Christ, who fills everything in every way.

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53**

Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Look, I'm sending to you what my Father promised, but you are to stay in the city until you have been furnished with heavenly power."

He led them out as far as Bethany, where he lifted his hands and blessed them. As he blessed them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. They worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem overwhelmed with joy. And they were continuously in the temple praising God.