



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

July 27, 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:** “Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one's weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart.”~ **Mahatma Gandhi**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**ONE:** It is in this place of holiness that we can come with our fears, our doubts, and all the questions of our hearts.

**ALL:** We come to this place to hear the words of peace, hope, and joy  
God speaks to us.

**ONE:** It is in the place of discovery that we can come searching.

**ALL:** We come to this place to find the One who has been looking for us.

**ONE:** It is in this place of openness that we can come knocking.

**ALL:** We come to this place to be embraced by the One whose heart is never locked.

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**\* HYMN**      *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*

655

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

O God, we do not find it easy to speak of how we so often fail to live as your people, but you long for us to share our weaknesses and failures with you. We are tempted to think your salvation is for a select few, so we put up barriers for others. Clinging to all you give to us, we are reluctant to share with those in need. Surrounded by evil and violence, we find it easier to close ranks with those just like us, rather than seeking peace and reconciliation for the whole world. Forgive us, God. Open our eyes to our sisters and brothers all around us. Open our ears to the word of hope you speak to us. Open our spirits to the presence of Jesus Christ who flings the doors of your kingdom open wide that all might find life with you. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**GLORIA PATRI**

734

**SCRIPTURE:**

Psalm 85

Colossians 2:6-19

Luke 11:1-13

**HYMN**      *Forgive Our Sins, as We Forgive*

382

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**SERMON**

**HYMN**      *Seek Ye First*

349

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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)*

Holy God, whose name is before all names, we worship you with our offerings. They represent our labor, our investment of time and energy. We want them to be put to the best possible use. May they save many from the course of evil and turn them toward faithful discipleship. May they provide bread for body and soul, that your people may be preserved and strengthened for ministry. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE	Hear Our Prayer, O Lord	490
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*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;  
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.*

* HYMN	<i>O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee</i>	589
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## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

## **SERVING YOU TODAY**

Council Person	Patti Woods
Liturgist	Beth Frank
Accompanist:	Melody Hollis

## **IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

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

**St. Jacob:** Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Jeff Kelley, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Kathy Ritter, Darik Zobrist and Olin 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**

- St. John UCC, Trenton- Rev. Christy (Zach Bugger) Smith
- Friedens UCC, Troy- Rev. Dr. Tim (Danielle) Harrison

### **Retired Pastors**

- Retired Pastor- Rev. Louis Fluck

## **UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

Nancy Autry, July 28  
Ruth Mikeals, July 31



## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, July 20, 2025

St. John's – 13    St. Jacob – 33

### 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.

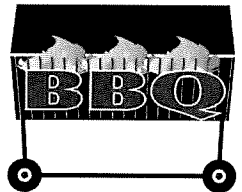
St. Jacob Phone: 618-644-2142 / St. Jacob E-mail: [stjucc@hometel.com](mailto:stjucc@hometel.com)

Website: [stjacobucc.org](http://stjacobucc.org)

Pastor Phil Barbier: Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: [pastor@hometel.com](mailto:pastor@hometel.com)

### **BBQ MEAT BONANZA DRAWING AUG. 24**

The ELF's organization, in conjunction with Korte Meat Processing, Inc., are offering you a chance to win one of three prize packs worth \$50, \$150, & \$250 toward the cost of Korte's barbeque meats in exchange for your donation. Tickets are \$3 each, or four for \$10. Ticket packets will be mailed out, and additional ticket packets are available on the table in the Narthex for you to sell to friends, family, or purchase yourself. The proceeds will be used for mission giving, including providing summer lunches, paying off the delinquent lunch debts from this past semester at the grade school, supplying emergency supplies for DuBois Center campers and sponsoring a girl in Kentucky, etc. The drawing will be held following worship, Aug. 24, where three lucky winners' names will be drawn. You can drop your donation/tickets into the BBQ safe on the table in the Narthex or mail them to: 207 West Main St. St. Jacob, IL 62281.



### **MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**

Highland Meals on Wheels needs volunteer drivers for the St. Jacob routes. The volunteer would need to pick up meals at St. Joseph Hospital in Highland between 10:30-11 a.m. and deliver to St. Jacob addresses. It usually takes about 1.5 hours to do the route. If interested in volunteering one day a week or as a substitute driver, call Mary Redshaw at 314-277-9296 or e-mail: [mredshaw@att.net](mailto:mredshaw@att.net).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **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**

Come join our St. Jacob UCC 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).

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### **FIRST LESSON: Psalm 85**

Lord, you've been kind to your land; you've changed Jacob's circumstances for the better.  
You've forgiven your people's wrongdoing; you've covered all their sins.  
You've stopped being furious; you've turned away from your burning anger.  
You, the God who can save us, restore us! Stop being angry with us!  
Will you be mad at us forever? Will you prolong your anger from one generation to the next?  
Won't you bring us back to life again so that your people can rejoice in you?  
Show us your faithful love, Lord! Give us your salvation!

Let me hear what the Lord God says, because he speaks peace to his people and to his faithful ones.

Don't let them return to foolish ways.

God's salvation is very close to those who honor him so that his glory can live in our land.

Faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed.

Truth springs up from the ground; righteousness gazes down from heaven.

Yes, the Lord gives what is good, and our land yields its produce.

Righteousness walks before God, making a road for his steps.

*(continued on back cover)*

(Continued from inside cover)

### **SECOND LESSON: Colossians 2:6-19**

So live in Christ Jesus the Lord in the same way as you received him. Be rooted and built up in him, be established in faith, and overflow with thanksgiving just as you were taught. See to it that nobody enslaves you with philosophy and foolish deception, which conform to human traditions and the way the world thinks and acts rather than Christ. All the fullness of deity lives in Christ's body. And you have been filled by him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not administered by human hands. The circumcision of Christ is realized in the stripping away of the whole self dominated by sin. You were buried with him through baptism and raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. When you were dead because of the things you had done wrong and because your body wasn't circumcised, God made you alive with Christ and forgave all the things you had done wrong. He destroyed the record of the debt we owed, with its requirements that worked against us. He canceled it by nailing it to the cross. When he disarmed the rulers and authorities, he exposed them to public disgrace by leading them in a triumphal parade.

So don't let anyone judge you about eating or drinking or about a festival, a new moon observance, or sabbaths. These religious practices are only a shadow of what was coming – the body that cast the shadow is Christ. Don't let anyone who wants to practice harsh self-denial and worship angels rob you of the prize. They go into detail about what they have seen in visions and have become unjustifiably arrogant by their selfish way of thinking. They don't stay connected to the head. The head nourishes and supports the whole body through the joints and ligaments, so the body grows with a growth that is from God.

### **GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38**

Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

Jesus told them, "When you pray, say:

    'Father, uphold the holiness of your name.

    Bring in your kingdom.

    Give us the bread we need for today.

    Forgive us our sins,

        for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us.

    And don't lead us into temptation.'"

He also said to them, "Imagine that one of you has a friend and you go to that friend in the middle of the night. Imagine saying, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread because a friend of mine on a journey has arrived and I have nothing to set before him.' Imagine further that he answers from within the house, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up to give you anything.' I assure you, even if he wouldn't get up and help because of his friendship, he will get up and give his friend whatever he needs because of his friend's brashness. And I tell you: Ask and you will receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. To everyone who knocks, the door is opened.

"Which father among you would give a snake to your child if the child asked for a fish? If a child asked for an egg, what father would give the child a scorpion? If you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"