



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

August 17, 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: "The joy of pardon has a voice louder than the voice of sin. God's voice speaking peace is the sweetest music an ear can hear."

~ C. H. Spurgeon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The One who commands the clouds, calls us to be poured out for others

ALL: **We can, by faith, be the waters of peace which quench the fires of hatred.**

ONE: The One who creates mercy and hope longs for a world of fair play and grace.

ALL: **We can, by faith, let righteousness and justice be our constant companions.**

ONE: The One who is with us in every moment, composes a love-song for our hearts.

ALL: **We can, by faith, teach this song to everyone we meet.**

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Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890. Red Vineyards near Arles, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

What more can we say, Expectant God, that you don't know already? You long for justice for all people, but it is washed away by the flood of violence in our world. You hope that righteousness will guide us to speak up for those in need, but we shut our mouths and turn away. Forgive us, O God. Have mercy when we do not bear the fruit we could. Even though we have not lived our faith to the fullest, may we receive the promises of hope and grace you have given to us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

734

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US *(Skip if no children are in attendance)*

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:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

HYMN

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

65

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED – INSERT

HYMN

You Are My All In All

INSERT

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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*)

Gracious God, whose creative energy has filled all heaven and earth with good things for us to enjoy and share, we would honor you with our offerings. May the programs we initiate and the outreach we support bear fruits of justice and peace. We look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, as our model in facing all circumstances and giving ourselves for others. 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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

248

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Carol Kynion
Liturgist	Kay Guse
Accompanist:	Melissa Anderson Taylor

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, Cathy Frutiger, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Kathy Ritter, 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

- Zion UCC, Addieville - Rev. William Groennert
- Salem UCC, Alhambra - Rev. Jeremy Wood, Pastor John Mindrup

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Thomas Nadelin

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Marie & Gene Gansmann, 59 years, Aug. 21

Nancy McCaw, Aug. 22

Evagene Gusewelle, Aug. 23

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, August 10, 2025

St. John's – 7 St. Jacob – 24

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

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

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.

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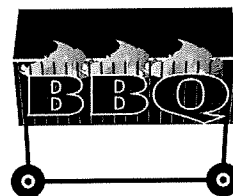
CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

BBQ MEAT BONANZA DRAWING AUG. 24

The ELFs 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.



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.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are looking for volunteers willing to read scripture, no long-term commitment, just one Sunday at a time. Everyone from the congregation is invited to take part in helping to lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthex.

***** THE UPPER ROOM** (September-October) magazines are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my loved one a love song for his vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug it, cleared away its stones, planted it with excellent vines, built a tower inside it, and dug out a wine vat in it.

He expected it to grow good grapes – but it grew rotten grapes.

So now, you who live in Jerusalem, you people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard:

What more was there to do for my vineyard that I haven't done for it?

When I expected it to grow good grapes, why did it grow rotten grapes?

Now let me tell you what I'm doing to my vineyard.

I'm removing its hedge, so it will be destroyed.

I'm breaking down its walls, so it will be trampled.

I'll turn it into a ruin; it won't be pruned or hoed, and thorns and thistles will grow up.

I will command the clouds not to rain on it.

The vineyard of the Lord of heavenly forces is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah are the plantings in which God delighted.

God expected justice, but there was bloodshed; righteousness, but there was a cry of distress!

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith they crossed the Red Sea as if they were on dry land, but when the Egyptians tried it, they were drowned.

By faith Jericho's walls fell after the people marched around them for seven days.

By faith Rahab the prostitute wasn't killed with the disobedient because she welcomed the spies in peace.

What more can I say? I would run out of time if I told you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith they conquered kingdoms, brought about justice, realized promises, shut the mouths of lions, put out raging fires, escaped from the edge of the sword, found strength in weakness, were mighty in war, and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured and refused to be released so they could gain a better resurrection.

But others experienced public shame by being taunted and whipped; they were even put in chains and in prison. They were stoned to death, they were cut in two, and they died by being murdered with swords. They went around wearing the skins of sheep and goats, needy, oppressed, and mistreated. The world didn't deserve them. They wandered around in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground.

All these people didn't receive what was promised, though they were given approval for their faith. God provided something better for us so they wouldn't be made perfect without us.

So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

"I came to cast fire upon the earth. How I wish that it was already ablaze! I have a baptism I must experience. How I am distressed until it's completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, I have come instead to bring division. From now on, a household of five will be divided – three against two and two against three. Father will square off against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud forming in the west, you immediately say, 'It's going to rain.' And indeed it does. And when a south wind blows, you say, 'A heat wave is coming.' And it does. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret conditions on earth and in the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret the present time?"

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.

583 You Are My All in All

Christ is all, and is in all. Colossians 3:11

**Part I Unison*

1. You are my strength when I am weak, You are the trea - sure that I
2. Tak-ing my sin, my cross, my shame, Ris-ing a - gain I bless Your

seek; You are my all in all. Seek-ing You as a pre-cious
name; You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me

jewel, Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool; You are my all in all.
up; When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all.

Refrain
**Part II Harmony optional*

Je - sus, Lamb of God, Wor - thy is Your name!

Je - sus, Lamb of God, Wor - thy is Your name!

**The verses (Part I) and the Refrain (Part II) may be sung as a round.*

TEXT: Dennis L. Jernigan
MUSIC: Dennis L. Jernigan

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JERNIGAN
8.8.5.8.8.5, with Refrain