

WELCOME TO WORSHIP NOVEMBER 16, 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: "There's in people simply an urge to destroy, an urge to kill, to murder and rage, and until all mankind, without exception, undergoes a great change, wars will be waged, everything that has been built up, cultivated, and grown will be destroyed and disfigured, after which mankind will have to begin all over again" ~ Anne Frank

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This day we will give thanks to God, who cradles us in the waters of baptism.

ALL: This day we will trust in the One who has saved us, who strengthens us.

ONE: This day we dance to the fountain of life, drinking deeply of salvation's goodness.

ALL: This day we praise our God for every blessing; telling everyone of God's amazing grace in our lives and in our world.

ONE: This day we sing God's praises; testifying to all creation of our God.

ALL: This day our songs are filled with joy, for God is with us, this day and in all the days to come!

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

We confess that our lives weaken us, Strengthening God. We do not exercise our faith as we should, and so fatigue easily. We see houses as investment property, not as homes built on love, hope, and dreams. We whimper our petty complaints about our friends and families, rather than shouting our hosannas to heaven for the gift of their lives. Forgive us, O God, and create in us new hearts. Fill us with new energy to serve our sisters and brothers, bringing them to the deep wells of salvation, where they can fill their parched souls, even as we have been led to them by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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 65:17-25 Isaiah 12

Luke 21:5-19

HYMN When Peace Like a River 428

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED - Insert

HYMN

Forth in Your Name

405

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)

We rejoice, O God, in the new world you are creating around us and within us. We give thanks for the joy we find in the church as we draw water from the wells of salvation. It is our intention to share the joy, to proclaim your Word among all nations, to work quietly and enthusiastically for a world where your love reigns. To these ends, we dedicate our offerings. Amen.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE Make Me a Servant

576

Make me a servant, humble and meek,

Lord let me lift up those who are weak;

And may the prayer of my heart always be:

Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

* HYMN

Forth in Your Name

718

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Bulletin Cover Attribution: Tissot, James, 1836-1902. Prophecy of the Destruction of the Temple, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57226. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Brooklyn Museum - The Prophecy of the Destruction of the Temple (La pr%C3%A9dication de la ruine du Temple) - James Tissot.jpg.

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.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, November 9, 2025

St. John's -10 St. Jacob -25

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

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person Ty Gansmann
Accompanist: Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Kathy Ritter, Sandy Rujawitz, David Schmidt, Loretta Tague, 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. Paul's UCC, Freeburg Rev. Dr. Andrew (Brenda) Lovins
- Pension Board-UCC National Staff Rev. Krista Betz

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Paul Thompson, Jr.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Marie Gansmann, Nov. 20 Mary Lowe, Nov. 22

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

NOVEMBER 23: "Hanging of the Greens," following worship at St. Johns

NOVEMBER 23: "Hanging of the Greens," following worship at St. Jacob

HOYLETON'S HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS DRIVE

St. Jacob: This year we are providing gifts for children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton. On the table in the Narthex you will find a basket with slips. Each slip lists possible gifts and has a number at the top. There is a sheet next to the basket with the same number on it. Please put your name next to the slip you take. The gifts are due at church by Sunday, Nov. 30, and we'll get them to Hoyleton that week. Please include the top half of the slip with the child's name on the gift.

St. John's: Again this year the council will be coordinating the purchase of gifts for the children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton through their on-line wish-list. Please place your donation in the envelope on the bulletin board.

ST. JACOB UCC SUNDAY SCHOOL

St. Jacob UCC Sunday School will be held from 9-10 a.m., Nov. 23, and Dec. 14 and 21. All children pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join the fun. To register, fill out the online form at: https://forms.gle/eW6KTtPzSm4DkVtx5 or call 618-644-2142.

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 or for more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142.

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.

SNOW SHOVELING

Winter weather will be here before you know it. Please volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

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.

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.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 65:17-25

Look! I'm creating a new heaven and a new earth: past events won't be remembered; they won't come to mind. Be glad and rejoice forever in what I'm creating, because I'm creating Jerusalem as a joy and her people as a source of gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad about my people. No one will ever hear the sound of weeping or crying in it again. No more will babies live only a few days, or the old fail to live out their days. The one who dies at a hundred will be like a young person, and the one falling short of a hundred will seem cursed. They will build houses and live in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They won't build for others to live in, nor plant for others to eat. Like the days of a tree will be the days of my people; my chosen will make full use of their handiwork. They won't labor in vain, nor bear children to a world of horrors, because they will be people blessed by the Lord, they along with their descendants. Before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear. Wolf and lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but the snake – its food will be dust. They won't hurt or destroy at any place on my holy mountain, says the Lord.

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 12

You will say on that day: "I thank you, Lord. Though you were angry with me, your anger turned away and you comforted me. God is indeed my salvation; I will trust and won't be afraid. Yah, the Lord, is my strength and my shield; he has become my salvation."

You will draw water with joy from the springs of salvation. And you will say on that day:

"Thank the Lord; call on God's name; proclaim God's deeds among the peoples; declare that God's name is exalted. Sing to the Lord, who has done glorious things; proclaim this throughout all the earth." Shout and sing for joy, city of Zion, because the holy one of Israel is great among you.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

Some people were talking about the temple, how it was decorated with beautiful stones and ornaments dedicated to God. Jesus said, "As for the things you are admiring, the time is coming when not even one stone will be left upon another. All will be demolished."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will these things happen? What sign will show that these things are about to happen?"

Jesus said, "Watch out that you aren't deceived. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I'm the one!' and 'It's time!' Don't follow them. When you hear of wars and rebellions, don't be alarmed. These things must happen first, but the end won't happen immediately."

Then Jesus said to them, "Nations and kingdoms will fight against each other. There will be great earthquakes and wide-scale food shortages and epidemics. There will also be terrifying sights and great signs in the sky. But before all this occurs, they will take you into custody and harass you because of your faith. They will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will provide you with an opportunity to testify. Make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance. I'll give you words and wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to counter or contradict. You will be betrayed by your parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, and friends. They will execute some of you. Everyone will hate you because of my name. Still, not a hair on your heads will be lost. By holding fast, you will gain your lives.