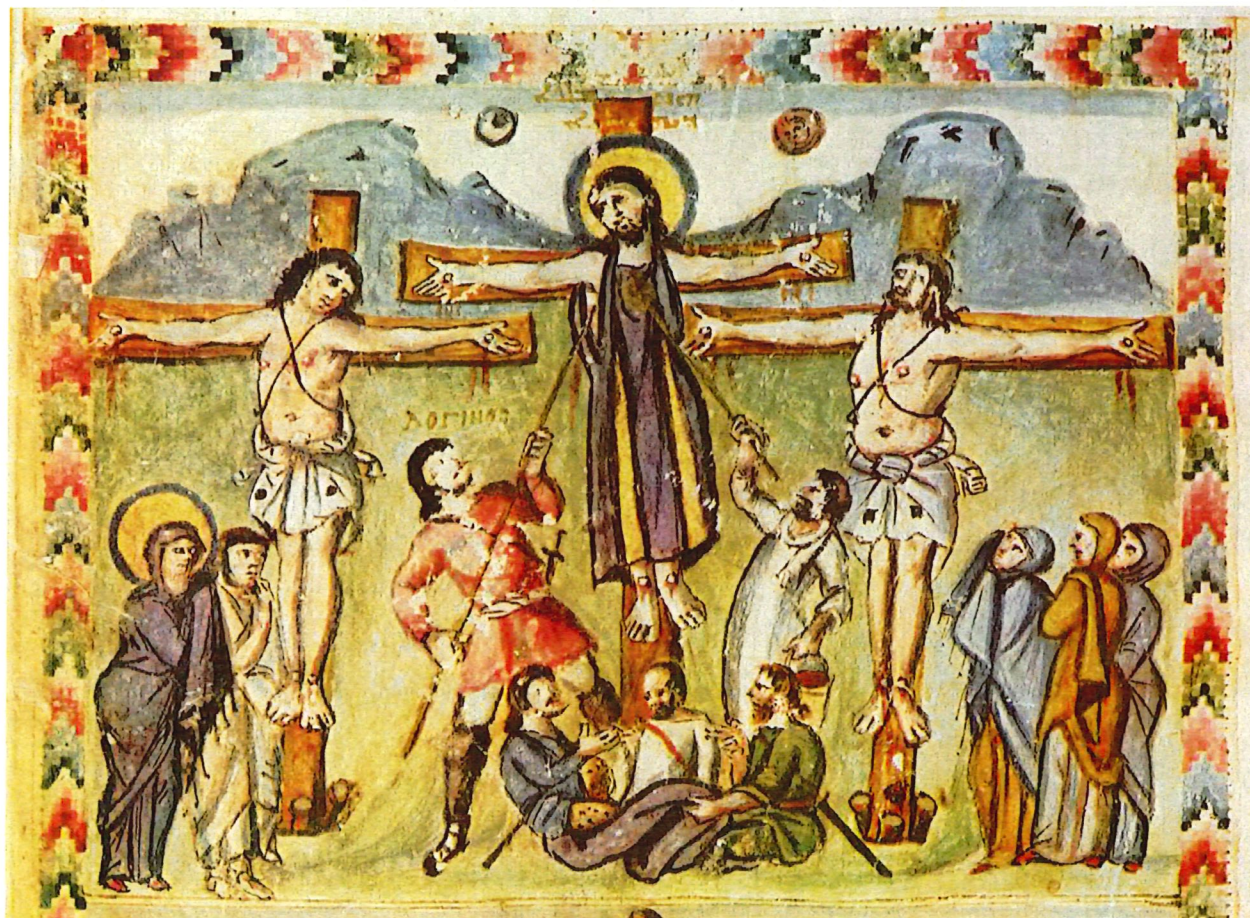




WELCOME TO WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 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: "When the heart submits, then Jesus reigns. When Jesus reigns, there is rest." ~ Hudson Taylor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Blessed be the Lord God who looks with kindness on us.

ALL: We are the inheritors of the promises made long ago to
our ancestors.

ONE: Blessed be the Lord God who gathers us here in this place.

ALL: From across the street, from halfway around the world,
God brings us home to the heart of grace.

ONE: Blessed be the Lord God who has remembered us.

ALL: Scoffers and singers, watchers and wigglers, we are
those redeemed by God.

* HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

In these moments, O God, we bring to you all the ways we have not lived as your people. We stand by watching, while those in need struggle to survive. We cast our lots with those who worship power and wealth rather than joining with those who care for us and your children. We scoff at your words when they call us to change and repent. Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not recognizing how we hurt you, others, and ourselves. Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior, who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope.

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:

Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

HYMN *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* 255

SERMON

HYMN *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* 138

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 saving faithfulness of Jesus Christ, we give thanks. For the church that seeks to extend Christ’s ministry, we are humbly grateful. All things we have are gifts from you, O God, so we dedicate more than our money. We reinvest ourselves in patient, joyful response to your promises. Hear our prayers and empower our ministry. 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 *Jesus Shall Reign* 341

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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CHURCH ATTENDANCE, November 16, 2025

St. John's – 13 St. Jacob – 31

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/Dian Gansmann

Accompanist:

Melissa Anderson Taylor

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,
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

- Evangelical UCC, Godfrey - Rev. Tim (Rev. Janet Darmour-Paul)

Darmour-Paul & Pastor Tim (Suzie) Sandifer

- St. John UCC, Granite City - Rev. Karla (Rev. Charles Preston) Frost

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Jack (Barbara VanAusdall) Spratte

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Herkenhoff, Nov. 24

Henry Peer, Nov. 24

Jackie Miller, Nov. 24

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: “Hanging of the Greens,” following worship at St. Johns

TODAY: “Hanging of the Greens,” following worship at St. Jacob

THURSDAY: THANKSGIVING DAY

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., 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: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of great trouble.
That's why we won't be afraid when the world falls apart, when the mountains crumble into the center of the sea,
when its waters roar and rage, when the mountains shake because of its surging waves.
There is a river whose streams gladden God's city, the holiest dwelling of the Most High.
God is in that city. It will never crumble. God will help it when morning dawns.
Nations roar; kingdoms crumble. God utters his voice; the earth melts.
The Lord of heavenly forces is with us! The God of Jacob is our place of safety.
Come, see the Lord's deeds, what devastation he has imposed on the earth – bringing wars to an end in every corner of the world, breaking the bow and shattering the spear, burning chariots with fire.
"That's enough! Now know that I am God! I am exalted among all nations; I am exalted throughout the world!"
The Lord of heavenly forces is with us! The God of Jacob is our place of safety.

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 1:11-20

by being strengthened through his glorious might so that you endure everything and have patience; and by giving thanks with joy to the Father. He made it so you could take part in the inheritance, in light granted to God's holy people. He rescued us from the control of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. He set us free through the Son and forgave our sins.

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the one who is first over all creation,
Because all things were created by him: both in the heavens and on the earth, the things that are visible and the things that are invisible. Whether they are thrones or powers, or rulers or authorities, all things were created through him and for him.
He existed before all things, and all things are held together in him.
He is the head of the body, the church,
who is the beginning, the one who is firstborn from among the dead so that he might occupy the first place in everything.
Because all the fullness of God was pleased to live in him, and he reconciled all things to himself through him – whether things on earth or in the heavens. He brought peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they're doing." They drew lots as a way of dividing up his clothing.

The people were standing around watching, but the leaders sneered at him, saying, "He saved others. Let him save himself if he really is the Christ sent from God, the chosen one."

The soldiers also mocked him. They came up to him, offering him sour wine and saying, "If you really are the king of the Jews, save yourself." Above his head was a notice of the formal charge against him. It read "This is the king of the Jews."

One of the criminals hanging next to Jesus insulted him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Responding, the other criminal spoke harshly to him, "Don't you fear God, seeing that you've also been sentenced to die? We are rightly condemned, for we are receiving the appropriate sentence for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus replied, "I assure you that today you will be with me in paradise."