



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

## JANUARY 25, 2026

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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:** "Worship of Jesus is rather harmless and risk-free; actually following Jesus changes everything." ~ Richard Rohr

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: As he walked by a lake, Jesus called folks to follow him.

ALL: **And immediately they left their work and went with him.**

ONE: As Jesus journeys through our lives, he asks us to follow him.

ALL: **In this moment we have the chance to leave the past behind and pursue him into God's future.**

ONE: As Jesus wanders in our world, he invites others to join him.

ALL: **We would join him in this ministry, reaching out to our neighbors, without delay!**

### \* HYMN

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

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## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Holy God, we are reluctant to admit all the ways we have failed to be your people. Created to be one Body, we are often torn apart by petty squabbles. Called to follow, we push and shove for first place in line. Invited to seek your face, we have trouble looking our sisters and brothers in the eye. Though we have faltered, you still promise to be our light and lead us from the shadows of our sin. You still promise to be our salvation and set us free to explore the depths of your heart. And you still promise to lead us into your kingdom and show us how to join hands with one another. For your forgiveness and mercy, we thank you. 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 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

Matthew 4:12-23

### HYMN

*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

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### SERMON

## HYMN

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

589

## 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)*

Let these gifts follow Christ's lead into the lives of people who live in poverty or despair. O God, use them to heal divisions among your children. Show us how to be instruments of peace. Ready us to follow Jesus, to make an offering of ourselves, not just our money. Teach us so we may teach others. Heal us so we can become instruments of healing. To these purposes we dedicate this offering and our lives. Amen.

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

## PRAYER RESPONSE

*Make Me a Servant*

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*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

*The Church's One Foundation*

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## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE, JANUARY 18, 2026**

**St. John's – 12   St. Jacob – 24**

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### **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)

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### **SERVING YOU TODAY**

Council Person

Patti Woods

Liturgist

Angela Imming

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, Rich Erwin, Lori Foley, Melody Hollis,  
Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer,  
Taylor Ostrander, Kathy Ritter, David Schmidt 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, Mascoutah** - Rev. Cherie (Rev. Paul Burden) Hambleton

- **St. John's UCC, Midway of Moro** - Rev. Lori (Wayne) Schafer

### **Retired Pastors**

- Rev. David (Kathryn) Riebeling

## **UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

Rodney Ahlmeyer, Jan. 25

June Boggy, Jan. 25

Gina Hirsch, Jan. 27

## **CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY:** Strawberry Festival planning meeting, following worship

**FEBRUARY 1:** St. Jacob annual meeting, following worship, lunch following

**FEBRUARY 11:** Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m., Heritage Hall

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### **SALEM UCC SAUSAGE SUPPER JAN. 31**

Salem UCC Sausage Supper (drive-thru) will be held from 1-7 p.m., at 1117 West North Street, Alhambra, IL. Seating will be available in the Upper Parish Hall for those who wish to eat on-site. Menu includes fresh home-made pork sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes, gravy, green beans, applesauce and pie, donation is \$15.

### **ST. JACOB 2025 GIVING STATEMENTS AVAILABLE**

St. Jacob 2025 Giving Statements are available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthex.

### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

This year's Lenten Bible Study will be held each Wednesday, Feb. 25 – March 25 at 7 p.m., meeting in Heritage Hall.

### **SNOW SHOVELING**

We still need volunteers at St. Jacob UCC 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.

## **ST. JACOB UCC WORSHIP VIDEO STREAMING ISSUE**

Due to video streaming issues, St. Jacob UCC worship service is temporarily unavailable to view on-line.

## **BEST CHOICE LABEL COLLECTION**

The ELF's organization is collecting Best Choice labels/UPC portion (proof of purchase). There is a box on the table in the Narthex to place the labels.

## **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.

**\*\*\* THE UPPER ROOM** (January-February) magazines are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

## **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):**

**January Shopping list:** Vinegar, oil, flour, sugar, fruit juice, ground coffee, Hamburger/Tuna/Cheesy Helper, Crisco, paper towels, & kitchen trash bags

**February Shopping list:** Canned stew, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, corn beef hash, canned soup, evaporated milk, Ramen noodles, powdered sugar, household cleaner, & body lotion

**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 9:1-4**

Nonetheless, those who were in distress won't be exhausted. At an earlier time, God cursed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but later he glorified the way of the sea, the far side of the Jordan, and the Galilee of the nations.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy. They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice. As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor.

### **SECOND LESSON: Psalm 1, 4-9**

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Should I fear anyone? The Lord is a fortress protecting my life. Should I be frightened of anything?

I have asked one thing from the Lord – it's all I seek: to live in the Lord's house all the days of my life, seeing the Lord's beauty and constantly adoring his temple. Because he will shelter me in his own dwelling during troubling times; he will hide me in a secret place in his own tent; he will set me up high, safe on a rock.

Now my head is higher than the enemies surrounding me, and I will offer sacrifices in God's tent – sacrifices with shouts of joy! I will sing and praise the Lord.

Lord, listen to my voice when I cry out – have mercy on me and answer me! Come, my heart says, seek God's face. Lord, I do seek your face! Please don't hide it from me! Don't push your servant aside angrily – you have been my help! God who saves me, don't neglect me! Don't leave me all alone!

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23**

Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

*Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles,  
the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light,  
and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death.*

From that time Jesus began to announce, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!"

As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people." Right away, they left their nets and followed him. Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. He announced the good news of the kingdom and healed every disease and sickness among the people.