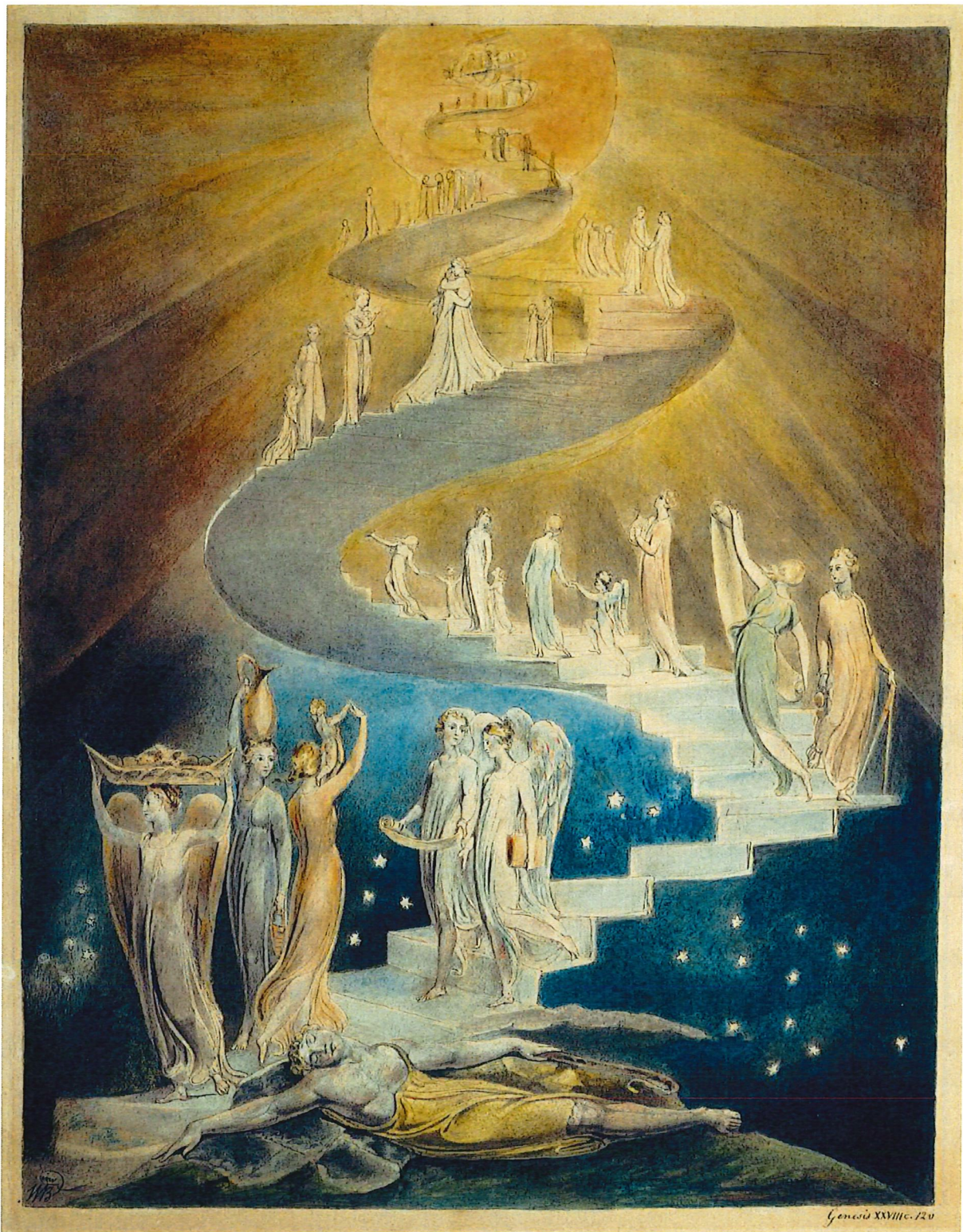




WELCOME TO WORSHIP

JULY 19, 2026

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 may be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: "Child of God, you cost Christ too much for him to forget you."
~ Charles Spurgeon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Early in the morning, we gather at the edge of heaven,
ALL: finding the gates flung wide open by the One who welcomes all.
ONE: Early in the morning, we come to this holy place of worship,
ALL: to be touched by the One who offers us grace and love.
ONE: Early in the morning, we worship God, who adopts us into the family,
ALL: to be filled by the One who would pour us out in service to the world.

HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

48

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O Lord, we have tried to hide from your searching gaze. We've climbed the highest mountains, plumbed the deepest depths, and fled to the farthest edges of our souls. And yet, wherever we go, you are waiting. Even in the dimmest corners of our heart your light is there. When we are lost, you find us. You hear our stumbling words, begging for forgiveness, and you redeem us through the gracious love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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:

Genesis 28:10-19a

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

HYMN

We are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

INSERT

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED – Insert

HYMN

Hope of the World

404

© 1954, Renewed 1982 The Hymn Society, (Admin. Hope Publishing Company) Tune: © 1963, Abingdon Press

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)*

Thank you, God for the rich heritage of faith we have received from our ancestors. We are grateful that your Spirit is ever with us, assuring us of your acceptance and love. May our offerings share this good news with other children of God who have yet to know you. May all of us grow in righteousness that we might together experience the reality of your realm in our daily lives, here and now and for all eternity. Amen.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face;
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.*

* HYMN

We All Are One in Mission

552

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Cover Attribution: Blake, William, 1757-1827. Jacob's Ladder - c. 1805, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57425>.
Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blake_jacobsladder.jpg.

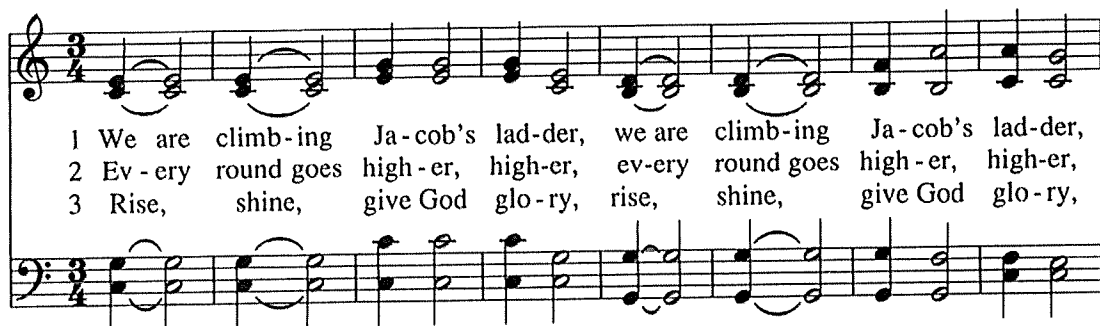
DISCIPLESHIP

500

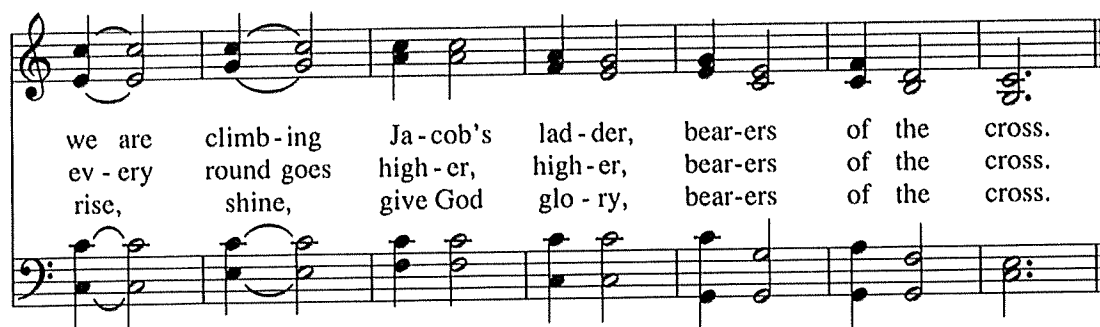
We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

Gen. 28:10-17

African-American spiritual



1 We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der,
 2 Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er,
 3 Rise, shine, give God glo-ry, rise, shine, give God glo-ry,



we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, bear-ers of the cross.
 ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, bear-ers of the cross.
 rise, shine, give God glo-ry, bear-ers of the cross.

Like many spirituals, this one uses a story from the Hebrew scriptures as its starting point and the element of the ladder as a creative device to draw us into the narrative. In like manner, the following twentieth-century adaption of the song by Carole Etzler employs the story of Sarah, the matriarch of the Hebrew people, and extends the direction of the pilgrimage from the upward climb of the ladder to the outward embrace of a circle.

Tune: JACOB'S LADDER 8.8.8.5.
 African-American spiritual

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, JULY 12, 2026

St. John's – 11 St. Jacob – 29

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: Roger Baer, Kenzie Barker, Nancy McCaw, and
Sean & Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Ken Frutiger, Norma Logsdon,
Jackie Miller, Joanne Meyer, Taylor Ostrander, Kathy Ritter,
Ethan Rock, 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, Evansville

- St. John UCC, Fairview Heights - Rev. Rosemary Captain

Retired Pastors

- Retired Pastor- Rev. Robert (Doris) Utke

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Xibryna Weycker, July 20
Beth & Bruce Frank, 33 years, July 24
Sandy Autry, July 25
Kylie Bloemker, July 25

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY: St. Jacob Council meeting, 6 p.m.

JULY 26: St. John's UCC semi-annual meeting following worship

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are to the Glory of God and in honor of our precious granddaughter Kylie as she celebrates her 20th birthday on July 25, from Grandma Carol.

HOYLETON BACK TO SCHOOL DONATIONS REQUESTED

Hoyleton back to school drive is underway. Request donations of school supplies be dropped off at the church by Sunday, Aug. 2. See flyer insert for additional details.

BBQ MEAT BONANZA DRAWING AUG. 30

The ELF's organization, in conjunction with Korte Meat Processing, Inc., are offering a chance to win one of three prizes: \$250, \$150 & \$50 toward the cost of Korte's barbeque meats in exchange for your donation. Tickets are \$3 each or four for \$10. Ticket packets have been mailed out; additional ticket packets are available on the table in the Narthex for you to sell to friends, family, or purchase yourself. The drawing will be held following worship Aug. 30, where the winners' names will be drawn. Drop your donation/tickets into the Barbeque safe located on the table in the Narthex or mail them to: 207 West Main Street, St. Jacob, IL 62281.

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

The Summer Grab-N-Go Lunch Program is available for school-aged children in Lebanon or Summerfield each Monday–Friday. Lunches are first-come, first-served. Children must be present to receive lunch. Pickup locations are the Summerfield Fire Department, Rooted Community Church, and the Lebanon High School Parking Lot.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

Volunteers and donations are needed for the free school lunch program. We're accepting monetary donations to purchase lunch supplies. Lunches are provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lunches are 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 assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. For more information, Audrey Yann, 618-567-8013 or Carol Kynion, 618-401-8805.

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):

July Shopping list: Syrup, mac & cheese, pancake mix, peas & carrots, oatmeal, granola bars, cereal, Hearty soup, laundry detergent, & gallon/quart bags

August Shopping list: Peanut butter, jelly, juice, ground coffee, canned pasta, rice, mashed potatoes, pork & beans, razors & shaving cream

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

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and set out for Haran. He reached a certain place and spent the night there. When the sun had set, he took one of the stones at that place and put it near his head. Then he lay down there. He dreamed and saw a raised staircase, its foundation on earth and its top touching the sky, and God's messengers were ascending and descending on it. Suddenly the Lord was standing on it and saying, "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will become like the dust of the earth; you will spread out to the west, east, north, and south. Every family of earth will be blessed because of you and your descendants. I am with you now, I will protect you everywhere you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done everything that I have promised you."

When Jacob woke from his sleep, he thought to himself, The Lord is definitely in this place, but I didn't know it. He was terrified and thought, This sacred place is awesome. It's none other than God's house and the entrance to heaven. After Jacob got up early in the morning, he took the stone that he had put near his head, set it up as a sacred pillar, and poured oil on the top of it. He named that sacred place Bethel.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters. You didn't receive a spirit of slavery to lead you back again into fear, but you received a Spirit that shows you are adopted as his children. With this Spirit, we cry, "Abba, Father." The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God's children. But if we are children, we are also heirs. We are God's heirs and fellow heirs with Christ, if we really suffer with him so that we can also be glorified with him.

I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us. The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice – it was the choice of the one who subjected it – but in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like someone who planted good seed in his field. While people were sleeping, an enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and went away. When the stalks sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared.

"The servants of the landowner came and said to him, 'Master, didn't you plant good seed in your field? Then how is it that it has weeds?'

"'An enemy has done this,' he answered.

"The servants said to him, 'Do you want us to go and gather them?'

"But the landowner said, 'No, because if you gather the weeds, you'll pull up the wheat along with them. Let both grow side by side until the harvest. And at harvest time I'll say to the harvesters, "First gather the weeds and tie them together in bundles to be burned. But bring the wheat into my barn.'"

Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

Jesus replied, "The one who plants the good seed is the Human One. The field is the world. And the good seeds are the followers of the kingdom. But the weeds are the followers of the evil one. The enemy who planted them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the present age. The harvesters are the angels. Just as people gather weeds and burn them in the fire, so it will be at the end of the present age. The Human One will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that cause people to fall away and all people who sin. He will throw them into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. Those who have ears should hear."