



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

AUGUST 2, 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: "Food may not be the answer to world peace, but it's a start."
~ Anthony Bourdain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We come to this place of worship,
to encounter the One who has called us here.

ALL: This Holy One – our God: is with us every moment.

ONE: God is in our celebrations and joys,
God is in our darkest nights of loneliness.

ALL: This Holy One – our God: blesses us and calls us by name.

ONE: As night fades before the coming Light, we meet the One who saves us –
even from ourselves.

ALL: This Holy One – our God: touches us with the Spirit of Hope.

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of United Church Press from *Taught by Love: Worship Resources for Year A* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1998.

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of Thom M. Shuman from *Playing Hopscotch in Heaven: Lectionary Liturgies for RCL Year A* by Thom M. Shuman. Copyright 2013.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Here at the river's edge, Healing God, we are hesitant to cross over, for on the other side are all the people we have hurt. On that far shore is everyone we have ridiculed, scorned, ignored. Across the water stand the poor, the homeless, the lost – all those we have looked down on, believing they are beneath us. On the other bank stands the cross we must carry if we are to follow Jesus. Forgive us and reconcile us, not only to them, but to yourself. Bless us that we would be a blessing to them. Rename us and carry us across the river as faithful disciples of our Lord and 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 32:22-31

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:13-21

SERMON

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 all you have given to satisfy our needs. You quench our thirst and alleviate our hungers when we turn to you. You turn scarcity into plenty and give us the opportunity to help others. May our offerings proclaim your goodness and mercy. May they be devoted to extending the beloved community of your people. Keep our words and actions attuned to your will, that we may offer to all what they need from your hand. Amen.

HYMN*For the Bread Which You Have Broken***INSERT****SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** -- Insert**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***God Be with You***716****BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Cover Attribution: Icon of Christ Feeding the Multitude, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57436>. Original

source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_feeding_the_multitude.jpg.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

ONE: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

ALL: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

COMMUNION PRAYER

ONE: God be with you

ALL: And also with you

ONE: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ONE: Holy God, our loving Creator, you are as close to us as our breathing, and you are as distant as the farthest star. We thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith around the world and of every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, who you sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our prayers with the entire family of your faithful people, everywhere and in every time:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest!

ONE: Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ. We remember that Jesus ate and drank with the poor and with the wealthy, with the sinful and righteous alike. When he saw the multitude that followed him with nothing to eat, he took some loaves of bread, and a few fish, and after giving thanks to you he divided the bread and gave it to the multitude. And all ate and were filled. When his arrest seemed near, Jesus sat at table in an upper room, with his closest friends and disciples. As he had done so many times before, he took the bread

and after giving thanks to you he shared it among the disciples, vowing to continue his work in spite of the risk. He said, “I will not eat this again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. Do this in remembrance of me.” Likewise, after the meal, he took the cup and after giving thanks he gave it to them saying, “Truly I tell you, I will never drink of the fruit of the vine until I drink it new with you in the kingdom of God.” Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For a time it seemed that all was lost. Jesus was executed by the authorities, and his disciples scattered in fear and despair. But at an evening meal in Emmaus, and at a breakfast campfire by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus once more took the bread, and after giving thanks to you he divided it and gave it to his disciples, opening their eyes, binding up their wounded hearts, continuing the meal, and revealing plainly that your steadfast love is stronger even than death, and your labor with us continues, for the sake of your realm.

Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

ONE: Holy one, pour out your blessings on this food we have gathered for your people. May it be multiplied like the loaves and fishes at Galilee and feed and bless them and bring them closer to you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this bread and cup, and on us, your children. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

ALL: Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Hosts are gluten free.

Juice in the center ring and wine in the outer rings.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, JULY 26, 2026

St. John's – 10 St. Jacob – 23

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/Liturgist Carol Kynion

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, Jackie Miller, Ethan Rock,
Bill Tebbe, Olin Zweck, and the family of Norma Logsdon

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

- Fieldon UCC, Fieldon

- St. Paul UCC, Floraville - Pastor Matt (Laura) Friz

Retired Pastors

- Retired Pastor- Rev. Donald (Anna) Sabbert

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Pauline Laux, Aug. 3
Melody & Kevin Hollis, 26 years, Aug. 5

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST 12: Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m., Heritage Hall

AUGUST 17: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

AUGUST 20: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

HOYLETON BACK TO SCHOOL DONATIONS DUE TODAY

Hoyleton back to school drive is underway. Request donations of school supplies be dropped off at the church by **TODAY**. For additional information, see flyers located on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob, and on the table by offering plate at St. Johns.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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):

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 32:22-31

Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. When the man saw that he couldn't defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. The man said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name won't be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won."

Jacob also asked and said, "Tell me your name."

But he said, "Why do you ask for my name?" and he blessed Jacob there. Jacob named the place Peniel, "because I've seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved." The sun rose as Jacob passed Peniel, limping because of his thigh.

SECOND LESSON: Roman 9:1-5

I'm speaking the truth in Christ – I'm not lying, as my conscience assures me with the Holy Spirit: I have great sadness and constant pain in my heart. I wish I could be cursed, cut off from Christ if it helped my brothers and sisters, who are my flesh-and-blood relatives. They are Israelites. The adoption as God's children, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the worship, and the promises belong to them. The Jewish ancestors are theirs, and the Christ descended from those ancestors. He is the one who rules over all things, who is God, and who is blessed forever. Amen.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to me." He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.