

“I AM THE ALPHA
AND THE OMEGA,”

SAYS THE LORD GOD, WHO IS AND
WHO WAS AND WHO IS TO COME



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

November 21, 2021

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:

“Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.”

- Søren Kierkegaard

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Rejoice in the light of the morning!

Give thanks for the sun's energy, even through clouds!

ALL: God has spoken to us and meets us here.

We live in covenant with the Eternal One.

ONE: Gather in the spirit of Jesus, whose name we bear!

Thank God for truth that lives in spite of death!

ALL: We celebrate the faithful witness of Jesus Christ.

We seek to share the good news that Christ reigns.

ONE: The Spirit encounters us here that we might learn.

The Spirit inspires us that we might serve.

ALL: God anoints us for ministry, giving us tasks to do.

God's word is on our tongues, that the world may believe.

CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Loving God, we confess that we have been more like thorn bushes than oaks of righteousness. We sometimes repel rather than attract others to the gospel. Pride and deceit fill our days more than grace and peace. We tire of satisfying the poor with bread and upholding the covenant and decrees you have offered us. We turn away from your anointed one, questioning his role in history and his relevance for us. We admit that our inner faith battles are often the screen we use to keep from facing our sin, admitting our guilt and seeking reconciliation. Open our eyes, heal our open wounds, and embrace us in your love that we might be forgiven. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**GLORIA PATRI****A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

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.

SCRIPTURES:

2 Samuel 23: 1-7

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18: 33-37

HYMN

You Servants of God

112

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SERMON

HYMN

Thanks to God for My Redeemer

725

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INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

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)*

Our offerings measure our faithfulness to you, mighty God. They witness to the importance we place on sharing your Word, ministering to one another, and reaching out to make a difference in your world. As we have been influenced by your love in Jesus Christ, help us to communicate that love by what we do and say. Let us become as lamps brightening a cloudy day, as light breaking forth at dawn. To that end, we dedicate ourselves with our gifts. 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

My Soul Cries Out (Canticle of the Turning)

Insert

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person
Accompanist

Beth Hanser
Melissa Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy

St. Jacob: Peggy Bohnenstiehl, Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, the family of Anna Nungesser, Ronald Rujawitz, and Carol Zweck

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Herkenhoff, November 24

Jackie Miller, November 24

Henry Peer, November 24

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, November 14, 2021

St. John's – 24

St. Jacob – No service

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Monday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Secretary's office hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Jacob Phone: 618-644-2142 / St. Jacob E-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

Web-site: stjacobucc.org

Pastor Phil Barbier Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: pastor@hometel.com

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:

Churches & Pastors

-Addieville Zion UCC, Rev. William Groennert

-Alhambra Salem UCC, Rev. Jeremy Wood, Sr. Pastor

-Alhambra Salem UCC, Pastor John (Marilee) Mindrup, Associate Pastor

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Fred and Shirley Wehrenberg, Columbia, IL



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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: St. John's "Hanging of the Greens," immediately following worship.

Thursday: Church office will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Nov. 27: Fellowship Breakfast, 8-10 a.m.

Nov. 27: St. Jacob "Hanging of the Greens," 10 a.m.

ST. JACOB CHURCH COUNCIL NEEDS TWO NEW MEMBERS

Two members of the St. Jacob Church Council will have their terms expire as of Dec. 31. Please consider volunteering to serve on the church council. For more information call the office at 618-644-2142.

HOYLETON

We will be participating in Hoyleton's Christmas gift program again this year. We have committed to provide 45 gifts for children in their residential program. There are still a couple cards with the gift requests available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx. Gifts will need to be brought to church by Sunday, Nov. 28th for delivery to Hoyleton. Thank you to those members who have already picked one up.



FINANCIALS

For congregation members interested in the current St. Jacob financial reports, there are printed copies available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx.

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 Narthx. Thank you!

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

(B)

**CHRIST THE KING/
LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

FIRST LESSON. 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the LORD speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

SECOND LESSON. Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL. John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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