

*JOY TO THE WORLD!*



*THE LORD HAS COME!*

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

December 26, 2021

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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 our Pastor, 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:** "Christmas is forever, not for just one day. For loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away." – Norman Wesley Brooks

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.  
The grace of God has come to save us.

ALL: **For our sakes, God sent the child of Bethlehem.  
For our salvation, Jesus came to live among us.**

ONE: Let all people sing for joy and give thanks.  
Tell the world what God has done in our midst.

ALL: **God has called and chosen us to hear good news.  
God's marvelous works are new every morning.**

ONE: Glory to God in the highest.  
Peace on earth to all God's people

ALL: **We seek to honor God in this time of worship.  
We want to see for ourselves what God has done.**

### \*HYMN

### *O Holy Night*

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## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of the commonplace, we confess that we have been impressed by power and authority. We do not expect to meet you in the poor of the land, in cold barns, or on lonely duty watches. We are slow to hear the angels or to embrace the “good news of great joy.” We hesitate to leave our chosen tasks to share in your larger purposes. We settle for idols of material security even as you thrust us into the battles of life, where we have nothing on which to rely other than our faith in you. Forgive our lack of trust. Renew us in the Holy Spirit, we pray. 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:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Luke 2:1-20

### HYMN

### *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

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## SERMON

## HYMN

### *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

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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*)

Thank you, God, for coming to us in a human life so expressive of love that two thousand years have not extinguished the flame. May that love burn so brightly in our lives that its fires will spread. Use our offerings to ignite in the world such caring and compassion that all your children may know joy and peace, in Jesus' name. 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

### *Joy to the World*

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## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, December 19, 2021

St. John's – 19

St. Jacob – 76

### 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](mailto:stjucc@hometel.com)

Web-site: [stjacobucc.org](http://stjacobucc.org)

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

-Carbondale Church of the Good Shepherd, Rev. Kim (Dr. Aaron Newcomb)

Magwire

-Carlinville, Rev. Katrina Palan, St. Paul's UCC

#### Retired Pastors

- Rev. Jack Spratte and Barbara VanAusdall, Mascoutah, IL

### SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person

Kevin Hollis

Accompanist

Melody Hollis

### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**St. John's:** Ella Boggy and Celeste Short

**St. Jacob:** Peggy Bohnenstiehl, Ross Busher, Cheryl Byrnes, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Carol Zweck and the family of Austin McEwen

## CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**December 27 to January 2:** Pastor Phil – On Vacation

**January 2:** Pastor Nancy leading worship

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### **INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATION**

In Case of inclement weather, we have implemented the following procedure: No later than 8 a.m. on 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 be posted on Facebook and Channel 5.

### **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!

### **HALO PROGRAM NEEDS GIFT CARD DONATIONS**

Hoyelton's Healing and Loving Oneself (HALO) program is in need of gift card donations. HALO provides resources, counseling and mentoring to high-risk youth and young adults ages 11 to 25. Youth are at-risk or confirmed survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Gift cards should be in denominations of \$10 and can be from Wal-Mart or Dollar General. You may leave the gift cards in the offering plate, drop them in the basket on the table in the St. Jacob Narthx, or drop them off at the church office.

### **UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**

Jack Bittle, December 26

Melissa Taylor, December 26

Andy Schreiber, December 28

Andy & Sara Schreiber, 36 years, December 28

Myrna Anderson, December 29

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## **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

## **PSALM: Psalm 96**

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

## DECEMBER 26, 2021 (C) FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

### GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*(FIRST LESSON and PSALM inside back cover)*