



Do justice...

love kindness...

walk humbly

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
JANUARY 29, 2023

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:

“Blessed are the cracked, for they shall let in the light.” ~ Groucho Marx

ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS
PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Jesus taught: Blessed are the poor in spirit.
He said that the realm of God is theirs.

ALL: We read that those who mourn are blessed.
Jesus said they will be comforted.

ONE: The meek will inherit the earth.
The merciful will obtain mercy.

ALL: All who hunger and thirst for rich treasurers are blessed;
Jesus said they will be filled.

ONE: Blessed are the pure in heart and the peacemakers;
They are God’s children and will see God.

ALL: Those persecuted and falsely accused are blessed.
Even in the face of evil, we will rejoice.

*** HYMN**

I Need Thee Every Hour

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O God, we confess that we have accepted the world's wisdom as our guide. We have been impressed by the power of weapons and the importance of high positions. We measure worth by the number of possessions we command. We have been unkind in our speech and uncaring in our deeds. We have doubted the power of the cross to save. Turn us around, holy God, that we might be blessed. 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:

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15 *(insert)*

Matthew 5:1-12

HYMN

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

INSERT

SERMON

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

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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*)

We devote ourselves and these tokens of our thankfulness toward the realization of your reign among us, holy God. We pray for purity of heart as we hunger and thirst for righteousness and as we seek to be peacemakers. We rejoice in this opportunity to share in the extension of your realm. Bless us and our offering, we pray, 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

Lord, I Want to Be A Christian

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Duane Woods
Liturgist	Kay Guse
Accompanist	Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean, Cindy Roll, and Jeffrey Thornton

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Erica Kynion, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, and Carol 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

-Johannisburg St. John's UCC, Rev. William Groennert

-Lebanon St. Paul UCC, Rev. Todd (Rev. Shana Johnson) Bean

* Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Ken and Jean Knobloch, Maeystown, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Lynn Shirley, Feb. 1
Barbara Baer, Feb. 2
Ashley Ahrens, Feb. 3
Steven Shirley, Feb. 4

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2023

St. John's – 11

St. Jacob – 32

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(Mondays by appointment)

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

BLESSING BOX LOCATED AT ST. JACOB UCC

The "Blessing Box" (located on the east side of St. Jacob UCC) contains non-perishable food, hygiene products, and other items for anyone in need. Please help us keep the "Blessing Box" stocked. 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.

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.

Requested items for St. John's (Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries Food Pantry): Long shelf-life fresh produce: apples, oranges, celery, onions, potatoes, and carrots, etc.

Requested items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Toilet paper, paper towels, peanut butter, jelly, baked beans, crackers, peas, canned potatoes, canned yams, pasta sides, rice sides, mac-n-cheese, Ramen noodles, Hamburger Helper, & cake mixes

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: St. Jacob annual meeting, immediately following worship service

ST. JACOB 2022 GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2022 Giving Statements are available on the table in the St. Jacob UCC Narthx.

ST. JACOB 2023 ENVELOPE BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

The St. Jacob 2023 envelope booklets are available for you to pick up on the table in the Narthx.

HALO PROGRAM NEEDS GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Hoyelton's HALO program (Healing and Loving Oneself) 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.

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 lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthx.

SNOW SHOVELING

Winter weather is here -- Please volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthx. A BIG thank you to those members who have signed up! However, we still have many weeks needing volunteers.

BEST CHOICE LABEL COLLECTION

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

FIRST LESSON. Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

SECOND LESSON. 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

GOSPEL. Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Psalm 15 (Second Lesson)

O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine



1. Ho - ly Spir - it, Truth di - vine, dawn up -
 2. Ho - ly Spir - it, Love di - vine, glow with -
 3. Ho - ly Spir - it, Pow'r di - vine, fill and
 4. Ho - ly Spir - it, Peace di - vine, still thus
 5. Ho - ly Spir - it, Joy di - vine, glad - den



1. on this soul of mine. Voice of God, and
 2. in this heart of mine. Kin - dle ev - 'ry
 3. nerve this will of mine. Bold - ly may I
 4. rest - less heart of mine. Speak to calm this
 5. now this heart of mine. In the de - sert



1. in - ward Light, wake my spir - it, clear my sight.
 2. high de - sire, pur - i - fy me with your fire.
 3. al - ways live, brave - ly serve and glad - ly give.
 4. toss - ing sea, grant me your tran - quil - i - ty.
 5. ways I sing, spring, O liv - ing Wa - ter, spring!

WORDS: Samuel Longfellow, 1864

MUSIC: Louis M. Gottschalk, 1854; arr. Edwin P. Parker, c. 1888

MERCY

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