



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

APRIL 2, 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: "What we see in Christ is sacrificial love. Merciful love. Love that values the well-being of others above itself. Love that will generously and fully pour itself out, whatever the cost, in order that the beloved might benefit, flourish and thrive." ~ **Krish Kandiah**

ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Hosanna to the one who comes in God's name.
Shout your blessings! Sing your praises!

**ALL: Christ opens our eyes to better ways of living,
not as haughty rulers, but as humble servants.**

ONE: Have the mind of Christ among yourselves,
That you may be emptied of pretense and false pride.

**ALL: In Christ we are freed to be fully human,
To celebrate and use our gifts to Gods glory.**

ONE: Give thanks to God, who has so richly blessed us;
Praise God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

**ALL: This is the day that God has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Toros Roslin, active 13th century. Entry into Jerusalem, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/link.pl?RC=58329>. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:T%27oros_Roslin_Gospels,_Entry_into_Jerusalem,_Walters_Manuscript_W.539,_fol._174r.jpg.

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

Wonderful God, we are not ready to celebrate. We know too much of sin and death. We feel the hunger and pain and loss that fill our world. We do not want to risk bringing more of it on ourselves. We do not want to take responsibility for its presence with our sisters and brothers. Can't you have a parade without us? We don't really want to be involved. And yet, O God, we feel lonely and cut off when we avoid the fullness of life you offer. Forgive our self-protective ways and free us to follow where Christ leads. 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:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 21:1-11

HYMN***Hosanna, Loud Hosanna***

267

Jeff Redd | Jennette Threlfall | Xavier Ludwig Hartig © Words: 1976 Fred Boek Music Company Music: Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 20849486*

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*)

Use what we have to share, God of all people, so more of your children may know the good news of Christ. If we had a donkey, we would loan it. If we had branches, we would wave them. When we have extra garments, we would honor Christ by clothing our shivering sisters and brothers. We do have much to give, and we cherish the joy of giving. Bless these tokens of the fuller commitment they are meant to represent. Hallelujah! Amen.

HYMN***Let Us Break Bread Together***

699

Words and Music: African American spiritual | arr. Carlton R Young Music Arr. © 1965 Abingdon Press (Admin. The Copyright Company)

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*****Great is Thy Faithfulness***

72

Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 20849486*

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 wounds, 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. May it be multiplied like the loaves and fishes at Galilee and feed and bless your people.

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

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person
Accompanist

Kay Guse
Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Dave Krausz, Gail Miller,
Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Carol Schmitt, Jerry Schmitt
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

-Okawville St. Paul UCC

-Okawville St. Peter's UCC, Rev. Jeffrey (Sara) Schwab

ISC Conference Minister

-Rev. Shana (Rev. Todd Bean) Johnson, O'Fallon, IL

Retired Pastors

-Rev. Earl and Johanna Crecelius, Freeburg, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Duane Zobrist, April 3

Patti & Duane Woods, 37 years, April 5

Steve Mersinger, April 7

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, MARCH 26, 2023

St. John's – 10

St. Jacob – 61

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) is running low, and could use donations of 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): Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, pudding cups, large box instant mashed potatoes, laundry detergent-small bottles, cake mix, paper towels, toilet paper, canned potatoes, Ramen noodle bowls, and Nutri-Grain bars

Portions reprinted [or adapted] by permission of United Church Press from *Gathered by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1994 by United Church Press.

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

THURSDAY: Maundy Thursday service, soup dinner at 6 p.m., in Heritage Hall and Worship at 7 p.m., in the Sanctuary.

APRIL 9: Easter Worship at 7 a.m., and 10:15 a.m., both in the Sanctuary

APRIL 12: ELFs meeting, 10 a.m.

APRIL 18: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

APRIL 19: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

STRAWBERRY FEST NEEDS SPONSORS/DONATIONS

We are preparing for our 39th Annual Strawberry Festival and are seeking sponsors for the event, as well as raffle donations. The event will be held May 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Jacob Township Park. This event draws more than 3,000 people from the surrounding areas. It's a family-friendly event including musical entertainment, jump houses, pony rides, face painting, and local craft vendors. Sponsor forms are available at: stjacobucc.org/strawberry, from a festival committee member, or contact the church office at 618-644-2142.

ELF BOOK SALE, LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

This year as part of the St. Jacob community yard sale (May 4-6), the ELFs will hold a book sale in the Heritage Hall. As you prepare for spring cleaning, if you have any books you would like to donate, they can be placed on the cart in the Narthx. Funds raised will go toward supporting children in need through partner organizations in our community and within the wider church.

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.

LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please volunteer to mow the church lawn. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthx.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love lasts forever.
Let Israel say it: "God's faithful love lasts forever!"

Open the gates of righteousness for me so I can come in and give thanks to the Lord!
This is the Lord's gate; those who are righteous enter through it.

I thank you because you answered me, because you were my saving help.
The stone rejected by the builders is now the main foundation stone!
This has happened because of the Lord; it is astounding in our sight!
This is the day the Lord acted; we will rejoice and celebrate in it!

Lord, please save us! Lord, please let us succeed!

The one who enters in the Lord's name is blessed; we bless all of you from the Lord's house.
The Lord is God! He has shined a light on us!
So lead the festival offering with ropes all the way to the horns of the altar.
You are my God—I will give thanks to you! You are my God—I will lift you up high!
Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love lasts forever.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But he emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names, so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. He said to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them." He sent them off right away. Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, Say to Daughter Zion, "Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey's offspring." The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them.

Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. "Who is this?" they asked. The crowds answered, "It's the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."



May 21, 2023 St. Jacob UCC Strawberry Festival Volunteer and Donation Form

Any questions, please contact Jane Noeltner 618-977-8063
or the church office 618-644-2142.

I would like to donate:

_____ Yellow Cake (pre-cut into 12 pieces) – please indicate donation quantity.

Drop off at church on Saturday or bring to park by 9:30 am on Sunday.

_____ Baked Pie Crusts (9-inch-deep dish) – please indicate donation quantity.

Drop off at church by 8 a.m. on Saturday. Pie baking begins at 8 a.m.

_____ Cash for supplies

I am available to work:

_____ May 20 - strawberry cleaning/pie making/berry washing

(8 a.m. – lunch served)

_____ May 20 - Park set-up 8 a.m.

_____ May 21 - We need 2 people to work at church filling baked beans cups.

_____ May 21 - Shift 1 (10:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.)

Server/ berry dipper/ ice cream dipper/ protein wrapper/ dessert/ cashier/ soda

_____ May 21 - Shift 2 (1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

server/ berry dipper/ ice cream dipper/ protein wrapper/ dessert/ cashier/ soda

_____ May 21 - Park Clean-Up (beginning at 3 p.m. on Sunday)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return this form by May 1, 2023. Drop it off in offering plate, or **e-mail** to:
stjucc@hometel.com or **mail** to: 207 West Main Street, St. Jacob IL 62281

