



Ἡ ΦΙΛΟΖΗΝΙΑ

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

June 4, 2023

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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  
Pastor Phil 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:** "We know that without food we would die. Without fellowship,  
life is not worth living." ~ Laurie Colwin

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**ONE:** How majestic is God's name in all the earth!

We see God's glory in the expanse of the heavens.

**ALL:** All plants and animals are God's creation.

All that God has made reflects God's goodness.

**ONE:** We are created in God's image, to relate to God.

We receive great abundance and care from our Creator.

**ALL:** God blesses us day by day with good things.

We are given dominion over the works of God.

**ONE:** Gather to praise God and greet one another.

Celebrate all the ways God is revealed to us.

**ALL:** We worship the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

We rejoice in Christ's promise of the Holy Spirit.

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#### **Bulletin Cover Attribution:**

Miller, Mary Jane. The Holy Trinity, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59672>. Original source: Mary Jane Miller, <https://www.millericons.com/>. Based on Andrei Rublev's icon of the Holy Trinity from 15th Century Russia.

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

Amazing God, the more we learn of your creation, the more we are filled with awe and wonder. Yet, our vision narrows to our limited concerns, and we forget the immense reaches of the stewardship to which you appoint us. We have not taken good care of this tiny spaceship, Earth, which is our home. We have not cared well for one another as sisters and brothers. Our doubts outweigh our obedience. O God, help us fulfill our baptism and claim our discipleship, as forgiven and forgiving sinners. 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:**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

**HYMN*****Father, I Adore You*****143**

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**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*)

Amid our doubts and the temptation to grab life's blessings for our own personal use, we come to dedicate our time, talent, and treasure to realize your reign on earth, majestic God. As we enjoy your bounty, we give that all our sisters and brothers might also come to appreciate the amazing gifts you entrust to us. Thank you for life and all its wonders. Amen.

**HYMN*****Come, Share the Lord*****696**

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**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.*

# 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 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**

### **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.

**\* HYMN**

*Go Forth for God*

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**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**SERVING YOU TODAY**

Council Person                      Dian Gansmann  
Accompanist                         Melody Hollis

**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, Lora Hollis, Gail Miller,  
Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Carol 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**

-Addieville Zion UCC, Rev. William Groennert

-Alhambra Salem UCC, Rev. Jerry Wood

-Pastor John Mindrup

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

Dalton Mersinger, June 6

Debbie & Duane Zobrist, 47 years, June 7

Gina & Tim Hirsch, 32 years, June 8

Dawn & Steve Mersinger, 23 years, June 10

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, MAY 28, 2023

St. John's – 6

St. Jacob – 34

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

Website: [stjacobucc.org](http://stjacobucc.org)

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

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### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. Jacob UCC and Friedens UCC, Troy, are working together to organize an intergenerational Vacation Bible School this summer! Specifics are still being planned, but if you're between the ages of 1-100+, we hope you will join us as we explore the theme of the Greatest Commandment: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Save the date for the evenings of Thursdays, July 20, July 27, and August 3; as soon as the details are confirmed, we will publicize them in weekly bulletin, Facebook, and the church website!



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS**

This year both St. Jacob UCC and St. John's UCC are helping with their local Summer Lunch Programs.

St. John's UCC is accepting monetary donations that will be used to purchase needed lunch supplies. Lunches are provided each weekday from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and can be picked up at the Summerfield Fire Department.

Volunteers are needed to help with the summer lunch program at St. Jacob. Lunches will be provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lunches will be 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 allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthx. For more information, or to volunteer call Judy Bolton at 618-830-0526, or Audrey Yann at 618-567-8013.

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#### **FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters— God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other." God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. God named the dome Sky.

There was evening and there was morning: the second day.

God said, "Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear." And that's what happened. God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was. God said, "Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth." And that's what happened. The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the third day.

God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth." And that's what happened. God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

*(continued from inside cover)*

God said, "Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky." God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. Then God blessed them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife." And that's what happened. God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth."

God created humanity in God's own image,  
in the divine image God created them,  
male and female God created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened. God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

### **SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

Finally, brothers and sisters, good-bye. Put things in order, respond to my encouragement, be in harmony with each other, and live in peace—and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Say hello to each other with a holy kiss. All of God's people say hello to you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but some doubted. Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."