

because
of YOUR



IN

FREE

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

July 02, 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.

WELCOME TO ANGIE HAUSMANN

We welcome Angie Hausmann who is serving as our pulpit supply leader today.
Please greet her following worship.
Pastor Phil will be back in the pulpit next Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

- ONE: Early in the morning, our thoughts turn toward God.
We have been led to this mountaintop of worship.
- ALL: **We come, trusting in God's steadfast love.**
We gather, seeking the way of salvation and peace.
- ONE: God has made an everlasting covenant with us.
Let us proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.
- ALL: **Sometimes we think God has forgotten us.**
Often we do not understand what God expects of us.
- ONE: God deals bountifully with us in ways we take for granted.
God shows us the value of life and helps us celebrate it.
- ALL: **We bring our sorrow and pain to this healing time.**
May God provide what we need to grow in Christ.
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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Free us, O God, from such absorption in our own concerns that we forget your loving intention for us. We find it hard to view what is happening around us through any eyes but our own. We obey our own passions rather than joining your intention for the good of all. It is hard for us, who so value our autonomy, to speak of obedience. Yet we are ashamed of things we have done and things we have failed to do. We want to claim your gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. We sense that you intend for us to accept and live within that gift here and now. Help us, loving God. 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 130

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

HYMN

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

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SERMON

HYMN

Rock of Ages

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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 bring our offering, not with thought of reward, but because we are grateful. We give, not from guilt of having so much, but because it is a privilege and a joy to share. We dedicate these gifts, not to pay bills, but to enable a ministry that meets basic human needs with the good will of the gospel. May your people be empowered to give the service each moment requires, in even a deed as simple as giving a cup of cold water to quench another's thirst.

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

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	John Zweck
Liturgist	Andy Scheiber
Accompanist	Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Judy Chapman, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean, Cindy Roll, Jeffrey Thornton, and the family of Ella Boggy

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, 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

-Brighton St. John's UCC, Rev. John Pawloski

Retired Pastors

-Rev. Paul Thompson, Jr., Red Bud, IL

-Rev. Jack Spratte and Barbara Van Ausdall, Mascoutah, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jane Schmidt, July 4

Robert Willie, July 4

Carol Prange, July 5

Nancy & Sandy Aurty, 51 years, July 6

Nancy & Thomas McCaw, 67 years, July 7

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, June 25, 2023

St. John's – 15

St. Jacob – 30

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) can use donations of non-perishable food, hygiene products, and other items for those in need. 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): Canned potatoes, chili, spam, canned ham, black eyed peas, breakfast bars, Pop-tarts, pineapple, pears, peaches, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, tomato paste, Vienna sausages, sauerkraut, spinach, pasta sides, egg noodles, chicken & dumplings, beef stew, dish soap, & laundry detergent

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNE 29 - JULY 5: Pastor Phil at UCC General Synod

JULY 12: ELFs meeting, 10 a.m.

INTERGENERATIONAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. Jacob UCC and Troy Friedens UCC are working together to organize an Intergenerational Vacation Bible School this summer – it will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., July 20 at St. Jacob Township Park, July 27 at Tri-Township Library, and Aug. 3 at Tri-Township Park. This Intergenerational Vacation Bible School is for everyone ages of 1-100-plus, and we will 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,"* and *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* For more information, contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS

-St. John's UCC is accepting monetary donations 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.

-St. Jacob UCC: So far this year we are providing lunches to almost twice as many kids as in years past and could use monetary donations and additional volunteers. Volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. Lunches are served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob Elementary School (outdoor classroom). 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.

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.

***** THE UPPER ROOM** (July-August) magazines are available on the table in the Narthx at St. Jacob.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 130

I cry out to you from the depths, Lord – my Lord, listen to my voice!

Let your ears pay close attention to my request for mercy!

If you kept track of sins, Lord – my Lord, who would stand a chance?

But forgiveness is with you – that's why you are honored.

I hope, Lord.

My whole being hopes, and I wait for God's promise.

My whole being waits for my Lord – more than the night watch waits for morning;

yes, more than the night watch waits for morning!

Israel, wait for the Lord!

Because faithful love is with the Lord;

because great redemption is with our God!

He is the one who will redeem Israel from all its sin.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:12-23

So then, don't let sin rule your body, so that you do what it wants. Don't offer parts of your body to sin, to be used as weapons to do wrong. Instead, present yourselves to God as people who have been brought back to life from the dead, and offer all the parts of your body to God to be used as weapons to do right. Sin will have no power over you, because you aren't under Law but under grace.

So what? Should we sin because we aren't under Law but under grace? Absolutely not! Don't you know that if you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, that you are slaves of the one whom you obey? That's true whether you serve as slaves of sin, which leads to death, or as slaves of the kind of obedience that leads to righteousness. But thank God that although you used to be slaves of sin, you gave wholehearted obedience to the teaching that was handed down to you, which provides a pattern. Now that you have been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. (I'm speaking with ordinary metaphors because of your limitations.) Once, you offered the parts of your body to be used as slaves to impurity and to lawless behavior that leads to still more lawless behavior. Now, you should present the parts of your body as slaves to righteousness, which makes your lives holy. When you were slaves of sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What consequences did you get from doing things that you are now ashamed of? The outcome of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and become slaves to God, you have the consequence of a holy life, and the outcome is eternal life. The wages that sin pays are death, but God's gift is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."