

PRAYER
FOR PEACE

LORD, make me an
INSTRUMENT OF
your peace
where there is hatred.
Let me sow Love; where
there is INJURY, PARDON;

where there is DOUBT, FAITH;
where there is DESPAIR, HOPE;
where there is DARKNESS, LIGHT;
where there is SADNESS, JOY.

O DIVINE MASTER GRANT
THAT I may seek NOT SO
MUCH TO BE CONSOLED AS
TO CONSOLE; TO BE
UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND;
TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE, FOR
IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE;
IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE
PARDONED, AND IT IS IN DYING
THAT WE ARE BORN TO
ETERNAL
LIFE. **A M E N**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

November 5, 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: "Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you." ~ St. Augustine

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, all who are thirsty, whose souls are fainting.
Come, all whose troubles seem overwhelming.

ALL: The Source and Creator of all things welcomes us.
God hears our cries and is ready to help us.

ONE: Come, all who are pure, upright, and blameless.
Come, all who dwell day by day in God's realm.

ALL: The Messiah has more to teach us.
Jesus turns from seeking honor to humble service.

ONE: Draw near and hear the word of God.
Open your lives to the Spirit who fills all things.

ALL: We sense the presence of truth seeking to enter us.
We feel the love of God eager to embrace us.

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Sutcliff, Judy. Prayer for Peace (Monastery of Poor Clares of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA), from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57766>. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Prayer_for_Peace_-_Flickr_-_brewbooks.jpg.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Gracious God, help us to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you. We have searched for life amid temporary attractions. We have sought excitement in places that turned out to be desert wastelands. We have burdened others with our mistakes. We have sought honors and made comparisons to look better than those around us. We have devoted little time to thanking and praising you, the Source of all things. Open us now, O God, to the Word we need from you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

TOTENFEST: We Gather to Remember (*insert*)

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.

SCRIPTURE:

Joshua 3:7-17

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

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*)

Let your Word be at work in us, gracious God, and through the offerings we present for your blessing. We offer here our support for the work of teaching, preaching, and good counsel, our assistance for those who are burdened and hungry and lost, our encouragement for questioners, seekers, and risk-takers intent on leading a life worthy of your approval. We are all your students. Let us also be your humble servants, through the offering of our substance and ourselves. Amen.

Words and Music © 1978 John B. Foley, S.J. and New Dawn Music

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.

Words © 1968 Hope Publishing Company

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Council Person | Ty Gansmann |
| Liturgist | Andy Scheiber |
| Accompanist | Melissa Anderson Taylor |

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Wally Foxworthy, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll and Margie Foxworthy's son Sean and stepson Dustin

St. Jacob: Sandy Autry, Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Carolyn Masterson, 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, Interim Pastor

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Carol and David Shanks, Waterloo, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Denise Baer, Nov. 7

Kristen Kniepkamp Belcher, Nov. 8

Darik Zobrist, Nov. 10

Renee Bippen, Nov. 11

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, October 29, 2023

St. John's – 11

St. Jacob – 26

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

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

As we approach the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the need for food assistance always grows. In preparation for this holiday season, below are updated lists of items needed by our local food pantries. Donation baskets are in the sanctuary at St. John's & St. Jacob.



Requested items for St. John's (For Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries): Canned goods including: vegetables, fruit, beans, soups, stews, pasta, chili, and tuna. Boxed goods including: pasta & noodles, rice, mashed potatoes, cereal, oatmeal, stuffing, and mac & cheese. Other pantry staples including: flour, sugar, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, BBQ sauce, ramen, cake mix, jello, and pudding. Non food items including: trash bags, storage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, toiletries.

Requested items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Jiffy corn muffin mix, yams, pie filling, Jiffy pie crust mix, peanut butter, pasta, chili beans, instant potato packets, rice 1-pound bags, & instant rice

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

WEDNESDAY: ELFs meeting, 10 a.m.

NOVEMBER 15: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 21: St. John's Council meeting; 7:15 p.m.

HOYLETON'S HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS DRIVE

St. Jacob: This year we are providing gifts for children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton. On the table in the Narthx you will find a basket with slips. Each slip lists one gift and has a number at the top. There is a sheet next to the basket with the same number on it. Please put your name next to the slip you take. Gifts are due back to church by Sunday, Nov. 26, and we will get them to Hoyleton that week. Please include the top half of the slip with the child's name on the gift.

St. John's: Again this year the council will be coordinating the purchase of gifts for the children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton through their Amazon wish-list. Please place your donation in the envelope on the bulletin board.

HALO PROGRAM NEEDS GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Hoyleton's 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.

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** (Nov-Dec) magazines are available on the table in the Narthx at St. Jacob.

FIRST LESSON: Joshua 3:7-17

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to make you great in the opinion of all Israel. Then they will know that I will be with you in the same way that I was with Moses. You are to command the priests who carry the covenant chest, 'As soon as you come to the bank of the Jordan, stand still in the Jordan.'"

Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come close. Listen to the words of the Lord your God." Then Joshua said, "This is how you will know that the living God is among you and will completely remove the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites before you. Look! The covenant chest of the ruler of the entire earth is going to cross over in front of you in the Jordan. Now pick twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one per tribe. The soles of the priests' feet, who are carrying the chest of the Lord, ruler of the whole earth, will come to rest in the water of the Jordan. At that moment, the water of the Jordan will be cut off. The water flowing downstream will stand still in a single heap."

The people marched out from their tents to cross over the Jordan. The priests carrying the covenant chest were in front of the people. When the priests who were carrying the chest came to the Jordan, their feet touched the edge of the water. The Jordan had overflowed its banks completely, the way it does during the entire harvest season. But at that moment the water of the Jordan coming downstream stood still. It rose up as a single heap very far off, just below Adam, which is the city next to Zarethan. The water going down to the desert sea (that is, the Dead Sea) was cut off completely. The people crossed opposite Jericho. So the priests carrying the Lord's covenant chest stood firmly on dry land in the middle of the Jordan. Meanwhile, all Israel crossed over on dry land, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

You remember, brothers and sisters, our efforts and hard work. We preached God's good news to you, while we worked night and day so we wouldn't be a burden on any of you. You and God are witnesses of how holy, just, and blameless we were toward you believers. Likewise, you know how we treated each of you like a father treats his own children. We appealed to you, encouraged you, and pleaded with you to live lives worthy of the God who is calling you into his own kingdom and glory.

We also thank God constantly for this: when you accepted God's word that you heard from us, you welcomed it for what it truly is. Instead of accepting it as a human message, you accepted it as God's message, and it continues to work in you who are believers.

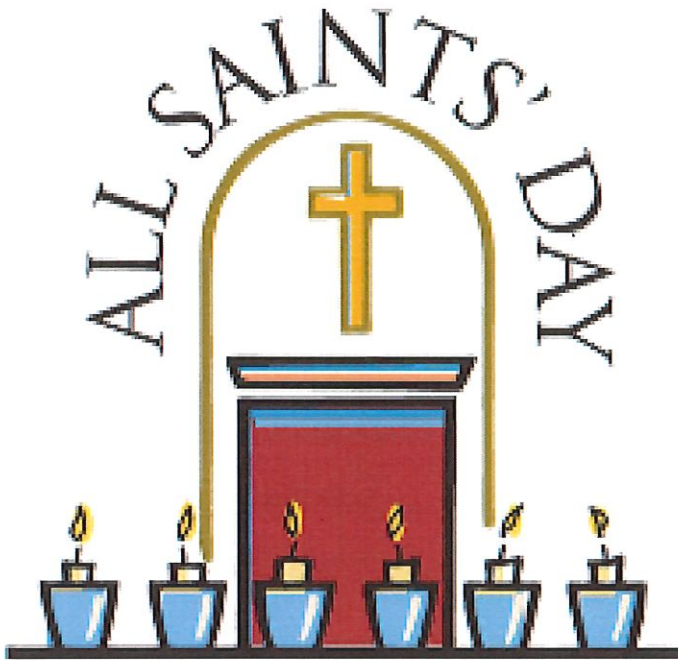
GOSPEL: Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and his disciples, "The legal ex-perts and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat. Therefore, you must take care to do everything they say. But don't do what they do. For they tie together heavy packs that are impossible to carry. They put them on the shoulders of others, but are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. Everything they do, they do to be noticed by others. They make extra-wide prayer bands for their arms and long tassels for their clothes. They love to sit in places of honor at banquets and in the synagogues. They love to be greeted with honor in the markets and to be addressed as 'Rabbi.'

"But you shouldn't be called Rabbi, because you have one teacher, and all of you are brothers and sisters. Don't call anybody on earth your father, because you have one Father, who is heavenly. Don't be called teacher, because Christ is your one teacher. But the one who is greatest among you will be your servant. All who lift themselves up will be brought low. But all who make themselves low will be lifted up.

TOTENFEST

WE GATHER TO REMEMBER



St. Jacob United Church of Christ

November 5, 2023

WE GATHER TO REMEMBER

INTRODUCTION

Pastor: As baptized believers in Christ, we are also baptized into Christ's death. In doing so, we are united with Christ through Christ's resurrection so that we might share in eternal life with Christ. Let us now hear the names of those, our brothers and sisters, who have been called home this past year and who are now sharing in the power of that eternal life.

We remember the following members and friends:

Gary Frutiger

Elsie Brandmeyer

Lola Kelley

Kenneth Staley

Pastor: Let us now have a moment of silence to remember our loved ones who have been called home this past year.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

PASTOR: God, whose hand reaches to the farthest star and to the depths of the sea, we feel the loss of no longer having those who have passed on with us. We also feel the gain of the time they were with us.

MANY: Their vital spark is burned in our memories, though they have departed.

PASTOR: We recall their ears,

MANY: Hearing our cries.

PASTOR: We recall their eyes,

MANY: Seeing our joys and pains.

PASTOR: We recall their touch,

MANY: Holding our hands.

PASTOR: We recall their voices,

MANY: Speaking to our hearts.

ALL: We continue to live with the best they had to give because it lives within us.

HYMN: *Rejoice In God's Saints*

531

Fred Pratt Green | William Croft © Words: 1973, 1980 Hope Publishing Company Music: Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.hymn.com CCLI License # 20849486*

PRAYER FOR COMFORT (*Unison*)

This day, we pause to give thanks for the gift of individuals who were special to many of us. We give thanks for the church which has nurtured us through the years, both ministering to us and enabling us to minister to others in Your name. We would recall the past with love, in order that we might live in the present with dignity. We ask for your guidance each day, that we may serve you well, with all things. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.