



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

March 17, 2024

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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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## 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.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The days are surely coming, says our God;  
The day is here to affirm a new covenant.

ALL: **We call on God's steadfast love and mercy.  
We seek a strong and vital relationship with our God.**

ONE: God's law will be written on our hearts.  
Our Creator claims us and forgives our faithlessness.

ALL: **We are eager to know the God who loves us.  
We are ready to learn God's intention for us.**

ONE: God offers us the joy of salvation.  
Our brokenness can be healed and wholeness restored.

ALL: **We are open to the new and right spirit God offers.  
We seek guidance for our daily living.  
Amen.**

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## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. We know more of our own transgression than we have been willing to admit, even to ourselves. We cannot escape from the sin that clings so closely. By our actions and our neglect, we have done what is evil in your sight. May your judgment help us to face the truth about ourselves. Then wash away the stain of our iniquity. Create in us clean hearts, and renew our spirits. We are ready for a new life. 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.

### SCRIPTURE:

Psalms 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

<b>HYMN</b>	<i>Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee</i>	420
<b>SERMON</b>		
<b>HYMN</b>	<i>I Have Decided to Follow Jesus</i>	344
<b>INVITATION TO OFFERING</b>		
<b>GIVE THANKS:</b>		
	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!	
<b>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</b>	<i>(unison)</i>	
	We dedicate these offerings to the proclamation of your word, the teaching of your ways, and the living of your will for all humankind. We reach out with joy and gladness to offer your love to the world. May these gifts enable the sharing of your presence with many who have not experienced a sense of their own value as your children. As we keep covenant with you, we would also share its joys and obligations with our neighbors. Amen.	
<b>PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER</b>		
<b>PRAYER RESPONSE</b>	<b>Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus</b>	
	<i>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.</i>	
<b>* HYMN</b>	<i>Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing</i>	748

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	Carol Kynion
Liturgist	George Anderson
Accompanist	Melody Hollis

### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**St. John's:** Don Koenig, Sharon Koenig, Cindy Roll, Roy Roll, Dave Williams, 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

-Waterloo Zion UCC Rev. Patrick (Kathy) Poole

-Wood River St. John UCC Rev. John (Jackie) Pawloski

#### -Retired Pastor

Rev. Fred (Shirley) Wehrenberg, Columbia, IL

### UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

Lilly Zobrist, March 19

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, March 10, 2024

St. John's – 9    St. Jacob – 31

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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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### **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.

**Items for St. John's (For Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries):** Canned goods including: vegetables, fruit, beans, soups, stews, pasta, chili, sloppy Joe, beef, sausage, chicken, salmon, 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. Nonfood items including trash bags, storage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, & toiletries.

**Items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited):** Pop-tarts, oatmeal, cheese cracker sandwiches, beef jerky, fruit cups, Vienna sausages, ketchup, mustard, broth, cooked ham, pasta sauce, jelly, pancake mix, & syrup

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## CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MARCH 16-21:** Pastor Phil Vacation

**MARCH 28: MAUNDY THURSDAY**, soup dinner 6 p.m., Worship, 7 p.m.

**MARCH 31: EASTER**, Worship 7 a.m. & 10:15 a.m., St. Jacob &  
8:45 a.m. St. Johns

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### **STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL FLYERS**

We are preparing for our 40th Annual Strawberry Festival and we could use your help in getting the word out. There are flyers located on the table in the Narthx, please take a few and take them to are businesses and request they be posted. The event will be held May 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Jacob Township Park.

### **ON-LINE GIVING OPTION**

An on-line giving option has been added to St. Jacob's web site. There are two ways to access the on-line giving option on our web site (<https://stjacobucc.org/>), the first is the "DONATE" button located on the top-right corner of the "Home Page," and the second is by clicking on "RESOURCES" and then "DONATE." In you have any issues using the on-line giving option, please contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

### **FRIEDENS UCC SAUSAGE & KRAUT DINNER TODAY**

Friedens UCC Sausage & Kraut Dinner will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., **TODAY** at 207 E. Center St., Troy, Ill. It is drive-thru-only, cost is \$15 a plate, and includes grilled pork sausage, sauerkraut, green beans, mashed potatoes & gravy, and dessert.

### **LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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

### **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.

**FIRST LESSON: Psalm 51:1-12**

Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love! Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion!

Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin!

Because I know my wrongdoings, my sin is always right in front of me.

I've sinned against you—you alone. I've committed evil in your sight.

That's why you are justified when you render your verdict, completely correct when you issue your judgment.

Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin, from the moment my mother conceived me.

And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places; you teach me wisdom in the most secret space.

Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and celebration again; let the bones you crushed rejoice once more.

Hide your face from my sins; wipe away all my guilty deeds!

Create a clean heart for me, God; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!

Please don't throw me out of your presence; please don't take your holy spirit away from me.

Return the joy of your salvation to me and sustain me with a willing spirit.

**SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 5:5-10**

In the same way Christ also didn't promote himself to become high priest. Instead, it was the one who said to him, "You are my Son. Today I have become your Father," as he also says in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

During his days on earth, Christ offered prayers and requests with loud cries and tears as his sacrifices to the one who was able to save him from death. He was heard because of his godly devotion. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience from what he suffered. After he had been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him. He was appointed by God to be a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**GOSPEL: John 12:20-33**

Some Greeks were among those who had come up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and made a request: "Sir, we want to see Jesus." Philip told Andrew, and Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

Jesus replied, "The time has come for the Human One to be glorified. I assure you that unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their lives will lose them, and those who hate their lives in this world will keep them forever. Whoever serves me must follow me. Wherever I am, there my servant will also be. My Father will honor whoever serves me.

"Now I am deeply troubled. What should I say? 'Father, save me from this time'? No, for this is the reason I have come to this time. Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

The crowd standing there heard and said, "It's thunder." Others said, "An angel spoke to him."

Jesus replied, "This voice wasn't for my benefit but for yours. Now is the time for judgment of this world. Now this world's ruler will be thrown out. When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me." (He said this to show how he was going to die.)