



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

March 24, 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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**Silent Reflection:** "Let us all come together cheerfully; let us all receive him gladly, and hold our feast with all honesty. Instead of our garments, let us strew our hearts before Him, in psalms and hymns, let us raise to him our shouts of thanksgiving; and, without ceasing, let us exclaim, 'Blessed is he that that comes in the name of the Lord.'" ~ Saint Methodius of Olympus, 3rd Century CE

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

#### PRELUDE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

**ONE:** Blessed are those who delight in worship.

Blessed are the ones who come in God's name.

**ALL:** Give thanks to God, all who assemble here.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

**ONE:** Let all who follow Christ sing God's praise.

Because of God's help, we are not disgraced.

**ALL:** Open the gates of righteousness that we might enter.

The works of God are marvelous in our eyes.

**ONE:** This is the day that our God has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**ALL:** Hosanna! Let every knee bend before Jesus!

Let every tongue welcome Christ's reign! Hosanna!

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#### Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Entry into Jerusalem (ca. 1030-1040), from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55433>. Original source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The\\_Entry\\_into\\_Jerusalem\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project\\_\(6834070\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Entry_into_Jerusalem_-_Google_Art_Project_(6834070).jpg).

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Sovereign God, we confess that we are as fickle as the crowds in Jerusalem. When everything seems to be going well, we join the hosanna chorus, but in times of weariness or rebellion, praise can turn to insult. We hide our faith when it is under attack and link ourselves with the scoffers. When there is opportunity to speak a good word for Jesus Christ, we are silent. Our church lifts an uncertain word before the world, for we, its members, have not been faithful. We need your forgiving love today, O God, more than ever. Hear our prayer. 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:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 11:1-11

HYMN

*Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

INSERT

SERMON

HYMN

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

344

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*)

What you have done for us is marvelous in our eyes, gracious God. Our gifts can never match your goodness toward us. Your saving grace, your healing light, your personal sacrifice are so far beyond our imagining! We can only offer ourselves, all we have and all we are, in response to the coming of Christ Jesus. Hosanna in the highest! Receive, O God, our humble service. Amen.

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

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

748

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person  
Accompanist

Donna Lowe  
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

-Biddleborn Trinity UCC Rev. Tarrah (Jasen) Vaupel

-Breese St. John's UCC

#### Retired Pastor

Rev. Bob (Rev. Jan) Goddard, O'Fallon IL

### UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

Mandy Bolton, March 27

Gina Willie, March 27

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE, March 17, 2024

St. John's – 9    St. Jacob – 25

### 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)

### **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 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.

### **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.

### **BEST CHOICE LABEL COLLECTION**

The ELFs organization is collecting Best Choice labels/UPC portion (proof of purchase). There is a box on the table in the Narthx to place the labels.

**\*\*\* THE UPPER ROOM** (Mar-Apr) magazines are available on the table in the Narthx at St. Jacob.

**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: Mark 11:1-11**

When Jesus and his followers approached Jerusalem, they came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives. Jesus gave two disciples a task, saying to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'Its master needs it, and he will send it back right away.'"

They went and found a colt tied to a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some people standing around said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them just what Jesus said, and they left them alone. They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes upon it, and he sat on it. Many people spread out their clothes on the road while others spread branches cut from the fields. Those in front of him and those following were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!" Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After he looked around at everything, because it was already late in the evening, he returned to Bethany with the Twelve.