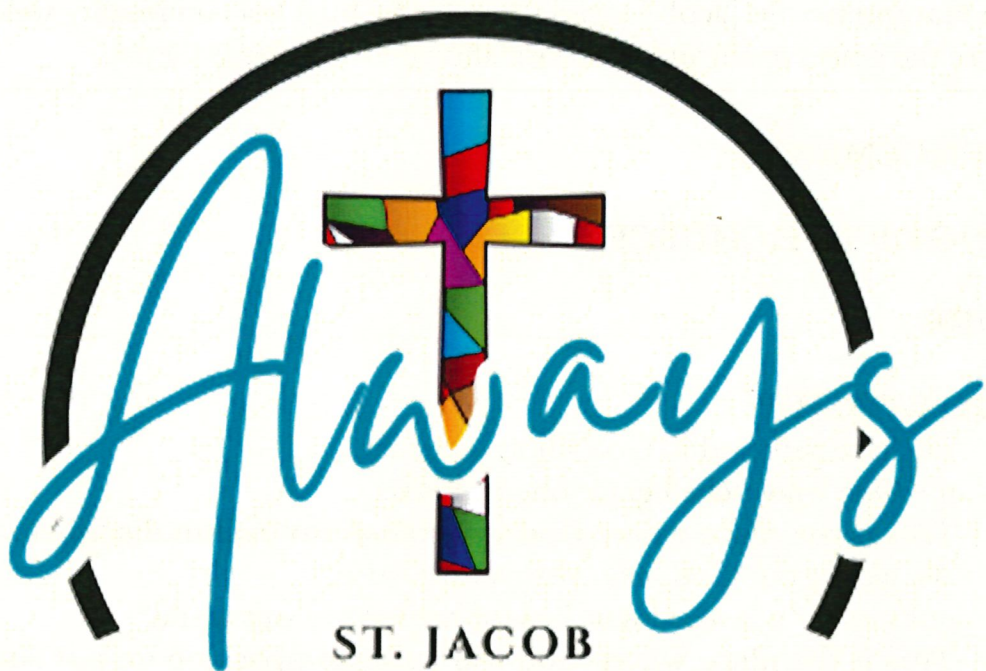




ST. JACOB
UNITED CHURCH
OF
CHRIST
WITH YOU

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OCTOBER 19, 2025

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.

Mission statement: St. Jacob United Church of Christ is a community welcoming
all to share the grace, truth, and transformational love of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We have gathered in God's holy presence,
the One who etched grace on our hearts.

ALL: This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

ONE: We glorify our God, who yearns for justice,
not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

ALL: This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

ONE: We give thanks to God for unceasing grace;
we remember God's persistence in saving us.

ALL: This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.

* HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

358

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Your words are given to us, O God, so we might be reformed, but we are instead intent on changing others. Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are instead focused on conforming to our culture. Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we instead hold our old ways tight to our chests. Forgive us, O Lord, and do not remember our sins, but continue to provide us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, following all that your son, Jesus, has taught us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

734

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US *(Skip if no children are in attendance)*

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 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

HYMN

Your Words to Me are Life and Health

INSERT

SERMON

APOSTLES’ CREED – Insert

HYMN

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

429

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)*

With thanksgiving for your presence in all our coming and going, through all our work and leisure, in our times of faithfulness and when we break covenant, we bring our offerings. May these resources help your people to know you more fully and serve you more effectively. Equip us for every good work, that your church may witness boldly and influence profoundly. Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

Make Me a Servant

576

*Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord let me lift up those who are weak;
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.*

* HYMN

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

504

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, October 12, 2025

St. John's – 11 St. Jacob – 18

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person

Audrey Yann

Liturgist

Kay Guse

Accompanist:

Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Kenzie Barker, Nancy McCaw, and Sean and Dustin,
sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Cathy Frutiger, Norma Logsdon,
Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Kathy Ritter,
David Schmidt, and Olin 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

- St. Paul UCC, Belleville - Host of our upcoming 2025 ISC Annual Meeting
- Good Shepherd of Faith UCC, East St. Louis - Pastor Norma Patterson

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Fred (Shirley) Wehrenberg

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Donna Lowe, Oct. 19
Christina Robeerts, Oct. 19
Rick Ritter, Oct. 21
Kaitlin Woods, Oct. 21
Mikayla Bloemker, Oct. 24
Charissa & John Hill, 33 years, Oct. 24

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 30: Free Flu Immunization Clinic, 3 to 6 p.m., Heritage Hall

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are to the Glory of God and in honor of our precious granddaughter Mikayla as she celebrates her 25th birthday on October 24, from Grandma Carol.

ST. JACOB UCC SUNDAY SCHOOL OCTOBER DATES

St. Jacob UCC Sunday School will be held from 9-10 a.m., Oct. 26. All children pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join the fun. To register, fill out the online form at: <https://forms.gle/eW6KTtPzSm4DkVtx5> or call 618-644-2142.

FREE FLU IMMUNIZATION CLINIC OCT. 30

St. Jacob Township annual free flu immunization clinic will be held from 3 to 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30 at Heritage Hall. The clinic is **only for residents of St. Jacob Village and Township**, and you must be 18 years or older (proof of residency is required). For more information call (618) 830-4656.

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 Narthex.

WALK WITH GOD

Come join our St. Jacob UCC walking group, called “Walk with God.” Anyone who likes to take walks, be in nature and share in unity is encouraged to join us. We hope to get members of the church together a couple times a week to walk and be visible in the community. We will meet at the church and decide from there where we would like to walk. Days and times are to be determined by the participants. If you’re interested in participating or for more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142.

ON-LINE GIVING OPTION

An on-line giving option is available on St. Jacob UCC’s web site (<https://stjacobbucc.org/>). There are two ways to access the on-line giving option: 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.” If you have any issues using the on-line giving option, contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

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: green beans, corns, carrots, mixed vegetables, stew, chili, soup, fruit, spaghetti sauce, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, potatoes (boxed/bags), Rice a Roni, macaroni and cheese, pasta, Ramen noodles, Jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, powdered sugar, brown sugar, oil, Crisco, dish soap, laundry detergent (quart bottles/sheets/pods), dryer sheets, paper towels, toilet paper, baggies (sandwich/qt./gal.) plastic wrap, toilet bowl cleaner, and cleaning solution

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

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.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 119:97-104

I love your Instruction! I think about it constantly.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies because it is always with me.

I have greater insight than all my teachers because I contemplate your laws.

I have more understanding than the elders because I guard your precepts.

I haven't set my feet on any evil path so I can make sure to keep your word.

I haven't deviated from any of your rules because you are the one who has taught me.

Your word is so pleasing to my taste buds – it's sweeter than honey in my mouth!

I'm studying your precepts – that's why I hate every false path.

SECOND LESSON: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

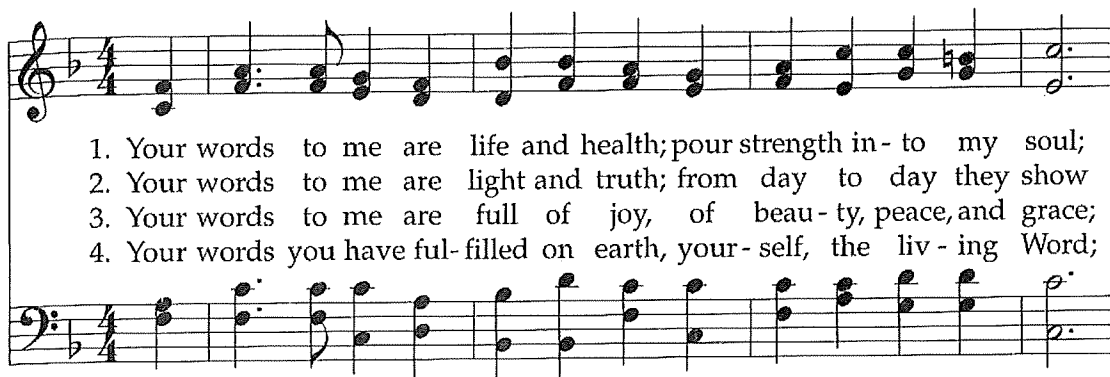
But you must continue with the things you have learned and found convincing. You know who taught you. Since childhood you have known the holy scriptures that help you to be wise in a way that leads to salvation through faith that is in Christ Jesus. Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

I'm giving you this commission in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is coming to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearance and his kingdom. Preach the word. Be ready to do it whether it is convenient or inconvenient. Correct, confront, and encourage with patience and instruction. There will come a time when people will not tolerate sound teaching. They will collect teachers who say what they want to hear because they are self-centered. They will turn their back on the truth and turn to myths. But you must keep control of yourself in all circumstances. Endure suffering, do the work of a preacher of the good news, and carry out your service fully.

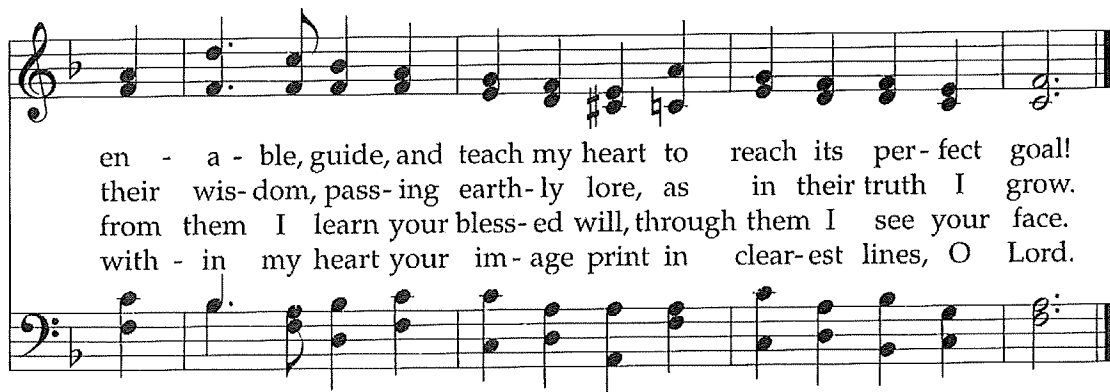
GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus was telling them a parable about their need to pray continuously and not to be discouraged. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him, asking, 'Give me justice in this case against my adversary.' For a while he refused but finally said to himself, I don't fear God or respect people, but I will give this widow justice because she keeps bothering me. Otherwise, there will be no end to her coming here and embarrassing me." The Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. Won't God provide justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he be slow to help them? I tell you, he will give them justice quickly. But when the Human One comes, will he find faithfulness on earth?"

Your Words to Me Are Life and Health 324



1. Your words to me are life and health; pour strength in - to my soul;
2. Your words to me are light and truth; from day to day they show
3. Your words to me are full of joy, of beau - ty, peace, and grace;
4. Your words you have ful - filled on earth, your - self, the liv - ing Word;



en - a - ble, guide, and teach my heart to reach its per - fect goal!
their wis - dom, pass - ing earth - ly lore, as in their truth I grow.
from them I learn your bless - ed will, through them I see your face.
with - in my heart your im - age print in clear - est lines, O Lord.

WORDS: George Currie Martin, c. 1920, alt.
MUSIC: Thomas Este's *Whole Book of Psalms*, 1592

WINCHESTER OLD
CM

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the universal Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.