



Set your sight shine ...

15/50 Edie Herrel '74©

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

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: To a society that lives in the shadowed recesses of doubt and fear,
ALL: God calls us to be light.
ONE: To a world where every appetite is fed until there is no taste to life,
ALL: God calls us to be salt.
ONE: To a time when loyalties are discarded as easily as the clothes we wear,
ALL: God calls us to be faithful.

* HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

621

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We admit, O God, how we will, in superstition, throw salt over our shoulders, but find it hard to flavor a world made bland by the ordinary. We dim our gifts to save our energy, instead of shining our light into society's shadowed corners. We might fast from a meal once a week to show our faith but are unable to see those who go through the dumpster to feed their children. Forgive us and have mercy, Holy One, and by your grace heal our brokenness so we might mend the shattered dreams of the world. 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:

Isaiah 58:1-12

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Matthew 5:13-20

HYMN

All Who Love and Serve Your City

625

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SERMON

HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

248

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INVITATION TO OFFERING**DOXOLOGY:**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Righteous God, accept our gifts of gratitude for the dawning awareness among us of your healing presence. You have satisfied our need in parched places and made our bones strong. Now we wish to offer to the world the amazing wonders we have experienced. Let our righteousness and generosity exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees. Fill us with yearning for the Spirit of Christ that we might become salt and light and be empowered for good works, to your honor and glory. Amen.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE	<i>Make Me a Servant</i>	576
<i>Make me a servant, bumble 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.</i>		

* HYMN	<i>This Little Light of Mine</i>	INSERT
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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

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This Little Light of Mine 118

J. 80

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine.
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine.
 3. Build - ing up a world, I'm gon - na let it shine.

Oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine.
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine.
 Build - ing up a world, I'm gon - na let it shine.

Oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine. Let it
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine. Let it
 Build - ing up a world, I'm gon - na let it shine. Let it

Oh

shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Oh

TREBLE STAFF

BASS STAFF

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

St. John's – 13 St. Jacob – 30

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	Cathy Frutiger
Liturgist	Don Yann
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, Rich Erwin, Lori Foley, Melody Hollis,
Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer,
Taylor Ostrander, Kathy Ritter, David Schmidt, Jane 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. John UCC, New Athens - Rev. Dr. Robert (Cathy) Koch
- Zion UCC, New Baden - Rev. Stephen (Molly) Stark

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Charles (Rev. Karla Frost) Preston

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Austin Becker, Feb. 8

DiAnn Rufer, Feb. 11

Angela & Tyson Imming, 32 years, Feb. 12

Nichole Baer, Feb. 13

Terri Barnhart, Feb. 14

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY: Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m., Heritage Hall

FEBRUARY 16: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 17: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

This year's Lenten Bible Study will be held each Wednesday, Feb. 25 – March 25 at 7 p.m., meeting in Heritage Hall.

SNOW SHOVELING

We still need volunteers at St. Jacob UCC to shovel the church sidewalks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thank you.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATION

In case of inclement weather, we have implemented the following procedure: No later than 8 a.m., Sunday morning there will be a message on the church answering machine (618-644-2142) stating whether church will be cancelled. Also, the cancellation of service will be posted on our Facebook page and Channel 5.

ST. JACOB UCC WORSHIP VIDEO STREAMING ISSUE

Due to video streaming issues, St. Jacob UCC worship service is temporarily unavailable to view on-line.

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.

*** **THE UPPER ROOM** (January-February) magazines are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

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):

February Shopping list: Canned stew, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, corn beef hash, canned soup, evaporated milk, Ramen noodles, powdered sugar, household cleaner, & body lotion

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: Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout loudly; don't hold back; raise your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their crime, to the house of Jacob their sins. They seek me day after day, desiring knowledge of my ways like a nation that acted righteously, that didn't abandon their God. They ask me for righteous judgments, wanting to be close to God. "Why do we fast and you don't see; why afflict ourselves and you don't notice?" Yet on your fast day you do whatever you want, and oppress all your workers. You quarrel and brawl, and then you fast; you hit each other violently with your fists. You shouldn't fast as you are doing today if you want to make your voice heard on high. Is this the kind of fast I choose, a day of self-affliction, of bending one's head like a reed and of lying down in mourning clothing and ashes? Is this what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Isn't this the fast I choose: releasing wicked restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke, setting free the mistreated, and breaking every yoke? Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry and bringing the homeless poor into your house, covering the naked when you see them, and not hiding from your own family? Then your light will break out like the dawn, and you will be healed quickly. Your own righteousness will walk before you, and the Lord's glory will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and God will say, "I'm here." If you remove the yoke from among you, the finger-pointing, the wicked speech; if you open your heart to the hungry, and provide abundantly for those who are afflicted, your light will shine in the darkness, and your gloom will be like the noon. The Lord will guide you continually and provide for you, even in parched places. He will rescue your bones. You will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water that won't run dry. They will rebuild ancient ruins on your account; the foundations of generations past you will restore. You will be called Mender of Broken Walls, Restorer of Livable Streets.

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SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I didn't come preaching God's secrets to you like I was an expert in speech or wisdom. I had made up my mind not to think about anything while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and to preach him as crucified. I stood in front of you with weakness, fear, and a lot of shaking. My message and my preaching weren't presented with convincing wise words but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power. I did this so that your faith might not depend on the wisdom of people but on the power of God.

What we say is wisdom to people who are mature. It isn't a wisdom that comes from the present day or from today's leaders who are being reduced to nothing. We talk about God's wisdom, which has been hidden as a secret. God determined this wisdom in advance, before time began, for our glory. It is a wisdom that none of the present-day rulers have understood, because if they did understand it, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory! But this is precisely what is written: *God has prepared things for those who love him that no eye has seen, or ear has heard, or that haven't crossed the mind of any human being.* God has revealed these things to us through the Spirit. The Spirit searches everything, including the depths of God. Who knows a person's depths except their own spirit that lives in them? In the same way, no one has known the depths of God except God's Spirit. We haven't received the world's spirit but God's Spirit so that we can know the things given to us by God. These are the things we are talking about – not with words taught by human wisdom but with words taught by the Spirit – we are interpreting spiritual things to spiritual people. But people who are unspiritual don't accept the things from God's Spirit. They are foolishness to them and can't be understood, because they can only be comprehended in a spiritual way. Spiritual people comprehend everything, but they themselves aren't understood by anyone. *Who has known the mind of the Lord, who will advise him?* But we have the mind of Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? It's good for nothing except to be thrown away and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.

"Don't even begin to think that I have come to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I haven't come to do away with them but to fulfill them. I say to you very seriously that as long as heaven and earth exist, neither the smallest letter nor even the smallest stroke of a pen will be erased from the Law until everything there becomes a reality. Therefore, whoever ignores one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the lowest in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever keeps these commands and teaches people to keep them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. I say to you that unless your righteousness is greater than the righteousness of the legal experts and the Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.