



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

AUGUST 9, 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 may be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: "The only real difference between Anxiety and Excitement was my willingness to let go of fear." ~ **Barbara Brown Taylor**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:
ALL: Here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.
ONE: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:
**ALL: Here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us,
always!**
ONE: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into
the unknown:
**ALL: Here, in the space, we will find the courage to cry out, "God,
save us!" in every situation.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

It seems so easy to get into the boat and set sail on our journey, O God. But when the winds of change begin to blow, we want to turn around and head back to the past's safe harbor. When sin's waves crash over the side, we try to wrap ourselves in the cloak of pride thinking we will not get wet. When Jesus calls for us to get out and walk in faith, we hope he is not speaking to us. Overwhelmed by our fears and doubts, we long for someone to help us – please save us, Holy God! Stretch out your hand so we might be lifted from despair to hope, from worry to trust, from foolishness to faithful living. 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:

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Romans 10:5-15

Matthew 14:22-33

HYMN

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

439

SERMON

HYMN

I Know Whom I Have Believed

407

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)*

God, we cannot deceive you with the appearance of generosity. You know how we manage the wealth entrusted to our care. Help us to know the joy of sharing from the abundance you provide. Help us to trust when we feel we do not have enough. We give thanks that you enable us to be givers, not just receivers. May what we offer here provide a helpful ministry to many. May what we offer to our families, friends, and co-laborers tomorrow also be blessed as ministry.

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

Here I Am, Lord

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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CHURCH ATTENDANCE, AUGUST 2, 2026

St. John's – 15 St. Jacob – 40

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

Carol Kynion

Liturgist

George Anderson

Accompanist:

Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Jackie Miller, Ethan Rock, Bill Tebbe,
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's UCC, Freeburg - Rev. Dr. Andrew (Brenda) Lovins
- Congregational UCC, Godfrey

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Janis (Rev. Bob Goddard) Dashner

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Paul Guse, Aug. 9
Heather Weycker, Aug. 11
Carol & Steven Casperson, 51 years, Aug. 15
Steve May, Aug. 15
Ronda & Eric Schmidt, 28 years, Aug. 15

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

AUGUST 17: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

AUGUST 20: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

BBQ MEAT BONANZA DRAWING AUG. 30

The ELF's organization, in conjunction with Korte Meat Processing, Inc., are offering a chance to win one of three prizes: \$250, \$150 & \$50 toward the cost of Korte's barbeque meats in exchange for your donation. Tickets are \$3 each or four for \$10. Ticket packets have been mailed out; additional ticket packets are available on the table in the Narthex for you to sell to friends, family, or purchase yourself. The drawing will be held following worship Aug. 30, where the winners' names will be drawn. Drop your donation/tickets into the Barbeque safe located on the table in the Narthex or mail them to: 207 West Main Street, St. Jacob, IL 62281.

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 and would like more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com.

ST. JACOB SEMI-ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the St. Jacob semi-annual treasurer's report are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

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 to lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthex.

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):

August Shopping list: Peanut butter, jelly, juice, ground coffee, canned pasta, rice, mashed potatoes, pork & beans, razors & shaving cream

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

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob lived in the land of Canaan where his father was an immigrant. This is the account of Jacob's descendants. Joseph was 17 years old and tended the flock with his brothers. While he was helping the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, Joseph told their father unflattering things about them. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he was born when Jacob was old. Jacob had made for him a long robe. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him and couldn't even talk nicely to him.

Joseph's brothers went to tend their father's flocks near Shechem. Israel said to Joseph, "Aren't your brothers tending the sheep near Shechem? Come, I'll send you to them."

And he said, "I'm ready."

Jacob said to him, "Go! Find out how your brothers are and how the flock is, and report back to me."

So Jacob sent him from the Hebron Valley. When he approached Shechem, a man found him wandering in the field and asked him, "What are you looking for?"

Joseph said, "I'm looking for my brothers. Tell me, where are they tending the sheep?"

The man said, "They left here. I heard them saying, 'Let's go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

They saw Joseph in the distance before he got close to them, and they plotted to kill him. The brothers said to each other, "Here comes the big dreamer. Come on now, let's kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns, and we'll say a wild animal devoured him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!"

When Reuben heard what they said, he saved him from them, telling them, "Let's not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Don't spill his blood! Throw him into this desert cistern, but don't lay a hand on him." He intended to save Joseph from them and take him back to his father.

(Continued from inside)

When Joseph reached his brothers, they stripped off Joseph's long robe, took him, and threw him into the cistern, an empty cistern with no water in it. When they sat down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with camels carrying sweet resin, medicinal resin, and fragrant resin on their way down to Egypt. Judah said to his brothers, "What do we gain if we kill our brother and hide his blood? Come on, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites. Let's not harm him because he's our brother; he's family." His brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the cistern. They sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver, and they brought Joseph to Egypt.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes about the righteousness that comes from the Law: The person who does these things will live by them. But the righteousness that comes from faith talks like this: *Don't say in your heart, "Who will go up into heaven?"* (that is, to bring Christ down) or *"Who will go down into the region below?"* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart* (that is, the message of faith that we preach). Because if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Trusting with the heart leads to righteousness, and confessing with the mouth leads to salvation. The scripture says, *All who have faith in him won't be put to shame*. There is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives richly to all who call on him. *All who call on the Lord's name will be saved*.

So how can they call on someone they don't have faith in? And how can they have faith in someone they haven't heard of? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, *How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news*.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed.

Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water."

And Jesus said, "Come."

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!"

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, "You must be God's Son!"

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