The Lord stood by me and gave me strength



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

October 23, 2022

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.

Silent Reflection: "Abundance is not a result you create. It is an existing state you recognize. We ask for long life, but 'tis deep life, or noble moments that signify. Let the measure of time be spiritual, not mechanical."

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

ANNOUNCEMENTS RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This is God's house, a holy temple.

We are in the midst of God's dwelling place.

ALL: My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of God.

My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

ONE: Happy are those whom God has chosen to be here. Blessed are all whom God has forgiven and named.

ALL: Our voices rise in praise of God's awesome deeds.

Mountains and seas bow down before the Creator.

ONE: God crowns the year with a bountiful harvest. Flocks and grain fill the meadows.

ALL: God's presence is felt to the ends of the earth.
All creation is God's dwelling place, God's home.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

How easily we have forgotten you, O God of our salvation. We imagine that our prosperity is of our own design. We wander into paths of self-righteousness and self-congratulation. We compare ourselves with those whose sins are public knowledge and consider ourselves better than they. O God, rescue us from the evil inside us that alienates us from others and from you. We humble ourselves before you, seeking forgiveness. 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.

SCRIPTURES:

Joel 2: 23-32

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Luke 18: 9-14

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

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SERMON

HYMN Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

INSERT

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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)

You have dealt wondrously with us, gracious God. We have gathered in your temple to praise you and to join in efforts to share faith with one another and with the world. Through our offerings, we wish to extend the witness made here into our neighborhoods, and, in ever-widening circles, to the ends of the earth. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. 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

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person Donna Lowe Accompanist Melissa Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean,

Nancy McCaw, Cindy Roll, and Joe Tulgetske

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Erica Kynion, Gail Miller,

Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Jerry Schmitt, 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

- -Columbia St. Paul UCC, Rev. Dr. Sheldon Culver, Interim Pastor
- -New Baden Zion UCC, Rev. Stephen (Molly) Stark

Retired Pastors

Pastor Tom and Marcia Ellison, Benton, IL

Rev. Dr Don and Nancy Wagner, Marissa, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry Schmitt, Oct. 23

John & Charissa Hill, 30 years, Oct. 24

Troy Gansmann, Oct. 26

Denise & Paul Baer, 50 years, Oct. 27

Kathy Ritter, Oct. 27

Thomas McCaw, Oct. 28

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, October 16, 2022

St. John's -9

St. Jacob - 34

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

Website: stjacobucc.org

Pastor Phil Barbier: Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: pastor@hometel.com

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.

Requested items for St. John's (Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries Food Pantry): Canned stew, canned meat (tuna & chicken), canned chili, Manwich

(sloppy joe), Hamburger Helper, pie crust mix, evaporated milk, juice, beans (pork & beans or kidney), sugar (small), Zip-lock bags, & feminine hygiene products

Requested items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Baked beans, Hamburger Helper, peas, canned potatoes, instant potato pouches, jelly, rice — bags, Ramen noodles, pasta sauce, Manwich, toilet paper, paper towels & deodorant



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are to the glory of God and in honor of our precious granddaughter, Mikayla Bloemker on the celebration of her 22nd birthday, Oct. 24, from Grandpa Charlie and Grandma Carol Kynion.

HOYLETON HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS DRIVE

St. Jacob: This year we are providing gifts for children in the residential care and foster care through Hoyleton. On the table in the Narthx you will find a basket with slips. Each slip lists one gift and has a number in red. There is a sheet next to the basket with the same number on it. Please put your name next to the slip you take. Most of the slips are for children in foster care. Each of them asks for one gift. For 2 of the children in residential care at Hoyleton there are multiple gift requests, because they don't have foster families, they are living with who often help with Christmas, they are able to ask for 7 gifts each. So please keep that in mind as you select slips. Gifts are due back to church by Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent, and we will get them to Hoyleton that week. Please include the child's name and slip number on the gift tag.

St. John's: This year, Ryan again is coordinating the purchase of gifts for the children in residential care and foster care through Hoyleton. Please place your donation in the envelope on the bulletin board.

FREE FLU IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

St. Jacob Township annual free flu immunization clinic will be held from 3 to 6 p.m., Thursday at Heritage Hall. The event is sponsored by St. Jacob Township and is free for residents of St. Jacob Village and Township only. Proof of residency is required, and you must be 18 years or older to get the immunization.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are still 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 for anyone interested located on the table in the Narthx.

PROPER 25 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST LESSON. Joel 2:23-32

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

SECOND LESSON. 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL. Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

