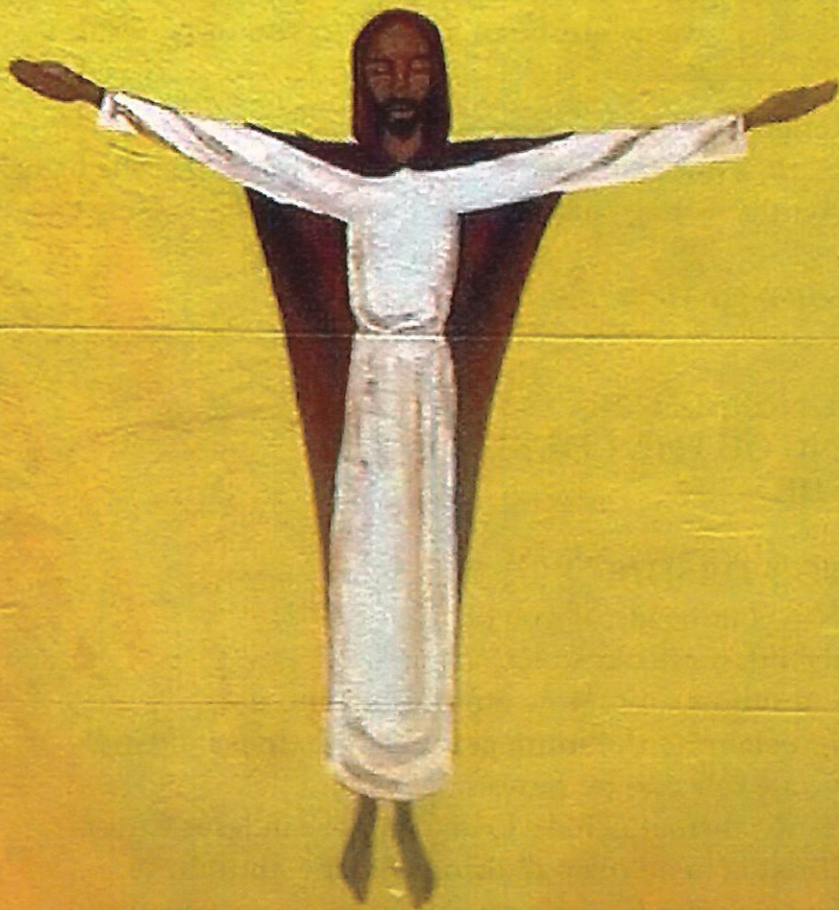


He withdrew from them



and was carried into heaven.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 29, 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:

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them.” ~ John F. Kennedy

Have a Blessed Memorial Day!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Clap your hands, all you people of God.

Sing praises to our Ruler, sing praises!

ALL: God reigns among us and far beyond us.

We celebrate the immeasurable greatness of God!

ONE: We are called to be witnessing people.

Testify, them, to God's loving purpose in Jesus Christ.

ALL: Christ is head over all things for the church.

We celebrate Christ's resurrection and ascension.

ONE: Worship with eager anticipation of empowerment.

Give thanks for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: This is a day for revelation and renewal.

We await the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O God, you are judge over all things. That strikes terror within us when we realize how poorly our church has lived as the body of Christ in the world. We have been more interested in institutional survival than in proclamation of the gospel, more attentive to numbers than to individuals, more eager to speak than to listen. What is true for all of us together is also true for most of us individually. We do not seek or accept your daily guidance. Our witness to Jesus Christ is a pale reflection of the joy expressed by the early disciples. Forgive our pretenses. 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:

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

HYMN

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

323

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SERMON

HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

560

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INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

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*)

For the life you have offered, for the vision you have granted, for the ministry of Jesus Christ that empowers our witness, we give thanks. May these offerings of gratitude extend the positive influence of Christ's church into parts of the world that have not experienced good news. By the act of giving, may our own commitment be deepened. 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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person
Accompanist

Jason Schmidt
Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Chad Cruthis, Nancy McCaw, Cindy Roll and Joe Tulgetske

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Liam Tedford, 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

- Murphysboro St. Peter's UCC
- Nashville St. Paul UCC, Rev. Beverly Kahle

Retired Pastors

- Rev.Chris and Lena Edwards, Converse, TX

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- Tonia Ahlmeyer, May 30
- Andrew Becker, May 30
- Beth Frank, May 30
- Ellise Duncan, June 1
- Mindy Schiefer, June 2

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, May 22, 2022

St. John's – 16

St. Jacob – 32

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Secretary's office hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 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

DUBOIS CENTER OFFERS SUMMER CAMPS

Dubois Center will offer a variety of residential summer camp sessions for campers ages 5-18 this summer. Camp sessions will include campfires, crafts, waterfront time and more. Many of our camp sessions have themes – if your talents and interests lie with sports, swimming, horses, science, art, or “a little of everything” – we have a session for you! For information on camp sessions, visit:

<https://duboiscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/summer-2022-schedule.pdf>

*** SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:** There are church-sponsored scholarships available for anyone interested in attending summer camp at Dubois this year. If you are interested in attending camp and would like more information on available scholarships, contact the church office by phone: 618-644-2142, or e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

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Cover:

- Mural of Christ ascending to heaven on a graffiti wall in Bristol, England.
- Ascension, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54351>.

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- With Added Text

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

The 2022 St. Jacob UCC Strawberry Festival cleared \$13,000 in profit thanks to the 100 volunteers, 15 sponsors and all of those in the community who supported the festival by purchasing raffle tickets and purchasing food at the event. The raffle brought in \$2,115, with 423 packets of tickets sold and 54 items raffled off. In addition to the great food and entertainment, there were 30 crafters at this year's event. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's festival such a success!

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL MEAT

We have 3, 10-pound bags of uncooked bratwurst and 4 boxes of uncooked pork burgers in the freezer, cost is \$40 per bag/box. If you are interested, contact a Strawberry Festival committee member, or call the office at 618-644-2142.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to help with the free school lunch program this summer. Lunches will be provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Thursdays and Fridays. Lunches will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob grade school. Volunteers will be needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. For more information, or to volunteer call Judy Bolton at 618-830-0526.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SET FOR JULY 12

St. Jacob UCC Vacation Bible School returns this year and will be held July 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All are welcome -- learning and activities for youth ages 3 (potty trained) to 11 years; and opportunities to serve for ages 12 and older. The theme is "***Making a Big Splash with Jesus.***" To register, e-mail the office at: stjucc@hometel.com by July 1.

2022 CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are planning on printing a 2022 church directory later this year, as our last one was printed in 2005. We will be scheduling appointments to have individual & family portraits taken in 15-minute increments each Tuesday and Thursday (from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) throughout June and Sundays (from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) June 5, 19 & 26. The portraits will be taken in Heritage Hall. There will be no sales pitch to purchase portraits, as they are being taken by our very own Ed Ferguson. To schedule your appointment call Ed at 618-644-2142 or stop by the church office Tuesdays or Thursdays (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

FIRST LESSON: Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.