

Refresh
my heart
in Christ



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

September 4, 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:

"Resolve never to criticize or downgrade yourself, but instead rejoice that you are
fearfully and wonderfully made." ~ **Elizabeth George**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Hear the choices God sets before us:

life and prosperity or death and adversity.

ALL: O God, you have searched us and known us.

You know our thoughts and every move we make.

ONE: Listen to the ordinances of our God;

love God and walk in the way God commands.

ALL: O God, we will listen for your words.

We will seek to walk on the paths you intend.

ONE: Happy are those who delight in God's law;

blessed are all who meditate on God's Word.

ALL: Wonderful are all your works, O God.

We are your creation; we are in your hands.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Awesome God, we confess that we have become slaves to our own narrow self-interest. We pay more attention to our possessions than to you. We try to hide from your all-seeing eye, for we are guilty of devotion to false gods. We are attracted to wicked advice and sinful pursuits that direct our steps away from you. We act without thinking or planning or consulting with you. O God, show us the way to a better life. 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:

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 *(Insert)*

Luke 14:25-33

HYMN

Colorful Creator

643

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SERMON

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)*

Loving God, there is no way we can settle accounts with you. We have no way to repay you for all we have received from your hands. Yet we want to give our best to the work you call us to do through this community of seekers. We enter, with renewed commitment and confidence, the costly venture of spreading love through your world. Amen.

HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

698

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

ONE: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger;
you who believe in me shall never thirst.

ALL: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this
table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

COMMUNION PRAYER

ONE: God be with you

ALL: And also with you

ONE: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ONE: Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the
farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made.
We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith around the
world and of every generation who have given themselves to your will, and
especially for Jesus Christ, who you sent from your own being as our Savior.
We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the
calling forth of your church for its mission in the world.
Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we
unite our prayers with the entire family of your faithful people, everywhere
and in every time:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the Highest!

ONE: Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ.

At his final meal with his disciples, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Jesus did the same with the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

ONE: Pour out your Holy Spirit on this bread and cup, and on us, your children. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

ALL: Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE WINE

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Have Thine Own Way, Lord!

486

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person

Duane Woods

Accompanist

Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Ella Boggy, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworth's son Sean, and
Cindy Roll

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz,
Jane Schmidt, Jerry Schmitt, Carol Zweck, and the family of
Wayne Frutiger

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

-Belleville Christ UCC, Pastor Jon (Lisa) Tinge

-Belleville Concordia UCC, Rev. Joan (John) Mier

Retired Pastor

Rev. Ivan and Vivian Horn, Waterloo, IL

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, August 28, 2022

St. John's – Cancelled

St. Jacob – 36

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

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Diane & Sam Frey, 40 years, Sept. 4

Paul Baer, Sept. 5

Don Koenig, Sept. 6

Dianne Doll, Sept. 7

Larry Robison, Sept. 10

DUBOIS 6.0 CAMPAIGN EXCEEDS GOAL

DuBois Center Capital Campaign has raised \$231,521, exceeding its \$225,290 goal.

These projects are completed: Oak Lodge Windows, Office windows, Oak Lodge HVAC (most of the money for that was used from previous Designated Donations), Program Director's House (Update bedrooms and living room replacement), New Rustic Fish Ridge Cabin (still needs inside bunk beds and mattresses) **Projects worked on but not complete:** Deer Run Shower House (roof replaced - still needs new shower and toilet partitions) Fence Painting (Only the Rustic barn area arena fences are completed). For more information visit: <https://iscucc.org/dubois-6-0-campaign>.

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

BBQ MEAT BONANZA WINNERS

The ELFs/Korte Meat Processing, Inc., BBQ meat bonanza drawing was held Sunday, following worship. The three lucky winners are: 1st - Laura Reilson, 2nd - Shannon Good, and 3rd - Debbie Laux. Proceeds were used to purchase a "communion table," which will get its first use today. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, or otherwise supported this fundraiser.

RALLY DAY SET FOR SEPT. 18

Mark your calendar to join St. Jacob UCC for an outdoor worship, lunch and games on Sunday, September 18th. Bring a chair and enjoy the special music and worship leadership provided by the drummers of *Sheltered Reality*.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

After discussions at the last St. Jacob Council meeting, we would like to try something different with the reading of scripture in worship. Rather than having the council member of the month serve as both the usher and liturgist, we would like to develop a list of volunteers who would be willing to read scripture -- no long-term commitment, just one Sunday at a time. Everyone from the congregation is encouraged to take part in helping lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet for anyone who would like to serve as a liturgist located on the table in the Narthx. The plan is to begin Sept. 25, the Sunday after Rally Day and continue through Nov. 20, the Sunday before Advent. If all goes well, we will continue from there.

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): Manwich (sloppy joe), canned pasta, pork & beans, saltine crackers, & jelly

FIRST LESSON. Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

SECOND LESSON. Philemon 1:1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL. Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.



Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (Second Lesson)

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

