

Δοφριμύς Thomas



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

April 27, 2025

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: "Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts
are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be." ~ **George Mueller**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God is our strength and our salvation;
let everything that breathes praise our God!

ALL: **This is the day God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

ONE: Praise God for mighty deeds and extravagant love.
Praise God for loving care and answered prayer.

ALL: **We will give thanks this day, for God is good.
The steadfast love of God endures forever.**

ONE: Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was
and who is to come.

ALL: **We are witness to the god who acts.
We are here to offer our worship and praise.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of empty tombs and emptier people, when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us and give us a voice. When we find it difficult to love one another, forgive us and give us fresh compassion. When we want to stand with the wealthy and powerful, forgive us and seat us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us and fill us with your joy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

734

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.

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 5:27-32

Psalms 150

John 20:19-31

HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* **419**

SERMON

HYMN *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* **461**

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*)

For the breath of life, for eyes to see, for insight to believe, for courage to witness, we give thanks, gracious God. The signs of your presence are everywhere. Your glory and dominion are forever and ever. May this offering witness to your grace and peace. Grant your Spirit as a transforming power among us that inspires and enables our service. Amen.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE **Hear Our Prayer, O Lord** **490**

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.*

*** HYMN** *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight* **INSERT**
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person/Liturgist Kay Guse
Accompanist: Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Gracie Emmerich, Lori Erwin, Lori Foley,
Sylvia Hoerchler, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer,
and Darik Zobrist

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

- Marine UCC
- Marion Zion UCC - Rev. John (Sara) Holst

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Carol (David) Shanks

UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

Darren Schmitt, May 1

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, April 20, 2025

St. John's – 27 St. Jacob – 64

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

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.

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): Canned goods including: green beans, corns, carrots, mixed vegetables, stew, chili, soup, fruit, spaghetti sauce, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, potatoes (boxed/bags), Rice a Roni, macaroni and cheese, pasta, Ramen noodles, Jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, powdered sugar, brown sugar, oil, Crisco, dish soap, laundry detergent (quart bottles/sheets/pods), dryer sheets, paper towels, toilet paper, baggies (sandwich/qt./gal.) plastic wrap, toilet bowl cleaner, and cleaning solution

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

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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAY 4: Pastor Phil is on vacation. Rev. Julie Kies will provide pulpit supply.

MAY 14: Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m.

MAY 18: STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, no worship at St. Jacob

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

We are preparing for our 41st anniversary Strawberry Festival and are seeking volunteer workers for preparations on Saturday, May 17th and for the event on May 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Jacob Township Park. Sign-up forms are located on the table in the Narthex. For more information contact a festival committee member or call the church office, 618-644-2142.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

Volunteers and donations are needed for the free school lunch program this summer. We're accepting monetary donations to purchase lunch supplies. Lunches will be provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lunches will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob Elementary School (outdoor classroom). Volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. For more information, or to volunteer contact Audrey Yann, 618-567-8013 or Carol Kynion, 618-401-8805

ON-LINE GIVING OPTION



An on-line giving option is available on St. Jacob UCC's web site (<https://stjacobucc.org/>). There are two ways to access the on-line giving option: the first is the "DONATE" button located on the top-right corner of the "Home Page," and the second is by clicking on "RESOURCES" and then "DONATE." If you have any issues using the on-line giving option, please contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please volunteer to mow the church lawn. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.



FIRST LESSON: Acts 5:27-32

The apostles were brought before the council where the high priest confronted them: “In no uncertain terms, we demanded that you not teach in this name. And look at you! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. And you are determined to hold us responsible for this man’s death.”

Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than humans! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead – whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God has exalted Jesus to his right side as leader and savior so that he could enable Israel to change its heart and life and to find forgiveness for sins. We are witnesses of such things, as is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

SECOND LESSON: Psalm 150

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary! Praise God in his fortress, the sky!
Praise God in his mighty acts! Praise God as suits his incredible greatness!
Praise God with the blast of the ram’s horn! Praise God with lute and lyre!
Praise God with drum and dance! Praise God with strings and pipe!
Praise God with loud cymbals! Praise God with clashing cymbals!
Let every living thing praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.