



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

APRIL 12, 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 might be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: “Doubt always coexists with faith, for in the presence of certainty who would need faith at all?” ~ Philip Yancey, *Reaching for the Invisible God*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

ONE: We have not seen the risen Christ,

ALL: But we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

ONE: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

ALL: But we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.

ONE: We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

ALL: But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We lock the doors of compassion, O God, so that we may share it only with those we believe are deserving. We harden our hearts to the cries around us, because we cannot be completely sure of who is in need. We close our eyes to the suffering around us, believing it will go away if we don't look. Forgive us, God of Easter. Fill us with all the grace we need, not because we are so special, but because we are servants called to hold out our hands to all in need, just as Jesus holds out his hands to us. 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:

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

HYMN

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

INSERT

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SERMON

HYMN

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

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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*)

We rejoice in the inheritance you have given us, O God, and delight in sharing it with others. You have given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You have touched our lives with eternity, with indescribable and glorious joy. We want others to experience what we have begun to realize in company with one another and with you. To that end, bless all the offerings of this day. 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

Thine is the Glory

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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CHURCH ATTENDANCE, APRIL 5, 2026

St. John's – 26 St. Jacob – 59

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

Kay Guse

Accompanist:

Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Melody Hollis, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Taylor Ostrander, Kathy Ritter, Ethan Rock, 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. John UCC, Trenton - Rev. Christy (Zach Bugger) Smith
- Friedens UCC, Troy - Rev. Dr. Tim (Danielle) Harrison

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Carol (David) Shanks

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Kristie Daniel, April 12
Kristen Hill, April 12
Angela Imming, April 12
Ethan Schmidt, April 13
Marlene Robison, April 14
Wally Foxworthy, April 15
Pat May, April 16
Gary Rufer, April 16
Bailey Frank, April 17

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

APRIL 20: St. Jacob Council meeting, 6 p.m.

ST. JACOB SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL MEETING

St. Jacob UCC will hold a special congressional meeting directly after worship on Sunday, April 26, to discuss and vote upon the bid for resurfacing the parking lot.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS NEEDED

We are preparing for our 42nd anniversary Strawberry Festival and are seeking volunteer workers for preparations on Saturday, May 16th and for the event on May 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Jacob Township Park. Also, we need cake/pie crust/cash donations. Volunteer sign-up/donation forms are located on the table in the Narthex. For more information contact a festival committee member or call 618-644-2142

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 call the church office at 618-644-2142.

CHICKEN & DUMPLING DINNER APRIL 19

Christ UCC (200 S. 3rd Street, Dupo, IL) Chicken & Dumpling dinner will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (or until they run out), April 19. The dinner also includes green beans, carrots, coleslaw & dessert, \$15. Dine-in and carry outs available.

LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ST. JACOB

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

FREE BOOKS AT ST. JOHN'S

There are boxes of old books in both English and German in the Fellowship Hall at St. John's, free to anyone who would like them.

***** THE UPPER ROOM** (May-June) magazines are available on the table in the Narthex at St. Jacob.

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):

April Shopping list: Canned tuna/chicken/beef, Rice-a-Roni, peas, green beans, mashed potatoes, hamburger/tuna/cheesy helper, toilet bowl cleaner, toilet paper

May Shopping list: Peanut butter, juice, jelly, crackers, canned stew, pork & beans, corn beef hash, hamburger/tuna/cheesy helper, deodorant, & body wash

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

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.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles.

"Fellow Israelites, listen to these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man whose credentials God proved to you through miracles, wonders, and signs, which God performed through him among you. You yourselves know this. In accordance with God's established plan and foreknowledge, he was betrayed. You, with the help of wicked men, had Jesus killed by nailing him to a cross. God raised him up! God freed him from death's dreadful grip, since it was impossible for death to hang on to him. David says about him,

I foresaw that the Lord was always with me; because he is at my right hand I won't be shaken.
Therefore, my heart was glad and my tongue rejoiced.

Moreover, my body will live in hope, because you won't abandon me to the grave,
nor permit your holy one to experience decay.

You have shown me the paths of life; your presence will fill me with happiness.

"Brothers and sisters, I can speak confidently about the patriarch David. He died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this very day. Because he was a prophet, he knew that God promised him with a solemn pledge to seat one of his descendants on his throne. Having seen this beforehand, David spoke about the resurrection of Christ, that he wasn't abandoned to the grave, nor did his body experience decay. This Jesus God raised up. We are all witnesses to that fact.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish – an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you. Through his faithfulness, you are guarded by God's power so that you can receive the salvation he is ready to reveal in the last time.

You now rejoice in this hope, even if it's necessary for you to be distressed for a short time by various trials. This is necessary so that your faith may be found genuine. (Your faith is more valuable than gold, which will be destroyed even though it is itself tested by fire.) Your genuine faith will result in praise, glory, and honor for you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you've never seen him, you love him. Even though you don't see him now, you trust him and so rejoice with a glorious joy that is too much for words. You are receiving the goal of your faith: your salvation.

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.

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 And when our life of faith is done, in

3

gra-cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you

6

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Guitar chords in Pew Edition do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Glory to God 817

TEXT: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.

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