

PUT ON MY YOKE,
AND LEARN FROM ME.



MY YOKE IS EASY TO BEAR,
AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT.”

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

JULY 5, 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.

WELCOME TO REV. LISA HART

We welcome Rev. Lisa Hart who is serving as our pulpit supply pastor today.
Please greet Reverend Hart following worship.
Pastor Phil will be back in the pulpit next Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Calling all citizens of heaven: exiled dreamers and disciples of love,

ALL: God is close to the outcast and faithful to all.

ONE: Calling all pilgrims of the Spirit, carried by the winds of hope,

ALL: God is everywhere at all times, compassionate to all.

ONE: Calling all travelers between worlds, who translate compassion into peace,

ALL: God makes neighbors of strangers and kin of the forgotten.

ONE: Come to worship and be renewed for this long journey.

ALL: Strangers in a strange land, we have come to worship the creator of all.

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

72

CALL TO CONFESSION

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(responsive)*

ONE: Gracious One, You call us to do justice,

ALL: and we explain that justice is complicated.

ONE: You ask us to love mercy,

ALL: and we counter that a show of strength is necessary.

ONE: You invite us to walk humbly with you,

ALL: and we struggle to recognize you in our neighbors, in the dispossessed, in the poor and hungry places of our own hearts.

ONE: We confess we have failed to summon the courage and compassion required by your call.

ALL: We have treated hospitality as an option, kinship as a choice, instead of as the center of our life together.

ONE: We have claimed your name, yet rejected your way.

ALL: Forgive us, we pray.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear this good news: God's gift is love that liberates, hope that inspires, grace that transforms. Each of us alone and all of us together are forgiven and set free.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

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:

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalms 145:8-14

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

473

SERMON**INVITATION TO GIVE****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*)

O God, you invite us to share the load. Through our giving, we see that your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Use them, with us, to your service. Multiply them, through us, for your use. Strengthen them, in us, to meet the needs of this weary world, until the day comes when every need is met. Through Christ, our Savior. Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH

One: God of this day and all days.... Gracious One,

All: in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: May we be compassionate.... Gracious One,

All: in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: May we be faithful.... Gracious One,

All: in your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.

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.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION - Insert*** HYMN**

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

715

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BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table

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GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: We rejoice to give our thanks and praise.

ONE: It is truly right and our greatest joy, to give you thanks and praise....,

LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Hosts are gluten free.

Juice in the center ring and wine in the outer rings.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the whole communion of saint's witness to this feast, and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. By this broken bread may we each be restored for the work yet to come. By this shared cup may we each be claimed for the proclamation of your Kingdom. At this shared table may we be united as children of your promise, children of your word, sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace. Amen.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, JUNE 28, 2026

St. John's – 12 St. Jacob – 33

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

Ty Gansmann

Liturgist

Kay Guse

Accompanist:

Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Ken Frutiger, Norma Logsdon,
Jackie Miller, Joanne Meyer, Taylor Ostrander, Robin Pollman,
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. Mark's UCC, DuBois

- Christ UCC, Dupo - Rev. Todd (Suzanne) Mushaney

Retired Pastors

- Retired Pastor- Rev. Louis Fluck

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Carol Prange, July 5
Nancy & Sandy Autry, 54 years, July 6
Christina & Todd Roberts, 2 years, July 6
Beth & Don Hanser, 39 years, July 10
Eric Schmidt, July 10

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY: Every Ladies Fellowship meeting, 10 a.m.

JULY 16: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

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

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

Volunteers and donations are needed for the free school lunch program. We're accepting monetary donations to purchase lunch supplies. Lunches are provided each day, however, St. Jacob UCC is only responsible for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lunches are 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 assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. For more information, Audrey Yann, 618-567-8013 or Carol Kynion, 618-401-8805.

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

The Summer Grab-N-Go Lunch Program has returned for its 4th year this summer! This program is available for school-aged children in Lebanon or Summerfield every Monday–Friday. Lunches are first-come, first-served. Starting this year, children must be present to receive lunch. Pickup Locations are the Summerfield Fire Department, Rooted Community Church, and the Lebanon High School Parking Lot.

BEST CHOICE LABEL COLLECTION

The ELF's organization is collecting Best Choice labels/UPC portion (proof of purchase). There is a box on the table in the Narthex to place the labels.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are 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 to lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthex.

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 and would like more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: stjucc@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.

Items for St. John's (For Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries):

July Shopping list: Syrup, mac & cheese, pancake mix, peas & carrots, oatmeal, granola bars, cereal, Hearty soup, laundry detergent, & gallon/quart bags

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: ZECHARIAH 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion.

Sing aloud, Daughter Jerusalem.

Look, your king will come to you.

He is righteous and victorious.

He is humble and riding on an ass,

on a colt, the offspring of a donkey.

(continued on back)

(continued from inside)

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the warhorse from Jerusalem.
The bow used in battle will be cut off;
he will speak peace to the nations.
His rule will stretch from sea to sea,
and from the river to the ends of the earth.
Moreover, by the blood of your covenant,
I will release your prisoners from the waterless pit.
Return to the stronghold, prisoners of hope.
Moreover, declare today that I will return double to you.

SECOND LESSON: PSALM 145:8-14

“The Lord is merciful and compassionate,
very patient, and full of faithful love.
The Lord is good to everyone and everything;
God’s compassion extends to all his handiwork!”
All that you have made gives thanks to you, Lord;
all your faithful ones bless you!
They speak of the glory of your kingdom;
they talk all about your power,
to inform all human beings about God’s power
and the majestic glory of God’s kingdom.
Your kingdom is a kingship that lasts forever;
your rule endures for all generations.
The Lord is trustworthy in all that he says,
faithful in all that he does.
The Lord supports all who fall down,
straightens up all who are bent low.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30

“To what will I compare this generation? It is like a child sitting in the marketplaces calling out to others, ‘We played the flute for you and you didn’t dance. We sang a funeral song and you didn’t mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ Yet the Human One^[a] came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved to be right by her works.”

At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you’ve hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have shown them to babies. Indeed, Father, this brings you happiness.

“My Father has handed all things over to me. No one knows the Son except the Father. And nobody knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I’m gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light.”