



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OCTOBER 4, 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 may be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: "Communion is not for perfect people but for hungry people."
~ Gregory Boyle

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: From north and south,
from east and west, we come:

ALL: **God's people called to the Table
where simple grace nourishes us.**

ONE: From down the street to across the region
from single households to apartment dwellers:

ALL: **God's people are called to community,
where we live and serve one another.**

ONE: From every class, every race, every status;
From little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts.

ALL: **God's people are called to witness to God's hope,
to offer peace to a shattered world.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

If we were to name all of the Gods we place before you, O Lord, we would be here a very long time. We elevate politicians into saviors, though they are as broken as we are. We lift up our wealth and possessions to such a place that they hold sway in our hearts. We are so busy with our pursuits that we do not notice how creation witnesses to your goodness and grace. Forgive us, God of Hope. Help us to let go of the worthless things we value most, so we may open our hearts and our lives to the healing and loving presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

734

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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:

Exodus 20:1-20

Acts 4:5-12

Matthew 21:33-46

HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

405

SERMON

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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)*

Ruler of all space and time, we want to be faithful stewards in your vineyard. All that we have is yours. Our lives are in your hands. Help us to use well all that we devote to the work of your church. Help us to manage well, to your honor and glory, all that we retain for ourselves. May we know heaven on earth because you hold first place in our priorities and our daily goal is to serve you. Amen.

HYMN

I Come With Joy

706

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION – Insert

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

PRAYER RESPONSE

Into My Heart

485

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.
Come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

* HYMN

Community of Christ

615

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

ONE: Like a sower, God scatters, and God will give growth.

ALL: God scatters life across the earth.

ONE: God scatters people in every land and nation.

ALL: God scatters disciples far and wide.

ONE: Like a shepherd, God gathers.

ALL: God gathers people into families of faith.

ONE: God gathers people into communities of love.

ALL: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

... ..

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: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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

ONE: Holy one, pour out your blessings on this food we have gathered for your people. May it be multiplied like the loaves and fishes at Galilee and feed and bless them and bring them closer to you.

With our ancestors in faith and with our brothers and sisters who gather at your table across every continent and island, we ask your blessing on this bread and this cup. May these gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen us to be the gathered and scattered Church in the world – many in culture and expression, yet one in Spirit, one in truth, one in faith, one in love. Gather your scattered seeds into your home of grace and peace, where all creation is renewed in you.

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

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Host are gluten free.

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of this table and the living presence of Christ among us. We thank you for the gift of growth and grace in this life-renewing feast. We thank you for the company of your great cloud of witnesses, here in this place, in every land, and throughout the generations. Take your gathered people and scatter us again into the world – renewed, invigorated, and committed – that, so nourished, we may take root and bear life-giving fruit to feed, heal, clothe, and comfort, in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

St. John's -10 St. Jacob - 27

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/Liturgist	Angela Imming
Accompanist:	Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

St. Jacob: Cheryl Byrnes, Carol Casperson, Jackie Miller, and Ethan Rock

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, Maeystown - Rev. Patrick (Kathy) Poole
- Marine UCC

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Bob (Rev. Janis Dashner) Goddard

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Judith & Mark Kelly, 18 years, Oct. 4
Stephanie & Todd Rehg, 29 years, Oct. 4
Xevera Weycker, Oct. 4
Marilyn Warren, Oct. 6
Kay & Paul Guse, 38 years, Sept. 8
Beth Hanser, Oct. 9
Abbi Imming, Oct. 10

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: DuBois Center Fall Festival, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TUESDAY: Confirmation class, 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY: Maintenance Committee meeting, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m., Heritage Hall or 7 p.m., in the office meeting space

SATURDAY: St. Jacob UCC celebrates 170th anniversary, 4:30 p.m., Heritage Hall

ST. JACOB UCC SUNDAY SCHOOL

St. Jacob UCC Sunday School will be held from 9-10 a.m., every second and fourth Sunday. All children from pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join the fun. To register contact the church office: e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com, or call 618-644-2142.

FREE FLU IMMUNIZATION CLINIC OCT. 29

St. Jacob Township annual free flu immunization clinic will be held from 3 to 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 29 at Heritage Hall. The immunization clinic is **only for residents of St. Jacob Village and Township**, and you must be 18 years or older (proof of residency is required).

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 meet at the church and decide from there where we will walk. Days and times are to be determined by the participants. To sign-up, or more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

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, contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

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):

October Shopping list: Flour, canned stew, sugar, corn beef hash, vinegar, crackers, coffee, hearty soup, shampoo, & body lotion

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

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 20:1-20

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You must have no other gods before me.

Do not make an idol for yourself – no form whatsoever – of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. Do not bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents’ sins even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Do not use the Lord your God’s name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won’t forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it – not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

(Continued from inside)

Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Do not kill.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the horn, and the mountain smoking, the people shook with fear and stood at a distance. They said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we'll listen. But don't let God speak to us, or we'll die."

Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid, because God has come only to test you and to make sure you are always in awe of God so that you don't sin."

SECOND LESSON: Acts 4:5-12

The next day the leaders, elders, and legal experts gathered in Jerusalem, along with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and others from the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and asked, "By what power or in what name did you do this?"

Then Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, answered, "Leaders of the people and elders, are we being examined today because something good was done for a sick person, a good deed that healed him? If so, then you and all the people of Israel need to know that this man stands healthy before you because of the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene – whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is the stone you builders rejected; he has become the cornerstone! Salvation can be found in no one else. Throughout the whole world, no other name has been given among humans through which we must be saved."

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a tower. Then he rented it to tenant farmers and took a trip. When it was time for harvest, he sent his servants to the tenant farmers to collect his fruit. But the tenant farmers grabbed his servants. They beat some of them, and some of them they killed. Some of them they stoned to death.

"Again he sent other servants, more than the first group. They treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

"But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come on, let's kill him and we'll have his inheritance.' They grabbed him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

"When the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?"

They said, "He will totally destroy those wicked farmers and rent the vineyard to other tenant farmers who will give him the fruit when it's ready."

Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read in the scriptures, *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone*. The Lord has done this, and it's amazing in our eyes? Therefore, I tell you that God's kingdom will be taken away from you and will be given to a people who produce its fruit. Whoever falls on this stone will be crushed. And the stone will crush the person it falls on."

Now when the chief priests and the Pharisees heard the parable, they knew Jesus was talking about them. They were trying to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, who thought he was a prophet.