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***“Servants of
Jesus Christ—
Ministering
To One Another,
To Our Community,
And To Our World.”***

Dear Friends In Christ,

May 27, 2020

We continue to **worship in hope** each week for Jesus is alive and active in our world. Life can be different in Christ, even in this different time. For the Savior brings an end to restlessness and opens us up to his peace, strength, and joy. We hope you are doing well and are healthy in this different and challenging time.

We will keep on worshipping online as we enter the month of June. The session met last week and we are talking about the details of reopening the church in conjunction with Governor Pritzker 5-phase plan. We may reach Phase 3 when June begins. But only 10 people can meet together during Phase 3. We will see what our options are for small groups to gather with masks and social distancing. **It takes until phase 4, to have 50 people gather for worship at the church.** This sounds like a broken record but please watch for details on when we can start a slow reopening process at the church. We want to reopen in a safe and healthy way, whenever that can occur. Thank you for worshipping with us online each week.

Our Youth Group is meeting online on Wednesday and Sunday evenings for check-ins and Bible Study. There will be another **Zoom online Bible Study in June.** Pastor Carrie Kapral is going to teach again, so keep looking at our E-News and Website for the details.

Vacation Bible School is going to be held later in the summer, in July. We will have a **virtual-online VBS.** Families will be able to pick up VBS kits at the church to use with online music, teaching and crafts. **On Sunday, May 31** from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Kendall Fris is organizing another drive-thru **Bags of Love Ministry** drop off in the church parking lot behind the church.

We thank you, once again, for your faithful financial support of First Pres. As we make our way through May our staff members, for whom it is feasible, are working remotely, online and daily through Zoom. Our custodians come in, at various times, to clean and work around the church as necessary. The **Office is Open** remotely for Communications, Website, E-mails, etc. as the Staff is working remotely. We continue to receive the daily mail at the church.

We've enclosed a few envelopes for you to use to mail in **offerings** during this time. You can use **online giving** through the website: www.firstpresjoliet.org Look for the "Give" menu tab. For the electronic giving option just call Tracy Norris, our church treasurer to sign up.

Join us online this Sunday for worship. We long for the time when we can worship together in person, see one another, and enjoy renewing conversation and fellowship. We continue to ask for your prayers for all things as we seek God's will, presence and grace.

May the "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Craig and Bo and the Session