



# e-News

June 25, 2020

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

815-727-9259

firstpresjoliet.org

**ESSENTIAL EXTRAORDINARY  
FAITH and GRACE**

## Summer Sermon Series "Essential Faith, Extraordinary Grace"

The book of Ephesians, written to a group of churches, expresses the width and breadth and length of God's love and grace. It describes the importance of the Church and why the Body of Christ exists and how it services and does ministry in the world. Paul indicates how the Church crosses racial boundaries and social classes for all are one in Christ Jesus. There's even more to this wonderful book and letter of the Apostle Paul. Join us in this Summer Study and Sermon Series.

### Sunday, June 28- "Extraordinary Grace"

Ephesians 2:1-10

### Sunday, July 5- "Walls Down, Reconciliation Up"

Ephesians 2:11-22

This Sunday I am preaching on "Extraordinary Grace" from Ephesians 2:1-10 and Jeremiah 31:3, 31-34. We read in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast." We are given the gift of God's amazing grace in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. Through Jeremiah we find God saying to his people, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness."

Come and worship this Sunday and consider how great and wonderful is the grace and everlasting love of God.

We have **one worship service online** with both traditional and contemporary songs in the service. Look for it online, on YouTube (firstpresjoliet), facebook, our website, or check the email sent each Saturday afternoon.

And this is even better. If you have a Smart TV, or Chromecast you can watch it on your TV.

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

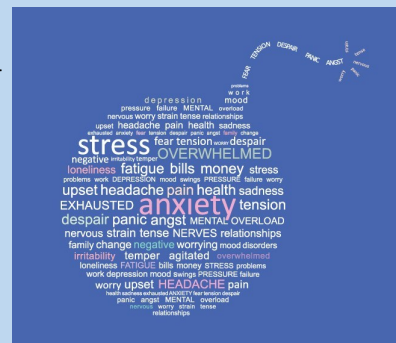
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Tonight, we're going to look at 2 Peter 3:9 and talk about the Grace that God gives us. He does not want anyone to perish, instead He wants us all to be His beloved. Mid-week Bible study will start at 6 on Zoom. Sandy will be teaching this week! Invites will go out around 5:30. If you don't get an invitation, but want one--email Karissa!

[karissa.fleming@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:karissa.fleming@firstpresjoliet.org)

Anxiety is something we all struggle with at point or another. Maybe it's anxiety over a test, a friendship, a family fight... No matter what, in this life, we will feel the horrible pang of anxiety. This Sunday, at 6pm, our college helper Abby will go over



her anxiety experience, we'll talk about ways that God can help us through it, and somewhere in the night enjoy a nice game to make sure we laugh (laughter is the best medicine after all!). It'll be a great night. Be sure to join us!

## June 21, 2020

### Stewardship Report

<b>2020-2021 Budget</b>	\$734,307
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$177,987
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$131,079
Received for bathroom renovation—	\$11,650

You may text your gift to FPJ at (815)205-3044 or go online to use a credit card

Just go to our Website and click on "Giving. Please continue to **remember the church in your giving** as we continue to further the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. in new and different ways these days. You can give by mail, by online giving through our website using the "Give" tab, and through electronic giving.

**Thank you** for your generosity.

**This Sunday, June 28, We Reopen for Live Worship at both 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** I am looking forward to seeing those who will come to worship live together once again. Please know that **we will not have either the Nursery or Pre-school areas open on Sunday for the foreseeable future.** You will need to watch for those details when Ed Council determines it is safe to reopen those areas of ministry.

**On Sunday, July 5 we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.** We will celebrate communion in worship together for both of our Live Worship Services at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We will also celebrate communion in our Online Video Worship Service.

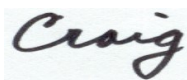
**We will be in the third week** of our New Summer Sermon Series on the Book of Ephesians in worship, called "Essential Faith, Extraordinary Grace." I encourage you to read through the first two chapters of Ephesians as you prepare for worship.

**We will be continuing our Online Video Worship Service each week.** We know that it will be a while before everyone can return to church and some won't be able to attend.

**For Pastoral Care** please call the office to leave a message to talk with a pastor or call us on our cell phones. We are available and can access our messages from home.

**Guidelines for Coming to Church for Live Worship:** You received a mailing that describes all the things that we will be doing to safely open for live worship this Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Here are a couple of things to remember for both services, 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. You must **wear a mask** and you must **make reservations** by e-mailing or calling the office. We need to know which service you are attending and how many are coming. Both services will be the same as we can only have between 50-70 people in the Sanctuary/Worship Center. Our services will be similar to our online Video Worship services.

**I invite you to continue to pray for our Church** as we open for live worship. Please remember our communities, nation, and world in your prayers in these turbulent days and time.



### Please Update Your Membership Information

It's time to update your record for our annual Directory which will be published later this summer. Have you changed your phone number or cancelled your landline? Have you moved? Are all your children still living at home? Please email [office@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:office@firstpresjoliet.org) with any corrections to your information, or call the office at 815-727-9259. Thank you!

### **Sunday, June 21, "Pandemic, Protest, and Prayer"** **Ephesians 1:15-20**

2020 has been unique and difficult but we can see these troubles reflected in Scripture. Sometimes when we read those ancient words, it almost, *almost*, seems as if we are looking in a mirror. God's Word, after all, is timeless. For example Paul's words in his letter to the Ephesians (2:15-20). Paul reminds us of who we are as individuals in Christ, and as a family of believers. As such, we are called to prayer. Even now. Even when it feels like nothing will ever be "normal" again. Even when our hearts ache because we want to know what to do and how to help. When we read Paul's words we see a man giving thanks to God. He doesn't give thanks for a house, for friends, for family, or for anything tangible; although when we have those things we should be thankful. Who we see is a man giving thanks for faith in Jesus, for love toward fellow Christians, for a spirit of wisdom. Paul prays for unseen, eternal things and for invisible, essential things.

All of our virtual Worship Services are available on our YouTube page and website.

### **ZOOM BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Carrie Kapral is holding another Bible Study! This will be at 6:30 on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month start 6/18. The study is based on the Book of Nehemiah called "Renovate - Building a Life With God." You can grab a copy of the participant's guide on Amazon and maybe Cokesbury as well.

To join email Carrie at [ckapral@gmail.com](mailto:ckapral@gmail.com).

### **SAVE THE DATE**

JULY 15th AT 5:30WE WILL BE HOSTING A FELLOWSHIP TAILGATE AT FIRST PRES !

### **Are you attending our first in-person worship service this Sunday?**

Make sure to review the rules and guidelines beforehand. Also be aware that there will be no childcare and the nursery will be closed. Children's worship bulletins will be provided.

### **Zoom Time with Pastors on Wednesday mornings.**

Each Wednesday Bo and Craig are on Zoom to have a time of fellowship and conversation with whomever signs on and wants to say hello. So use the Zoom link that will remain the same each week and say hello on Wednesday mornings. **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393339501?pwd=NGtvU2ZWK0ZkYVNDb2VoUXpqdm5iZz09>