



SERMON PREVIEW RADICAL HOSPITALITY

**“Potatoes”
Matthew 25:35-40**

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”
(Matthew 25:35)

This verse cuts right to it - radical hospitality. Helping people in need. There are many other verses in scripture that highlight this as well. Radical hospitality is kind of like salvation, in that it is so simple to understand, and yet so hard to grasp at the same time. The two greatest commandments are love God and love neighbor. A big part of loving God is helping those who need help. Here. There. Without question. Helping where and when we can. It isn't always as instinctive as we would like to think it is. We can't help everyone, and sometimes we find we are the ones in need of help.

Radical hospitality. Radical salvation. Radical love. This Sunday, we are going to talk about what it means to offer food or a cup of cold water in our present day.

I love being with all of you in worship - whether it be online or in person. We are blessed to be able to dig into scripture together, to ask questions, to grow in faith as regular ordinary people who aren't perfect, who don't have all the answers, but who want to know Jesus more and better.

Peace be with you!
Pastor Carrie

We have **1 worship service** with traditional and contemporary songs in the service. Look for it online, (YouTube (firstpresjoliet), facebook, our website).

There is one service at 9 a.m. Sunday morning. With Fellowship Coffee hour after service in Hoffman Hall.

e-News

August 25, 2021

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
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OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Nicole Wheeler married Karl Reiser at the Paine Museum in Oshkosh Wisconsin Saturday 8/14, 2021.

Please continue praying for our search committees as they continue their hard work for First Pres.

SAFETY REMINDER:

Session is once again asking everyone to **wear a mask** when they are visiting First Pres. This includes live worship on Sunday morning, and all small groups that meet in the building.

Notice will be sent of any further safety regulation changes at First Pres.

THIS WEEK'S BLOG, GENESIS—8/26-9/1

8/26 Ch.27:34-46—Esau's Unavailing Remorse

8/27 Ch.28:1-22—Jacob at Bethel

8/30 Ch.29:1-35—Jacob Marries Leah & Rachel

8/31 Ch.30:1-24—Jacob's Family Grows

9/1 Ch.30:25-43—God Multiplies Jacob's Cattle

CHURCH PICNIC IS CANCELLED

The picnic scheduled for August 29th, this Sunday, is cancelled.

BUT check out the information about our Night at the Ballpark!

THE PASTOR'S CORNER
Carrie Kapral, Comm. Lay Pastor

Hi, friends!

How are y'all holding up during these last days of summer? How is your time with God this season? I do my best to walk my dog every morning, and most of the time, this is when I am guaranteed prayer time. Today, though, as I write this, I find my mind flitting here, there and everywhere. I think today as I walk Mayhem, if my mind is flitting, I may just focus on God, remembering who he is and who I am in Christ. Maybe I will focus on Psalm 46:10: He says,

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Be still, and know. Four of the most calming words in scripture, at least to me.

This Sunday - we will celebrate Bev's music ministry as she moves on to the next season in her life. She will still worship with us, but in the pews and not at the organ. Please be sure to thank her for using her God given talent to lead us in worship all these years!

Back to Church Sunday on September 12. Pastor Bo, the worship council and I are excited as we make plans. Back to Church Sunday is kind of like New Year's Day. A time to refocus and reconnect.

A gentle reminder - we are masking whenever we are in the church building, whether it be for worship or another activity. Church staff is closely monitoring the positivity rate in our area and we will keep you updated as to any changes that are made.

You are all in my prayers (whether I pray on my morning walk or another time!) and I look forward to seeing you soon. Please feel free to call, text or email me if you have any questions or prayer concerns.

Peace be with you.

Pastor Carrie

TAILGATE DINNERS CONTINUE!

The next Tailgate Dinner is 9/1!
Don't miss this chance for a fun night
of fellowship!

ATTENDANCE NOTICE:

Do you join us for live worship on Sunday mornings?

If so, **PLEASE MAKE SURE TO STOP WITH ONE OF THE GREETERS AND EITHER HAVE YOUR NAME CHECKED OFF OUR LIST, OR WRITTEN IN.**

It is important for us to know how many people are joining us and who. This is just a little different from the pew pad system we typically use, but the same information we ask for.

If you'd like to share current contact information with us please contact the office during office hours.

NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!

September 3rd

Gates open @ 6:05 Game starts @ 7:05

Join us for a Slammers Home Game
followed by a firework show!

\$5 to reserve a ticket, but you get \$5 in
Slammers Loot to spend at the stadium, so
FREE TICKET!

Get your tickets Sunday morning at the
Parish Council table or call the office.
More information (including office hours)
available on our website!

Reserve yours now!

SAVE THE DATE

Back to Church Sunday!

First Pres will be welcoming everyone back
on **September 12th!** If you haven't come
back to worship with us live this is a great
chance to do so!