



**THE SUMMER OF ROCK-AMAZING BIBLE
STORIES INVOLVING ROCKS**

August 27, 2023



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Montrose, CO

*We are people called together by Christ to celebrate God in worship,
grow together through discipleship and bring others to Christ.*

August 27, 2023

9:30 a.m.

THE SUMMER OF ROCK-AMAZING BIBLE STORIES INVOLVING ROCKS

Joshua 4

Whoever you are and wherever your life's journey has taken you, you are welcomed here. We hope that you will find FPC to be a people of warmth, acceptance, and commitment to the calling of Jesus Christ. We are honored to have you worship with us.

MEDITATION

The story of how Israel crossed the Jordan in Joshua is more important than simply a record of the route they took to enter the Promised Land. We have an entire chapter here drawing our attention to the fact that Yahweh commanded Israel to build a monument to the event on the far side of the banks of the Jordan. These stones were more than a mere historical marker—and especially, this wasn't supposed to become a tourist trap with historical reenactments, guided tours, and cheap souvenirs. Instead, Joshua explains that these stones would serve as a sign among Israel. [These stones served as] symbols that point to Yahweh, his covenant, his law, and his love for his people.

~ *Jacob D. Gerber*

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP

THE SOUND OF A BELL, A MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Be still and know that I am God." - *Psalm 46:10*

*Rise if you are able.

Childcare is available during the service for ages 0 - 5 yrs..

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP*

(from Psalms 46 & 121)

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Leader: I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the LORD who made heaven and earth.

Leader: The LORD God will not let your foot be moved. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

All: The LORD will keep me from all evil. The LORD will keep my life. Blessed be the name of the LORD.

SONGS OF WORSHIP*

How Great Is Our God

Build My Life

(Please be seated)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(In Unison – Beth Merrill Neel)

Holy God, hear our prayer: For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness; For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us; For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist; For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us. We pray for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, and the hope that your grace awaits us. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal prayer and confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

Please consider tithing during this part of the service.

*Rise if you are able.

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SERMON TEXT

Joshua 4

MESSAGE

The Rocks of Remembrance - Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

SONG OF SENDING*

Shout To The North

LIFE IN THE BODY

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

Please stay and enjoy coffee and snacks with us in the fellowship hall.

LIFE IN THE BODY

- The East Parking Lot project is progressing day by day. We are getting closer to paving time, so please continue to park and enter on the west side of the building. Thank you for understanding.
- **Mark your calendars!** Come **Sunday, Sep. 17**, to an outside *Fall Kick-off & BBQ* rebooting the church potlucks, adult education classes, and more.
- The Sonshine Patch is having their Back to School Night soon. Anyone interested in providing homemade or store-bought cookies for this event can drop them off in the BOB kitchen (the refrigerator is available) by Thursday, Aug. 31. They would also greatly welcome any donations to the Scholarship Program, which helps offer low-income and struggling families an option for preschool.
- The SSP Board and staff would like to invite you to their Prayer Day today, at 1:00 p.m. in the B.O.B., when they will pray over the coming school year as well as lift up all of their praises and requests, in honor, to our Heavenly Father.
- If you want to learn more about our church, you can visit our website at <https://fpcmontrose.com>.

*Rise if you are able.

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