



Trail Guide – June 29, 2020:

Ordinary Time

This week we celebrate our nation's independence from Great Britain. It is amazing to see how far our nation has come, from 13 British colonies then, to a world superpower today. Looking back, our history shows our nation at it's best – and worst. But in 1776, who would have dreamed we would be the nation we are today?

God has a dream for all of creation, for all people, for all the world – to be one with God, in Christ through the cross. Did the believers in Paul's day understand what he was talking about in Ephesians? Did they have a clue? Could they envision all that God had for them, desired for them, offered them? Probably not. Today, we face the struggle for racial reconciliation. I believe this, too, is part of God's cosmic plan of reconciliation. Most of us cannot begin to glimpse what that will look like one day in the future, but God knows. Our part is to realize that God is working – through the good and the bad.

Mon, 6/29 – [Ephesians 3:1-6](#) – What is the message that Paul is sharing?

Tues, 6/30 – [Ephesians 3:7](#) – What is the gift of God's grace in and for you?

Wed, 7/1 – [Ephesians 3:8-9](#) – In what ways are we to make known the news of what God offers us and all in Christ?

Thur, 7/2 – [Ephesians 3:10](#) – What is the role of the Church in God's plan? What does this mean for you, a member of God's Church

Fri, 7/3 – [Ephesians 3:11-13](#) – Imagine having access at any time to the President; or to the Queen of England; or any other earthly sovereign. Now, picture the reality of having 24/7 access to the ruler and creator of the universe.

Sat, 7/4 – [Ephesians 3:14-21](#) – Stop and read through these verses several time. Imagine Paul is praying this for you, for me, and for all in our church. Imagine what God wants for your life, for our lives, for the church, for our world. Now, re-read verse 20. May we not only trust, but also pray fervently, for God to do far more than we can ask or think when it comes to the struggle to end racism.

Pray for God to “breakthrough” in our worship and in our lives, to bring new life, new hope, new opportunities to witness, welcome, grow and serve!