



Newsletter Sunday, July 19, 2020

Dear Friends of Emmanuel,

As you may know we have been working to develop an online liturgy that is inspiring and practical given our limitations. We have an unusual offering in a Dialogue Sermon. A dialogue is an opportunity for us to share our understanding of how God speaks to us through scripture. It is also an opportunity for us to explore our theological understandings together. You are invited to join us. To find the lectionary readings for each Sunday go to: The Lectionary Page.net

This week we are reading from Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139 and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. In the Hebrew scripture Jacob dreams that he meets God on a ladder going to heaven. When Jacob wakes, he says, "Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it!" When you read this particular phrase, I feel we all could say this. Surely God is with us, especially when we do not realize it.

Psalm 139 is a profound affirmation of our lives reiterating that God is surely with us. It begins, "Lord, you have searched me out and known me, you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar." Do we recognize ourselves in God's eyes? The Psalm concludes, "Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting."

In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus explains what is meant by the enemy that sows weeds in the garden, that he/she will be destroyed. Just as we live in a world filled with strife and struggle, we also live in a world full of God, full of goodness.

This week three prisoners were executed by our government. It challenges our ethics. It ought to ignite our search for truth. Are these executed persons the enemy? Would God forgive even these persons? It seems a contradiction. Join us on Saturday to think, pray and talk about our various theological perspectives. Or send your questions and comments to us to include in our discussion. Note the Zoom access link or the YouTube link noted in the right column of this newsletter.

God Bless you,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano

Join LIVE ONLY via Zoom for our service this Saturday, July 18 at 3:00 pm:

Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99464406297?pwd=dXdWT2c4aXcvQnkzUGo1aDdpVTdVQT09>

Meeting ID: 994 6440 6297

Password: 149774

After 5:00 pm on Saturdays, view the TAPED service anytime via our YouTube site:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jIdhA

Have a comment on our service/sermon dialog? We welcome your feedback on our YouTube page. Have a question for next week?

Email us at

info@emmanuelwr.org



BSafe Donations – Success!

(photos by Gail Halpin-Evans)

Our B-Safe donation initiative was a tremendous success! The photo above is the back of Jimmie Evans' truck with all the Emmanuel donations. Items were dropped off at Church of the Holy Spirit in Mattapan for distribution.

(more ...)

The photos below were taken before the items were sorted and bagged. Donations for BSafe included groceries, diapers, toothpaste, toothbrushes, laundry detergent, puzzles, and books.

Drop off occurred on Wednesday July 15 at Church of the Holy Spirit Mattapan and distributed from 2:00-4:00 pm that afternoon to needy families.



Thank you to all who contributed to the effort: Terri, Anne, Susan & Bob, Mark, Joyce, Helen, Andy, Ed B. & Louise, Ken & Lesley, John, Ed F. & Frank and, of course, our expert our organizers and facilitators, Gail and Jimmie.