



**Emmanuel Newsletter**  
**Sunday October 25, 2020**

Dear Friends,

The two readings, Old Testament Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and the Gospel of Matthew 22:34-46 provide a guide to holiness.

Most of us are very familiar with the two great commandments from Jesus, to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself. These two commandments are the bedrock of Christianity. As Christians, however, we don't have the corner on the market for loving God and neighbor. If we had been born into a practicing Jewish household, we would know and say the Shema prayer every day. Devout Jews know the prayer by heart: "Hear, O Israel that the Lord is our God...and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Although the words are the same, "love your neighbor," for Jesus their meaning is very different. In Leviticus neighbor meant *the sons of your own people*. When Jesus uses the word, the listeners know (from the sermon on the mount and the parable of the Good Samaritan) that neighbors are everyone, even our enemies.

Jesus continues his challenge to the Pharisees next by asking them, "what do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" Their answer, the son of David, reveals that they do not understand that the Messiah is the son of God.

Love is the means to atonement and forgiveness. It is the means whereby the community of the faithful becomes restored to wholeness and reconciled to God. Something we all need to experience every day, today and tomorrow.

I look forward to our **Dialogue Sermon on Saturday, October 24 at 5:00 pm**. God Bless you,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano



**Live Zoom Service this week**  
**at 5:00 pm Saturday,**  
**October 24, 2020.**

Zoom Service Link:

Join Zoom Meeting Join  
 Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/94911346361?pwd=ZHRZdHZ0b3dkSkdnZG0xWEQxb0tOQT09>

Meeting ID: 949 1134 6361  
 Passcode: 433187

Virtual Coffee Hour follows our live Zoom Service. (It is not recorded.)

**After 7:00 pm on Saturday,**  
**view the TAPED service**  
**anytime via our YouTube site:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB\\_XbZ8h9jldhA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jldhA)

Have a comment? Email us at: [info@emmanuelwr.org](mailto:info@emmanuelwr.org)

**UPDATE ON FOOD**  
**PANTRY DRIVE**



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We have already received a few donations towards our mission of raising \$500 for Rose's Bounty Food Pantry.

If you can, please contribute by sending a check, in any amount, made-out to Emmanuel Church and indicate that it is for the food pantry. Mail your check to the church at 21 Stratford Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132. Or just leave it in the church mailbox.

Thank you for your donations and, of course,



**Thank You, LORD!**