



Emmanuel Newsletter
Sunday, December 13, 2020

Dear Friends,

We are closing in on the last days before Christmas. And at the same time, we are closing in on the final months before a COVID vaccine will be available. Our lives are about to change once again from demands to stay home, to cover our faces and not travel – to What? What will the new social environment look like? What will our church look like? How will we be different?

On the Third Sunday of Advent, we hear again about John the Baptist. The Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” John was acting as a catalyst to change. He preached vehemently that repentance or change was required of everyone in order to receive the Messiah. His message was impassioned. And yet when asked by the religious authorities of the day – are you the Messiah? Elijah? A prophet? His response was to say with all humility that he was none of those but pointed to the One who would come after him with power and great glory – Jesus, the Messiah.

Who are WE? As we prepare for the coming of the Messiah? What will we be in the new reality post-pandemic? Will we change who we are and become more loving, more caring, more aware of the needs of others? In the new social environment God provides us the opportunity to think and act in new ways. Advent in 2020 is unique. It requires us to re-imagine ourselves and our community, at Christmas and in the years to come. This Advent we are challenged to be the icon - the engine of God’s imagination in the world in which we live.

Join us on December 12th on Zoom at 5:00 pm. Let us think and pray and talk together about who we are.

Peace and Hope,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano, PhD
Priest in Residence, Emmanuel, West Roxbury

PS. THIS WEEK I WILL CONSECRATE HOSTS TO BE DISTRIBUTED SAFELY ON SUNDAY DEC. 20 FROM 12 Noon – 1:00 pm OUTSIDE EMMANUEL CHURCH. If you would like to order a host(s), please email us at info@emmanuelwr.org with the number of hosts you would like. (RSVP IS REQUIRED by DECEMBER 19th to ensure our supply)



NOTE: LIVE ZOOM SERVICE IS AT 5:00 PM this Saturday, December 12, 2020.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98679532780?pwd=eU5kdzNzT3NVR2dzTzhnNmYrbUM5dz09>

Meeting ID: 986 7953 2780

Passcode: 162421

After 7:00 pm on Saturday, view the TAPED service anytime via our YouTube site:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jldhA

Have a comment? Email us at: info@emmanuelwr.org



We have surpassed our goal of \$500 for Rose's Bounty Food Pantry!!!

We have surpassed our goal! Thank you, parishioners, and friends of Emmanuel Church for your generosity. We will let you know what the final tally is, as we continue to collect donations.

Again, a huge thank you, to those who have given so far.



Hymns for the Saturday, December 5, Virtual Coffee Hour

We sing informally during our Virtual Coffee Hour following our live Saturday Zoom service. It is not recorded. Hymns for Saturday, December 5 coffee hour:

65 - Prepare the way, O Zion vs. 1-3

56 - O Come, o come Emmanuel - vs. 1,2,4

75 - There's a voice in the wilderness crying.1-3

This week's cartoon from Rev. Joyce:

The official flag of 2020!

