



**Emmanuel Newsletter**  
**Sunday, December 20, 2020**

Dear Friends,

As we end the season of Advent and the darkest day of the year (Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>), we also celebrate the gift of new life through the eyes of Mary and Elizabeth. In the Gospel for today, the angel Gabriel appears to Mary and tells her that she is about to have a child. She is betrothed to Joseph but not yet married. This is perplexing. Then Gabriel tells Mary that her relative Elizabeth is also with child. Neither Mary, nor Elizabeth believed it possible to bear a child. Elizabeth was an old woman and considered barren. And Joseph is left with his own dilemma. What do I do with Mary, my betrothed, who is with child and we are not yet married? This news is disturbing to all three of them. And yet there is a quality of excitement.

As Christians, we become witnesses to the impossible being made possible. Gabriel brings shocking news to Mary. And Mary responded, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." This week we will read the beautiful "Song of Mary" known as the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).

The Gospel this week makes us witnesses and invites us to become participants in the making of God's kingdom on earth. We learn that sometimes we can't even imagine what God has in store for us. And we also learn that submission to God, the higher power, brings new and unimaginable futures.

We are invited to give ourselves to God and recognize that the increase of light will not only brighten our days but also the light of God in the world God has created.

Blessings,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano, PhD

**PS. See you at 5:00 on Zoom, Saturday, December 19. And don't forget to pick up your consecrated hosts at the church between 12 and 1.** If you would like to order a host(s), please email us at [info@emmanuelwr.org](mailto:info@emmanuelwr.org) with the number of hosts you would like. (RSVP IS REQUIRED by DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> to ensure our supply).



**NOTE: LIVE ZOOM SERVICE IS AT 5:00 PM this Saturday, December 19, 2020.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95604034602?pwd=UCswZC82UkRNSFIkS2Y5Uis2MURWQT09>

Meeting ID: 956 0403 4602

Passcode: 535139

**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)

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**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.

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**Singing on Saturday, December 19, Virtual Coffee Hour**

We sing informally during our Virtual Coffee Hour following our live Saturday Zoom service. It is not recorded. We invite you to stick around for the fun after the service.

**Our Ad in the local West Roxbury Bulletin**

**(You will be sent, via parish email newsletter, the Zoom link for our service on Christmas Eve)**

*Wishing all a Blessed Christmas*  
Worship safely with us—online! All are welcome!

Join us at our **online only service** for Christmas Eve  
Thursday, December 24 at 5:00 pm.

To receive **online access** and  
service information, email us  
at [info@emmanuelwr.org](mailto:info@emmanuelwr.org)

 **EMMANUEL**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
West Roxbury, Massachusetts

**Terri's Homemade Advent Wreath**



**An Image from Rev. Joyce**

