



Emmanuel Newsletter
Sunday, March 21, 2021

Dear Friends of Emmanuel,

I began preparing for the Fifth Sunday in Lent by reading the appointed Collect. I stopped right there. These words jumped out at me, "Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that... our hearts may surely be fixed where true joys are to be found." Paraphrased: God grant us grace to love what you command, that our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found.

In the lessons we will read, Jeremiah proclaims that the Lord will make a new covenant: I will be your God and you will be my people. John's gospel reiterates the message when he writes "when I [Jesus] am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself." Though the death of Jesus on the cross is immanent, its meaning becomes the essence of Christian faith. That God has driven out all sin, all death and replaced it with joy, as stated in the Collect; "that our hearts may surely be fixed where true joys are to be found" and in Jeremiah, "you will be my people."

It is March of 2021. We are passing through the darkness of an evil virus. We have spent an entire year at the mercy of an invisible killer. Fear and trepidation have hovered over us like a thick fog. It is time to let go of those negative forces and to fix our hearts where true joy is found. This week in our Dialogue Sermon, let us focus together on joy.

I pray that our hearts be filled with serenity and that we find the God that has and always will remain there. This week I invite you to share the joy that has been found in your lives on **SATURDAY, MARCH 20 @ 5:00 pm by Zoom.**

We are the people of God. It is an astonishing thing.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Joyce Caggiano



PRAYER LIST

We ask that you keep in your prayers the following persons: Merilee; Paul; Mary; Beth; Jenny; Dianna; Joseph; Catherine and Brant; Carla; Michael; and Louise.

(Please email us the names of those who need special prayers---info@emmanuelwr.org. Only first names will be used.)



NOTE: LIVE ZOOM SERVICE IS AT 5:00 PM this Saturday, March 20, 2021.

Join Zoom Meeting Service:

<https://zoom.us/j/95056613769?pwd=SFFKQ2RWR0hEbkIXLzBtYjIcekJyQT09>

Meeting ID: 950 5661 3769

Passcode: 679257

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

www.emmanuelwr.org

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

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