



**Emmanuel Newsletter
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 16, 2021**

Dear Friends,

There probably isn't one among us that doesn't think about the 'meaning of life' and/or 'why am I here'? These are the universal questions that we ask ourselves as we mature in life and wonder about what our lives on earth are supposed to mean. Many of us were nurtured in our childhood to believe in God and to follow the commandments. When we become adults, we began to form who we are and what we desire to do with our lives. We ask hypothetically, how we want to make our mark on the world. In mid-life we ask ourselves, what have we accomplished (or not); and what will the completion of our lives be like? Then as we approach the last part of our lives, we ask ourselves, was it all worth it? Did I live a life pleasing to God?

The answer comes to us in the simplest terms in John's Gospel appointed for May 16th. So that we may have joy.

The joy that God offers us does not come with fame or wealth. It does not come with accolades for material and intellectual superiority. It does not come from carrying the 'big stick' – bringing order through adherence to rules and commandments. It comes from embracing the challenges given to us by God - from measuring what is 'good' by God's standards and not our own. It comes from acknowledging that all things come from God and all things are made well by God. It comes from recognizing that adversity is the 'stuff' of life that gives us strength. The strength that is needed to continue God's work and Jesus' mission in the world. And if we can take on that banner and work for justice, truth and love, the joy of God will carry us through. I've said it before. I will say it again, "The joy of God is our strength."

So, join us by Zoom on **Saturday, May 15 @ 5:00 p.m.** to talk about the joy God has given us!

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano

Priest in Residence, Emmanuel, West Roxbury



PRAYER LIST

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

(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, May 16, 2021.

Join the Zoom Service:

<https://zoom.us/j/92729721509?pwd=ZkpYdUVxUzVYVE0yU2IKNW4yeVITQT09>

Meeting ID: 927 2972 1509

Passcode: 278461

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