

**Please stand, as able*

PRELUDE "A Place Called Home" A. Menken

For your prayer concerns, please use the forms inserted in your bulletin. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn to be included in our Morning Prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Gracious God, thank you for teaching us with Jesus how to understand you and your commandments.

All: Make us curious and wise as we read the Bible and learn more from you each day.

One: Like Mary and Joseph, sometimes we search in the wrong places for Jesus.

All: Renew us as we return to share in worship and friendship with our congregation.

One: Thank you for the loyalty and love we see in Jesus' relationship with his parents.

All: Send your Spirit to help us grow more faithful and kind to our family and friends.

*HYMN #250 "Once in Royal David's City"

MORNING REFLECTION

One: Mary did you knowí

Many: That your baby boy will someday walk on water?

One: Mary did you knowí

Many: That your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?

One: Mary, did you know that your baby boy has come to make YOU new?

Many: This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver YOU.

One: Mary did you knowí

Many: That your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?

One: Mary did you knowí

Many: That your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?

One: And when you kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God.

Many: Oh Mary did you know...

ALL: This sleeping child you're holding is the great I am.

Paraphrased "Mary, Did You Know?"
Songwriters: Buddy Green, Mark Lowry

MORNING PRAYER

Creator, Son and Holy Spirit, help us to be always searching for you. Help us to recognize that you are always there - beside us, behind us and in front of us if we would just open our eyes to you. Lift us from our complacency and the busy-ness of our holidays and everyday lives. Let your new Word speak to our hearts and inspire our actions. May the start of the New Year give way to lives of change and renewal. Allow Jesus, the baby, Jesus, the juvenile son, Jesus, the teacher; Allow Jesus, our friend, to break into our lives to be seen and reflected in lives that are changed. Hear us as we pray, for we want to be changed.

And hear us as we remember others, (After each request is read, the response is 'God of love, hear our prayer')

We ask these things in the name of Jesus who taught his disciples to pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN #257 "We Meet You, O Christ"

ANTHEM "Treasure of the Heart" P. Choplin

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

SERMON "Why were you searching for me?" B. Collins

PRAYER

HYMN #130 "God Will Take Care of You"

OFFERING "My soul Glorifies the Lord" L. Larson

DOXOLOGY

*HYMN #156 "I Love to Tell the Story"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Joy to the World" D. Lanz

COFFEE HOUR IN BENNETT HALL

Welcome to Jesse Lee Church:

Find hope, joy, peace and the love of God here.

Front Door Wreaths are given by an **Anonymous Donor.**

Poinsettias given by **The Hulls** in memory of **Sandy Smith and Margaret "Peggy" Jane Ward & her son Michael Ward.**

Ushers: Jim Riling, Brian Sideleau
Scripture Reader: Elisabeth Berg



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Today:

8:45am Choir Rehearsal - Bennett Hall
10:00am Worship Service/Sunday School
11:30am Coffee Hour - Bennett Hall

Tuesday

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wednesday

9:15am Essentrics Exercise

Friday

9:15am Essentrics

Next Sunday:

8:45am Choir Rehearsal - Bennett Hall
10:00am Worship Service/Sunday School
11:00am Fellowship in Bennett Hall

Attendance: December 23

CIRCUIT WRITER: Items for the newsletter should be sent to Suzanne Herlihy (suzannevherlihy@gmail.com).

ITEMS FOR BULLETIN: Send to Lois by **Tuesday morning to:** jesselee.umc@gmail.com **AND** lmhalzack@gmail.com

Due to changing needs of the church. eginning January 2, 2019:

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Rev. Stinson in and out of office office. He can be reached by email at jstinson4242@aol.com or 203-984-0141(cell) **CHURCH**

OFFICE HOURS: Office Open 8:30am - 12:30pm Wednesday - Thursday. At other times please leave a voice mail message. For emergencies, please call Rev. Stinson at numbers listed above.

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church
25 Flat Rock Road - Easton, CT 06612
(203) 372-8250 - Web: www.jesselee.org
Email: jesselee.umc@gmail.com

Rev. James Stinson – Pastor

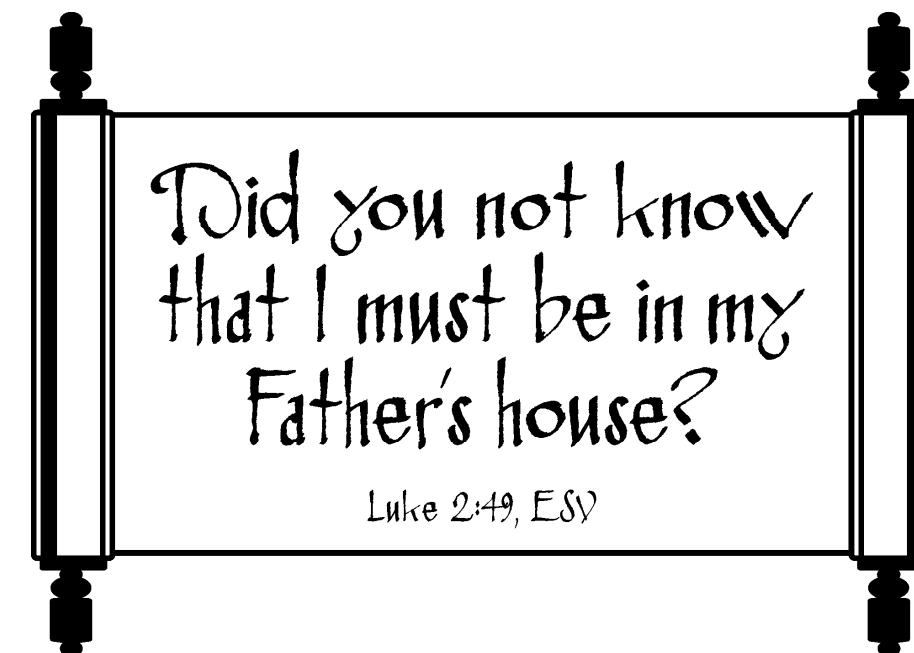
Joseph F. Swindon - Minister of Music
Michelle Wendt - Church School Superintendent
Lois Halzack - Administrative Assistant

Jesse Lee Church is the direct descendent of the oldest continuously operating Methodist Society of New England. Our church traces its origin to 1789 when Jesse Lee, A Methodist Circuit Rider (traveling preacher), was appointed to spread the Word of God to New England. The congregation has met in this warm colonial sanctuary since 1813.

The United Methodist Church is a Protestant Christian denomination of 10 million members in the USA and around the world. It is affiliated with Methodist Churches in 87 countries in the world. We confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and the historic Christian faith.

Our Vision

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church seeks to be a compassionate congregation whose members, through word and deed, live the Great Commandment of Jesus Christ to öLove the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself.ö



Jesse Lee United Methodist Church
At Worship
December 30, 2018
10:00 A.M.