

*\*Please stand, as able*

## PRELUDE

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

Come to Christ, our Rockí .

**Our refuge and our strength.**

Come to listen for Godí .

**Our wisdom and our truth.**

Come to receive the Spirití .

**The breath of life itself.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Still speaking God,

open our ears to hear your voice;

open our minds to perceive your wisdom;

and open our eyes to recognize your healing love

and your powerful presence. Amen

\*HYMN #2130 (TFWS) *“The Summons”*

## MORNING PRAYER

O God of endless surprises, who chastens us when we look for comfort and comforts us when we look for chastening, who challenges us when we expect to be praised and praises us when we expect to be challenged, you are the one before whom we bow. Sometimes we would prefer that you would be a little more predictable and not quite so full of surprises. If only your ways were not so different from ours and your thoughts so much higher than ours. Then we could come before you in confidence and pride. But then we would not know who should be praying to whom. So we thank you for your frequent reminders of the distance between you and ourselves. We wish we could do without these reminders, but we need them. We so often live as if we were your equals. We make judgments about people, which are yours alone to make. We presume to know

how others should live, even as we live less than perfect lives. We live in self-contradictions, saying one thing and doing another, professing faith, while living faithlessly. We pray for peace while warring with family and friends. We speak of the need for love and forgiveness while holding grudges, rather than seeking reconciliation. We talk about Jesus as our model, even as we pay too much attention to other voices.

God of mercy, forgive us for our contradictions. Lead us to be steadfast in our faith, steadfast in following the self-giving, loving ways of Jesus.

Heal us of our sinfulness and strengthen us to be ever more faithful disciples. Heal us as individuals, as families, as citizens, as a church, as this particular congregation. Cause us to be as light in a dark work, as healers in a sick world, as peace makers in a world at war. In all things, cause us to reflect the one we say we serve, namely Jesus Christ.

We pray for our denomination as it seeks to find its way to be faithful to its mission and promise to offer “open hearts, open minds, and open doors.” Lead it to be renewed in the image of Jesus who called us to love all our neighbors, wherever we find them, however different they are from ourselves.

We pray for this, our church home, Jesse Lee United Methodist and seek your guidance in our decisions to be followers and witnesses to Jesus. May we be true to our convictions in word and in deed, in all areas of our lives.

And we pray for others, some of whom we know, and others we do not, hear us as we pray for those who are near and dear to us. *(After each prayer request is read, the response will be: God of Love, hear our prayers.)*

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 OUR CHILDREN

## ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

SERMON *“Give Thanks, We're Free”* Judy Lang

## PRAYER

HYMN #377 *“It Is Well with My Soul”*

## OFFERING

### \*DOXOLOGY

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN #663 *“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name”*

### \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Please join us in Bennett Hall for fellowship and refreshment following our worship service.*

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**Welcome to Jesse Lee Church:**

Find hope, joy, peace and the love of God here.  
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**Acolyte: Jonathan Berg**

**Scripture Reader: Kay Delaney**

**Ushers: Jim Riling, Brian Sideleau**

Flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by **John & Suzanne Herlihy** in memory of **Donald Cornish**.  
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**Guest Preacher: We welcome Judy Lang to our pulpit this morning. Judy is a Certified Lay Minister and an active member of the Nichols UM Church.**  
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**Guest Organist: Norma Ryan** is our guest pianist for the month of August.

## **THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**

### **Today:**

10:00am Worship Service  
11:00am Fellowship in Bennett Hall

### **Monday**

9:15am Essentrics Exercise Class

### **Wednesday**

9:15am Essentrics Exercise Class

### **Friday**

9:15am Essentrics Exercise Class

### **Next Sunday:**

10:00am Worship Service  
11:00am Fellowship in Bennett Hall

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Attendance: August 18 - 30

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

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**INFORMATION FOR BULLETIN:** Items for the weekly bulletin should be sent to Lois by **TUESDAY morning:** jesselee.umc@gmail.com **AND** lmhalzack@gmail.com

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**Due to changing needs of the church, Lois is only in office on Wednesday & Thursday. However, Rev. Stinson is always available by phone or email. PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Rev. Stinson in and out of office. He can be reached by email at jstinson4242@aol.com or 203-984-0141(cell)**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: During the summer the office is not open on a regular basis, please leave a voice mail message. For emergencies, please call Rev. Stinson as listed above.**

## **Jesse Lee United Methodist Church**

25 Flat Rock Road - Easton, CT 06612  
(203) 372-8250 - Web: [www.jesselee.org](http://www.jesselee.org)  
Email: jesselee.umc@gmail.com

### **Rev. James Stinson – Pastor**

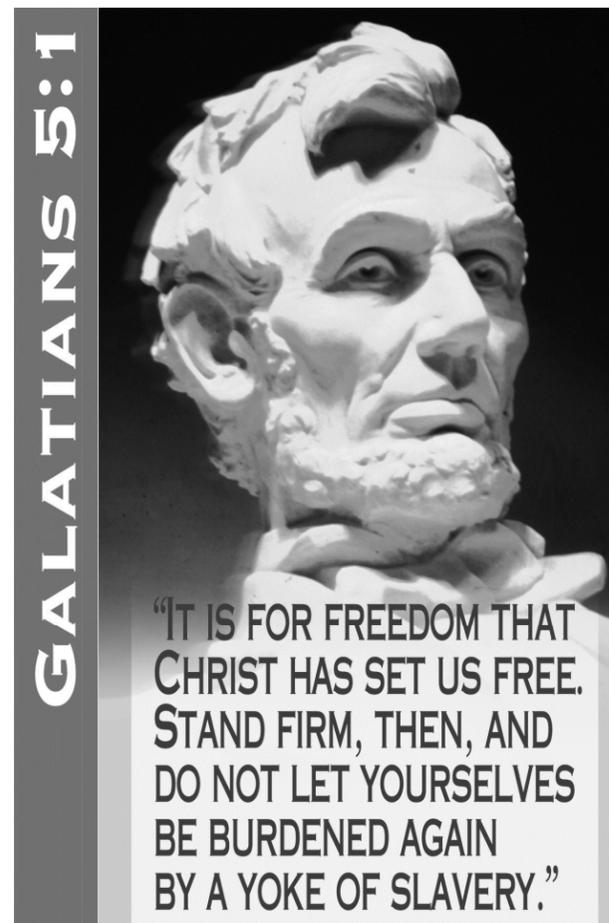
Joseph F. Swindon - Minister of Music  
Michelle Wendt - Church School Superintendent  
Lois Halzack - Administrative Assistant

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 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself."



*Jesse Lee United Methodist Church  
At Worship  
August 25, 2019  
10:00 A.M.*