

JESSE LEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

25 Flat Rock Road, Easton, CT 06612

(203) 372-8250 jesselee.umc@gmail.com

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr. – Pastor

(203) 860-906-4906 email: rareblm1@gma

December 20, 2020 - 10:00AM

ONLY ZOOM SERVICE -- NO IN CHURCH until at least year end

Directions for tuning into our virtual church services:

COMPUTER: go to "zoom.us<<http://zoom.us>>" Click on "join a meeting". meeting ID# 969-591-1585

TELEPHONE dial + 1. 646 558 8656 US (New York) Then put in your meeting ID# 969-591-1585
After that press the # symbol located on your phone when asked for your participation ID.

PRELUDE *"A Place Called Home"* from *"A Christmas Carol"*; *"Believe"* from *"Polar Express"* – Glen Ballard & Carol Silves;

"Swedish Christmas Carol" - *Matson; Greensleeves* – arranged by Chip Davis

WELCOME – 4th Sunday in Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING - The Hull Family

"Company's Coming; Waiting on the Threshold"

Speaker #1: We live on the brink every day. We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one. We live and move between the ordinary and the divine, between the mundane and the mystery. Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of eternity, God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Speaker #2 : Luke tells us that God's favor came to a girl, an ordinary girl. It might have been you or your daughter; it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild. But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said, "The Lord is with you." What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Speaker #1: We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of the nearness of God. Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence, God is as close as our own breath. This, in a confused world, is a peace that passes all understanding. We light this candle of Peace in the assurance that Company is Coming.

WELCOME HYMN #198 *"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"* *^(vss. 1, 2 & 5)*

1. My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.

2. My God has done great things for me; yes,
Holy is this name. All people will de-
clare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.
5. Praise God, whose loving covenant sup-
ports those in distress, remembering past
promises with present faithfulness.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 20:1-4)

Leader: May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble.
may the name of the God of Jacob defend you.

**People: May He send you help from the sanctuary,
and strengthen you out of Zion.**

Leader: May He remember all your offerings,
and accept your burnt sacrifice. *Selah*

**People: May He grant you according to your heart's desire,
and fulfill all your purpose.**

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of Heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried**,
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Please remember our Church family members:

Carla Jaffe

Ann Martin

Stephen Breda

Pastor Jim & Barbara

Dwight Smith

Luella Ostrofsky

George Lindeberg

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORDS PRAYER:

The Lord’s Prayer: 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

HYMN #191 *“Jesus Loves Me”*

CHILDREN’S TIME (All ZOOM viewers & listeners, please put yourself on MUTE)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 21:1-4 (Old Testament); Luke 9:18-24 (New Testament)

SERMON
Johnson, Jr.

“What must I do to Bear the Cross”

Rev. Cleaven

OFFERTORY: Duet: Joanne Kant, Joe Swindon *“Mary, Did You Know”*

Please remember that there are bills to be paid to keep the church running and consider sending your offering in by mail.

HYMN #21

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (vss. 1 & 2)

1. Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse’s lineage coming, as those of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.
2. Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God’s love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

LOOKING FORWARD:

CHRISTMAS EVE – ZOOM SERVICE (Please save logging on/phone instructions at beginning of this bulletin)

4:30pm – Joe Swindon’s Annual Christmas Concert on Jesse Lee’s Organ

5:00pm - Lessons & Carols, Youth Pageant, Virtual Candle Lighting

****Please have ready for end of service****

1. A candle to light

2. A bell to ring at 6pm