

# JOY IN THE STREETS

Rev. John Morehouse  
December 19, 2021 10 AM

PRELUDE "I Saw Three Ships" (English, arr. Patricia Cota)

Bell Choir

WELCOME AND OPENING WORDS

Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Worship Associate

CHALICE LIGHTING

HYMN **JOY TO THE WORLD**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King:  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! Let us proclaim; Let all our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. Joy to the heart, the mind, the soul, For love that never dies.  
Now let our joyful singing fill earth and seas and skies  
Until our spirits rise, Until our spirits rise, Until, until our spirits rise.

COVENANT

Joanne Glasser Orenstein

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

LEADING LIGHT AWARD Cheryl Dixon Paul

Rev. Morehouse

CANDLELIGHTING

Rev. Morehouse

CAROL "O Holy Darkness" by Jann Aldredge-Clayton

O Holy Darkness, loving Womb, who nurtures and creates,  
Sustain us through the longest night with dreams of open gates.  
We move inside to mystery that in our center dwells,  
Where streams of richest beauty flow from sacred, living wells.

Creative Darkness, closest friend, you whisper in the night;  
You calm our fears as unknown paths surprise us with new sight.  
We marvel at your bounty, your gifts so full and free,  
Unfolding as you waken us to new reality.

O Holy Night of deepest bliss, we celebrate your power;  
Infuse us with your energy that brings our seeds to flower.  
The voice out of the darkness excites our warmest zeal  
To bring together dark and light, true holiness reveal.

O come to us Sophia, your image black and fair  
Stirs us to end injustice and the wounds of Earth repair.  
The treasures of your darkness and riches of your grace  
Inspire us to fulfill our call, our sacredness embrace.

Words © Jann Aldredge-Clanton. From *Inclusive Hymns for Liberating Christians* (Eaken Press, 2006). Used with permission.

PRAYER/MEDITATION

Joanne Glasser Orenstein

MUSIC "Season of Light" (Jacob Narverud)

Paige Steele

SERMON "Joy in the Streets"

Rev. Dr. John Morehouse

OFFERING <https://vop.tucw.org/> VENMO (The Unitarian Church in Westport, or @TUCW-1)

OFFERTORY MUSIC "In Dulci Jubilo" (arr. Guy Ratcliffe)

Bell Choir

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Let us be grateful when we are able to give,  
For many do not have that privilege.  
Let us be grateful for all those who share their gifts,  
For we are enriched by their giving.  
And let us be grateful even for our needs,  
So that we may learn from the generosity of others.

CLOSING WORDS

Rev. Morehouse

POSTLUDE "We Need a Little Christmas" (Jerry Herman)

Once & Again Singers

Choir sings verse one; everyone invited to sing verse two:

2. So climb down the chimney; turn on the brightest string of lights I've ever seen.  
Slice up the fruitcake; it's time we hung some tinsel on that evergreen bough.  
For I've grown a little leaner, grown a little colder, grown a little sadder,  
grown a little older, and I need a little angel sitting on my shoulder,  
need a little Christmas now. For we need a little music, need a little laughter,  
need a little singing ringing through the rafter, and we need a little snappy "Happy ever after,"  
need a little Christmas now.

## *Flowers*

Given in memory of my wonderful mom,  
Elsa Behrle Pfluger 12/5/1918 – 8/30/2006

Anita Pfluger

*Visiting us this week? We're glad you're here with us! Please feel free to leave us your contact information, and then tear off this page and place it in the offering plate, or hand to a minister on your way out. Questions? Contact [beth@uuwestport.org](mailto:beth@uuwestport.org)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_