

LaMott African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Rt. Rev. Julius H. McAllister Sr., Presiding Bishop

Rev. Dr. Stanley Smith, Presiding Elder

Rev. Dr. Louis P. Attles, Pastor

Elder Richard Safford, Minister of Music

Third Week of Advent

JOY

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023 – Time - 10:00 a.m.

JOY

Church School Lesson: "The Family Faith" Lesson Text: Matthew 1:1-17

Key Text: "This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:" Matthew 1:1 NIV

Black History Moment ~

Why Christmas was the best time of year to escape slavery. For the enslaved, the holiday season also offered miracles of a more practical sort. It was the best time of year to escape. during their time off, many enslaved people were allowed to visit family at nearby plantations, an activity that required a "pass" from their enslavers permitting them to be on the road by themselves.. If the slaves escaped at the beginning of the break, then their enslavers might not become aware of it for a week or more, when work began again and they didn't show up, giving them a huge head start. **In 1835 Christmas eve, Jermain Wesley Loguen, formerly called Jarm Logue (his slave name).** He stood outside the slave cabin with his enslaver's horse, a stolen saddle full of food and a forged travel pass. He sneaked inside briefly to kiss his sleeping mother on the forehead. For her own safety and his, she couldn't know he was about to escape. Thus began a weeks-long journey as Jarm and a friend traveled north to Canada and freedom. They encountered suspicious White people who attacked them and demanded to see their passes, and sympathetic White and Black people who fed them and their horses and guided them onto an Underground Railroad they didn't even know existed. **In Christmas Eve 1854,** Harriet Tubman, the fearless "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, rescued three of her brothers from the plantation near Cambridge, Md., Tubman's brothers had attempted to escape before but had chosen to return to their wives and children. Then the family found out that the brothers' enslaver planned to sell them just after the holidays. The brothers had been given passes to have Christmas dinner with their mother, but they never showed up. Instead, their sister led them on a secret path to freedom.

Christmas also played a role in 1848, William and Ellen Craft were young newlyweds in Macon, Ga., where William was enslaved as a "hired out" cabinetmaker and Ellen was an enslaved house servant to her White half-sister. Though they wanted to start a family, Ellen was terrified of being separated from her future children the way she had been separated from her mother when she was 11.

So, in the days leading up to Christmas, both acquired passes from their enslavers for a few days off. Ellen, who could pass as White, cut her hair and dressed in fine men's clothes William had purchased with his savings. She wore bandages on her face and a sling on one arm as a further disguise. Then she went to the train station and purchased two tickets north. William posed as a loyal servant tending to his injured master. They kept up the ruse for days. At one point they were detained, but they got out of it and arrived to freedom in Phila. on Christmas Day. The Crafts later moved to England, wrote a book, had five kids and, after the Civil War, located Ellen's mother and brought her to live with them. In 1857, three years after helping her brothers escape on Christmas, Tubman returned for her parents. All told, she led between 50 and 70 people to freedom. **Jarm Logue who escaped on Christmas Eve,** made it to Canada, but he didn't stay there. He soon moved to upstate New York, where he learned to read and write. He became a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and opened schools for Black children, and his home became an important stop on the Underground Railroad. Some still continue to fight for freedom in this world. **Some remarks by Vice President Harris** – this is a time in which our hard-won freedoms are under attack...Because as we know, freedom — well, it doesn't censor books. Freedom does not criminalize doctors and punish women... And, you see, as Dr. King made clear, freedom includes the ability of all people to fully exercise their rights — rights that generations of Americans bled and died for, rights that the people...continue to march and fight for. Freedom, **WE PRAY!!**

Sunday Worship Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/93197056304> - **Webinar ID:** 931 9705 6304 -Dial in +1 (646) 931-3860 - **Then dial** 931 9705 6304 #

Bible Study, Meetings, Church School & Special Services - Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99882887220> - **Meeting ID:** 998 8288 7220 **Mobile** +1 (301) 715-8592 then dial 998 8288 7220#

ANNOUNCEMENTS - "Virtual Bible Study" – Tuesdays @ 7:30p - All are Welcome! Invite someone!

TODAY - "Fellowship Sunday" all clubs, organizations and church family prepare your gifts and cards. Lunch will be served following the morning service.

Sun., Dec. 24th @ 7:00 p.m. – **"Christmas Eve Hour of Power Service"** via our Zoom Line.

Sun., Dec. 31st @ 7:00 p.m. - **"New Year's Eve Hour of Power Service"** - via our Zoom line:

Bible Study is CANCELLED - Dec. 26th & Jan., 2nd.



The Christmas Card box is in the rear of Sanctuary. - deposit cards for the church family
Cards will be distributed TODAY & 4th Sunday in Dec.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.



Scripture of the Month: 'If you can't?' said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

Mark 9:23 NIV

Order of Service

Call To Worship – Isaiah 9:2, 6; John 1:4, 5, 14)

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

All: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity.

Opening Hymn – "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Prayer 

Prayer Response

Worship through Music

Declaration **Brother Robert Love** – This is my Bible. I am what it says I am.

I can have what it says I can have. I can do what it says I can do. Today I will be taught the word of God. My mind is alert. My heart is receptive. I'll never be the same again. In Jesus' name. Amen



Reading of the Will- Old Testament: Deuteronomy 18:14-22 **New Testament** ~ Galatians 4:21-27

The Gospel - Luke 1:26-38

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Gloria Patri – "Glory Be To The Father"

Worship through Music

Presentation - The LaMott Church School – "Teach the Children"

Invitational – Pastor Attles

Giving of our Tithes/Offering

The Pastor's Word/Announcements

3rd Sunday of Advent Presentation **Sister Yvette Banks**

Benediction "Reach out and Touch Somebody's Hand"



Brett Patterson's brother and Natasha's brother-in-law, Bryan Patterson. He is in the hospital for diabetes and heart emergencies. Bro. Carl Rollins and Sis. Maggie Bullard at home healing, Our country, Our youth and senior citizens, Bro. Leroy Williams, husband of Sis. Debbie Williams,, Sister Lottie Chisholm's mother, Lula King, Tuwana Jones, niece of Sis. Mary & Keith English, Rev., Dr. & Mrs. Melvin D. Wayns, Sis. Deb Williams' Mom & Dad, Bro. Bill Walker, Brother of Sis. Wanda Samuels, and All those who have family members and friends who are sick and have lost loved ones.

All those who have Birthdays or Anniversaries in the Month of Dec.,



December - Pastor Attles - Dec. 7th



Happy Anniversary – **December** - Natasha & Brett Patterson 31st - 13 years



LET US CONTINUE IN OUR GIVING. ~ YOU CAN GIVE BY DROP OFF OR MAIL TO THE CHURCH.

YOU CAN ALSO – TEXT TO GIVE:

1-888-364-4483 - 1-888-364-GIVE – THIS WILL TAKE YOU TO A SECURE SITE TO GIVE

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