

**Christmas Eve 2022
Mayflower Church
Rev. Sarah Campbell
Meditation**

Tonight, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, through song and story. We celebrate Jesus. Howard Thurman, the great American mystic, said that “Jesus released a precious ingredient into the psychic stream of the human race. In many ways, beyond all calculation and reflection, our lives have been deeply touched by the character, the teaching, and the spirit of Jesus of Nazareth”.

When we love our neighbor

When we love our enemy

When we love our self

When we practice sabbath rest

When we know gratitude

When we forgive

When we heal and are healed

When we befriend

When we welcome everyone to the table...

When we turn over the tables of domination

When we make restitution

When we repair

When we organize for justice

When we tithe

When we hope...

Is it because of Jesus? His spirit flowing through our faith and the faith of our ancestors?

When we are unforgiving

When we hate

When we clutch too much treasure

When we are greedy

When we consume more than our share

When we are indifferent

When we succumb to despair

When cynicism is our automatic setting

When fear overtakes us

Well!! Jesus is not done with us yet.....

On the Jesus path, we are! on it together... our hearts only growing softer, not harder, right up until our very last breath when we reckon with the question: Did I love well?

For us who are Christian, and our religion is just one of the many beautiful religions of the world, for us who Christian, Jesus is the messenger of God, and God is love. The message Jesus brings from the heart of the universe?! This is why we are born. To love. This is why we exist. To love.

Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Jesus who released a precious ingredient into the psychic stream of the human race.