

**JEAN'S CHRISTMAS MUGS**



**They moved the recliner to the living room...  
where I spent the 8 days of Hanukkuh  
following an overdue unplanned surgery.**

**No more lifting boxes of tradition from high shelves  
or reaching up to place strings of lights...  
or hardly anything I would usually do.**

**I am prepared to skip the whole season...  
as many in far worse situations than imine  
cope with absence and memories past.**

**Then a card comes like one from a long ago friend...  
telling of a seminary room-mate's dying...  
*"It will be a different Christmas."***

**But she's following life-time traditions...  
notes and cards to friends...  
*"Joy to everyone and extra joy to you."***

**There are times when tradition carries us forward  
whether we feel like it or not...  
so tears and joy often meet in dark times.**

**Jean loves the Christmas season...  
so in spite of me she gets things unboxed....  
starting with her traditional Christmas mugs..**

**Few remember or care where a tradition began  
whether legend or myth or true....  
or if it belongs to one religion or another.**

**To say *"Jesus is the reason for the season"*  
is not only narrow minded  
but historically untrue.**

**It's important to have things to guide us  
through the dark valleys....  
so light that traditional candle anyway  
or put out your Christmas mugs!**

*For the Moment....December 6, 2021*