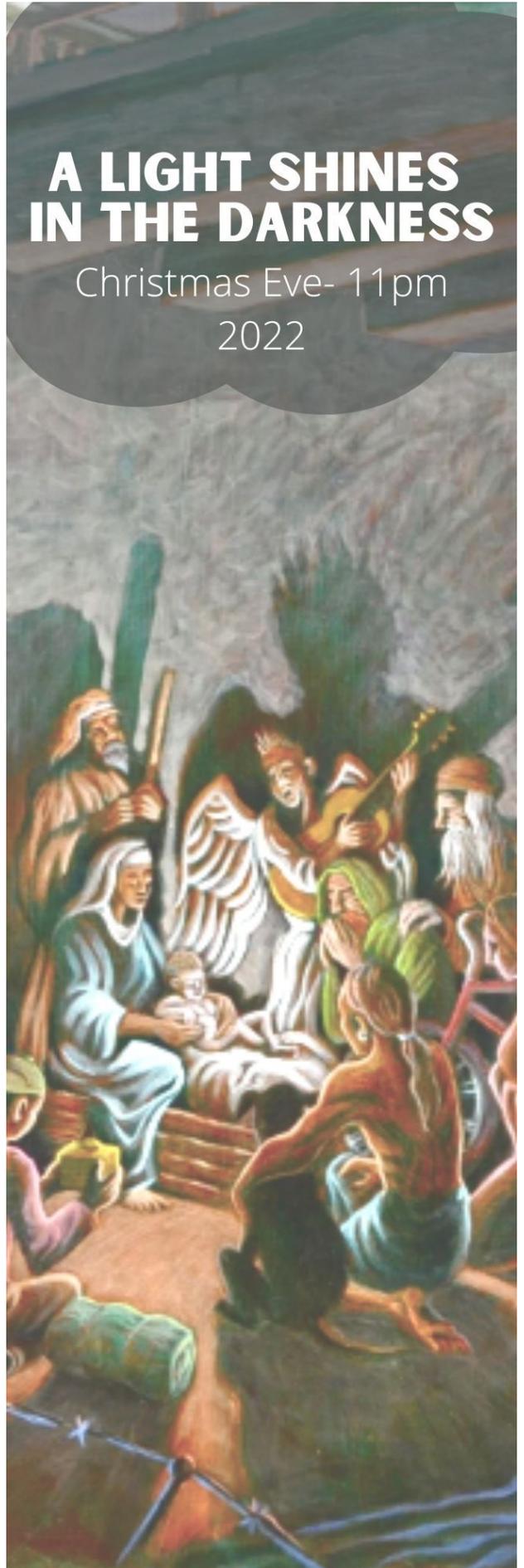


# A LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

Christmas Eve- 11pm  
2022

**Christmas Day Worship**  
**Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 am**  
**Come and Worship the New Born King!**

**Come as you are (Pajamas are welcome) for  
carols, coffee and cinnamon rolls - or live  
stream the service!**



Prelude Three Settings of “Lo, How a Rose  
E'er Blooming”  
Hildebrand, Shows, Cherwien

### **An Approaching Peace**

Anthem “Our Savior Has Come”  
Johnson/Cerneka

*Isaiah 9:2; 6-7* Allison Maus

Anthem—A Voice Cries Out,  
“Prepare the Way of the Lord”  
Lloyd Larsen

### **A Hopeful Decision**

*Luke 1:26-38* Reed Dressler

From “Six Recognition of the Lord”  
By Mary Oliver  
Mariele Wassom

Of course I have always known you  
are present in the clouds, and the  
black oak I especially adore, and the  
wings of birds. But you are present  
too in the body, listening to the body,  
teaching it to live, instead of all  
that touching, with disembodied joy.  
We do not do this easily. We have  
lived so long in heaven of touch,  
and we maintain our mutuality, our  
physicality, even as we begin to  
apprehend the other world. Slowly we  
make our appreciative response.  
Slowly appreciation swells to  
astonishment. And we enter the dialogue  
of our lives that is beyond all under-  
standing or conclusion. It is mystery.  
It is love of God. It is Obedience.

Reflective Art  
*The Annunciation* by Daniel Bonnell

### **A Joyful Recognition**

*Luke 1:39-42* Allison Maus

Perhaps this day  
Will be the mountain  
Over which  
The dawn breaks.

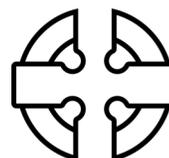
Perhaps we  
Will turn our face  
Toward it,  
Toward what has been  
Always.

Perhaps our eyes  
Will finally open  
In ancient recognition,  
Willingly dazzled,  
Illuminated at last.

Perhaps this day  
The light begins  
In us.

Postlude “Joy to the World”  
Kristina Langlois

**John Porter**, Interim Pastor  
**Allison Maus**, Associate Pastor in Campus and Young  
Adult Ministries  
**Deannine Shipman**, Director of Education and  
Program  
**Reed Dressler**, Director of Youth Ministry  
**Ned Wetherald**, Director of Music Ministry  
**Laura Essinger-Hileman**, Chrysalis Coordinator



**STATE COLLEGE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

\*Hymn No. 134 v.1&2

*“Joy to the World”*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature  
sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all  
their songs employ, while fields and  
floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat  
the sounding joy, repeat the sound-  
ing joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding  
joy.**

\* Benediction

Allison Maus

“Where the Light Begins” by Jan Richardson

Perhaps it does not begin.

Perhaps it is always.

Perhaps it takes  
A lifetime  
To open our eyes,  
To learn to see  
What has forever  
Shimmered in front of us—

The luminous line  
Of the map  
In the dark,

The vigil flame  
In the house  
Of the heart,

The love  
So searing  
We cannot keep  
From singing,

From crying out  
In testimony  
And praise

“Leap!” By Drew Jackson

John Porter

The dream  
Is no longer  
Deferred.

So we leap!  
We can’t help it!

It rises up from within.  
From deep, guttural places.  
You can’t contain our dance!

Feel the pit-pat!  
Hear the tip-tap!  
That’s the rhythm of freedom.

Let the babies dance!  
Let them tell us of salvation.  
Let them lead us to liberation!

The babies are inviting us  
Into the dance of a future  
On the threshold of birth.

And we will leap!  
We will leap!  
We will leap!

All the way there!

Reflective Art

*The Visitation* by James P. Janknet

### **A Loving Welcome**

*Matthew 1:18-25*

Mariele Wassom

Reflective Art

*The Apparition* by James Tissot

Hymn No. 88

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”  
(verse 1,2 & 7)

### **A Hope Realized**

*Luke 2:1-7*

Reed Dressler

Reflective Art

Te tamari no atua (Translation: The Son of God)  
By Paul Gauguin

Anthem "Rose of Bethlehem"  
Arranged by Keith Christopher

### A Wondrous Declaration

Luke 2:8-14 John Porter

"Arrival" by Maya Angelou

Reed Dressler

Angels gather.  
The rush of mad air  
Cyclones through.  
Wing tips brush the  
Hair, a million  
Strands  
Stand; waving black anemones.  
Hosannahs crush the  
Shel's ear tender, and  
Tremble  
Down clattering  
To the floor.  
Harps sound,  
Undulate their  
Sensuous meanings.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
You  
Beyond the door

Reflective Art

*Seeing Shepherds* by Daniel Bonnell

Anthem "Angels Singing"  
Gwyneth Walker

### A Glorified Revelation

Luke 2:15-20 Mariele Wassom

Reflective Art

No Room at the Inn by Russell Brutsche

Hymn No. 145 "What Child is This"

Invitation of Offering Allison Maus

Prayer of Dedication

**Holy God, We praise you as our Creator, Savior, and Comforter. Thank you for coming near to us, to live humbly on earth, as the Prince of Peace. May your Spirit inspire our thanks, not just during this season, but throughout our lives, that we may fully be beacons of your love and peace. Amen.**

Offertory "What is this lovely fragrance"  
Arranged by Manz

Communion

Invitation to the table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**The Lord be with you.**

And also with you.

**Lift up your hearts.**

We lift them to the Lord.

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of Bread

Pouring of Cup

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Anthem "What is this lovely fragrance"  
Arranged by Ferguson

Prayer after Communion

Sharing of the Light John Porter

\*Hymn No. 122 "Silent Night"

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. 'Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**