How the Light Comes

I cannot tell you how the light comes.

What I know is that it is more ancient than imagining.

That it travels across an astounding expanse to reach us.

That it loves searching out what is hidden what is lost what is forgotten or in peril or in pain.

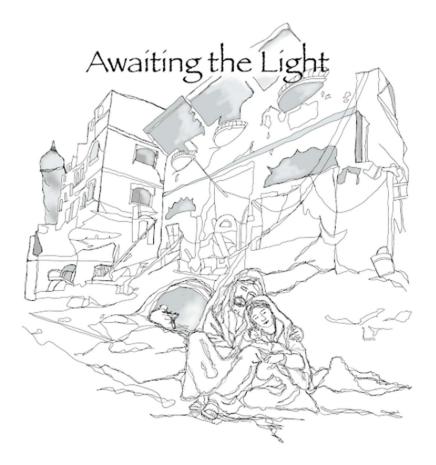
That it has a fondness for the body for finding its way toward flesh for tracing the edges of form for shining forth through the eye, the hand, the heart. I cannot tell you how the light comes, but that it does. That it will. That it works its way into the deepest dark that enfolds you, though it may seem long ages in coming or arrive in a shape you did not foresee.

And so may we this day turn ourselves toward it. May we lift our faces to let it find us. May we bend our bodies to follow the arc it makes. May we open and open more and open still

to the blessed light that comes.

~ Jan Richardson

CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH 699 Haney Street, Winnipeg MB R3R 0Y7 T: 204-837-7982 E: office@charleswoodmennonite.ca W: www.charleswoodmennonite.ca Co-Pastors: Lisa Enns – lisa.enns@charleswoodmennonite.ca, 204-795-7091 Jonathan Neufeld – jonathan.neufeld@charleswoodmennonite.ca, 431-336-1977



Charleswood Mennonite Church

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

Charleswood Mennonite Church $\, \sim \,$ December 24, 2024, 6:30 pm

The congregation is invited to stand for the songs marked with *

Prelude	Verna Wiebe and Caroline Klassen
Welcome and Opening Prayer	Lisa Enns, Co-pastor
*VT 715 Longing for Light	Congregation and Choir
Artwork: Glory Mancini, from the series "The Innocents: Apocalypse III"	

Awaiting the Light

First Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6 *On the Edge* VT 241 O Come All Ye Faithful (v 1, 2) Artwork: Joel Sheesley, "O Magnum Mysterium (O Great Mystery)", 2012

Second Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9	
O Radix	
Lo, How a Rose	Choir
Artwork: Emily Dickey, "Parched Earth", 2019	

Third Lesson

Luke 1:46-55 Come, Join in Mary's Prophet Song O Rex Gentium Artwork: Jacob Riis, "In the Home of an Italian Rag-Picker, Jersey Street", ca 1890

Receiving the Light

Fourth Lesson
John 1:1-5
Wisdom from On High is Dawning
Artwork: Judith Tutin, "Nativity", 2011

Choir

Fifth Lesson

VT 257 Away in a Manger	Congregation
Love Has Come a Light in the Darkness	Choir
Artwork: Linda Syddick Napaltjarri, "Nativity", 2003	

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:8-14 *VT 253 While Shepherds Watched Congregation Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light Choir Artwork: Luke Hua Xiaoxian (華效先), "The Angel Brings Good News to the Shepherds (天使向牧人傳佈嘉訊)", 1948 Seventh Lesson Luke 2:15-20 *VT 249 Angels We Have Heard on High Congregation Artwork: Pablo Sanaguano, "Cristo nace cada día (Christ Is Born Every Day)", 19m94 **Eighth Lesson** Matthew 2:1-14 *VT 250 The First Noel Congregation The Refugee Artwork: Allan Rohan Crite, "Nuestra Señora de Humildad/ Our Lady of Humility" **Celebrating the Light** Ninth Lesson Mary Candle Lighting VT 244 Silent Night (v 1-3) Congregation Artwork: Ihor Paneyko, "Я родився (I Am Born)", 1986 John 1:14 Lisa Enns, Co-Pastor *VT 274 See Whose Glory Fills the Skies Congregation Artwork: The Virgin and Child surrounded by angels, frescoed dome of the side chapel of the Church of the Holy Saviour in Chora, Istanbul, 14th century VT = Voices Together Hymnal Italics = Poems by Malcom Guite from Sounding the Seasons Conductors: Bob and Verna Wiebe Scripture Readers (in order): Kenton Lobe, Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, Lisa Enns Cover Art & Poetry Readings: Lynette Wiebe Projected Visuals: Julia Thiessen Technician: Kent Haase Instrumentalists: Rebecca Harder, Alisa Wiebe, Jonathan Wiebe, Jeremy Wiebe, Emily Rempel Ushers: Darryl Dyck, Valerie Martens, Matthaeus Dyck, Micah Dyck