

## God's Light Has Dawned

### Prelude to Worship

*(This is spoken as the acolyte lights the two candles on the worship table.)*

Leader: We light the first candle on the worship table as a reminder that Jesus is the light of the world.

**People:** *Jesus spoke to the people, "I am the light for the world! Follow me, and you won't walk in the dark. You will have the light that gives life."*

Leader: The second candle signifies that we are light to the world, bringing good news.

**People:** *"You are like light for the whole world. A city built on top of a hill cannot be hidden."*

Leader: Prepare your hearts for worship, knowing that we live in and share the light of God.

### A Sending

Leader: God has given us a new vision for living, taking away the despair of darkness.

**People:** *"Arise, shine, for our light has dawned!"*

Leader: Through the glory of God, the oppressed are given power and the hopeless rise to their feet.

**People:** *"Arise, shine, for our light has dawned!"*

Leader: The God of light will stretch your heart so that all creation radiates worth and holy mystery.

**People:** *"Arise, shine, for our light has dawned!"*

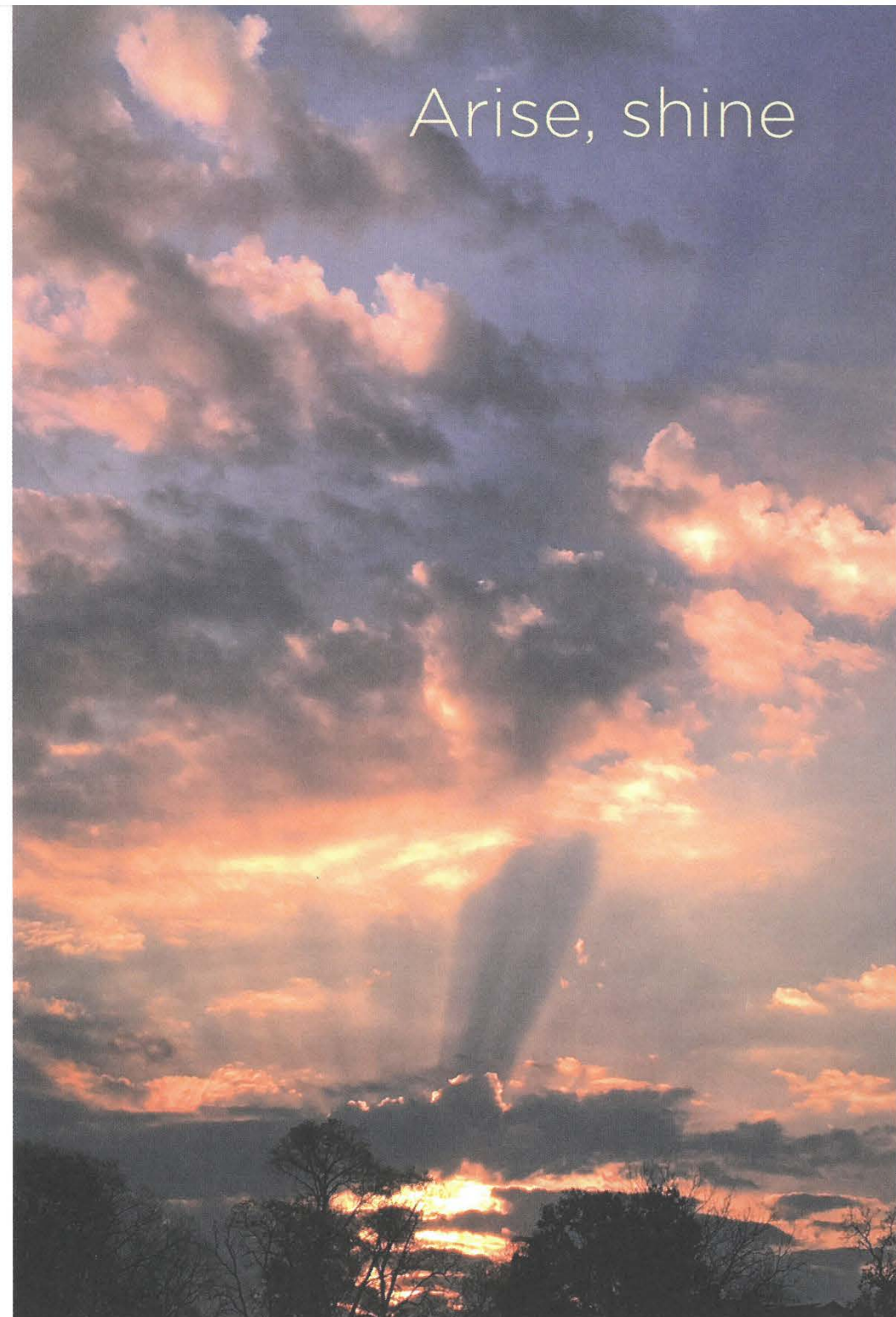
**All:** *Let us go out into the world, shining the light of God for all to find their way.*

*(Each worshiper may receive a small candle as they depart the sanctuary, reminding them that they carry the light to help dispel the darkness.)*

—Janice Glass King, interim pastor  
Wyomissing Church of the Brethren  
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania

**Text for today:** *"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you"* (Isaiah 60:1, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Isaiah 60:1-6 (1); Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2:1-12.

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Arise, shine

**BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
at Worship January 6, 2019 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

**RESPONDING**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE** (11:00) Variations on STAR IN THE EAST *John Barr*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Back of Bulletin

**CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER** Jeff Carr

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

**\*HYMN # 221** *Hail the bless'd morn* STAR IN THE EAST

**PROCLAIMING**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 60:1-6 *NRSV*

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00)

Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions. Following the Children's Story, all children preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend Children's Worship in the Agape Room.

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 2:1-12 *NRSV*

**OFFERING**

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Prelude to the Introit of the Epiphany *Maurice Duruflé*

**\*HYMN # 199** *The first Noel, the angel did say* THE FIRST NOEL

**SERMON** "Holly Day, Epiphany, Betsy and a Birthday" Jeff Carr

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30) ...a time for conversation.

**ANTHEM** (11:00) *Elizabeth Alexander*  
When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Paul Roth

**\*HYMN # 218** *As with gladness men of old* DIX

**\*SENDING** Back of Bulletin

**POSTLUDE** (11:00) "In Thee is Gladness" *J. S. Bach*

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

**January 6-12, 2019** (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Sun.</b>	9 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
		Children's Worship during Worship at 11	– Agape Room
	Noon	Youth Fundraiser Lunch	Social Hall
	2:00	Youth Inquirers' Class	Youth Room
	5:00	Sr. Hi. Youth Movie & Discussion	– Home of the Zepps
<b>Wed.</b>	8 a.m.	Bridgewater Ministers	Maple Terrace
	7:00	Worship & Music Commission	Seekers Room
<b>Thurs.</b>	6:00	Brethren Student Movement	Carter Center
	6:30	Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### NEXT SUNDAY– January 13, 2019 – *First Sunday after the Epiphany*

#### *Baptism of the Lord Sunday*

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Chris Zepp

Sermon: “When...With...For...”

Scriptures: Isaiah 43:1-7

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

**Youth Inquirers' Class** – 2 p.m. – Youth Room

**Youth Sunday Night Live** – 6 p.m. – Social Hall, etc

**ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP** for Sundays, December 23 & 30 and January 6 will be provided in the January 13 bulletin.

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

### PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Karissa Hunt** – Interim Financial Secretary

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

### PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Josh Eye** – Interim Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children's Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

### CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwcob.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## **SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS**

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Decorators** – Lori & David Lineweaver

**Deacon Caregiver** – Andrea Miracle

**Head Usher** – Palmer Lee Berry

**Pianist** (8:30) – Kathy Shrader

**Van Drivers** – David Lineweaver & Rick Fawley

**Worship Leader** – Paul Roth

### **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: *Howard Thurman***

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the heavens is gone,  
When the kings and the princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.

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## **2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Envelopes are available to be picked up this morning. Anyone who would like offering envelopes for 2019 but has not had them in the past should notify our Interim Financial Secretary, Karissa Hunt. Weekly and monthly envelopes are available. Also, if you're interested in having your contribution made to the church electronically, forms are available in the church office or you may speak with Karissa.

## **COMPELLING VISION SESSIONS SET**

In January, the Shenandoah District will begin a series of sessions to participate in and help shape the Compelling Vision being formulated for the Church of the Brethren. The Rev. Kevin Daggett, pastor of the Dayton Church of the Brethren and a member of the Compelling Vision Process Team, will lead the sessions.

All of the sessions are on Sunday afternoons, 3-5 p.m.

Jan. 13 - Wakemans Grove (668 Wakemans Grove Road, Edinburg)

Jan. 20 - Pleasant Valley (91 Valley Church Road, Weyers Cave)

Feb. 3 - Cedar Grove (616 Cedar Grove Road, Ruckersville)

Feb. 17 - Bridgewater Retirement Community's

Huffman Healthcare Center 3<sup>rd</sup> floor multi-purpose room  
(302 N. Second Street, Bridgewater)

Feb. 24 - New Hope (12768 Frost Road, Dunmore, W.Va.)

Attendance is not restricted to those in each section. Instead, you are encouraged to choose a session (or more than one) that is conveniently located and aligns with your schedule.

Districts across the denomination are holding similar gatherings, hearing from Brethren what they envision for the Church of the Brethren of the future.