

## **“Let There Be Light”**

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FBCB

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### **Part One**

It is no coincidence that Christmas falls at the Winter Equinox, the longest night of the year. This is the darkest time of the year, into which the light has come. While we still have cold days and probably a lot of snow yet to fall, each day holds the promise of a bit more light.

With that extra light, pretty soon will be more warmth. And with that extra warmth, eventually we will see new life springing from the ground with wonderful colors of yellows, reds and greens.

But for now we remain in the dark ... with hope. The hope of a baby born into the darkness — a baby born with a promise of new life to come.

From here forward we live in hope. We live holding to peace. We live with love. We live with grace and joy because this baby born today is the bringer of new life, the bringer of great joy for all people.

Every year we enter this season of darkness and some of you are

affected by the darkness more than others. It brings depression and enclosure. It brings a feeling of isolation and smallness.

In the dark days in which we live, we long for light to lift us up and illuminate our lives, illuminate our path.

I am here to proclaim to you the good news that the light of life has come. Behold, Jesus, the very life of God born as a gift to us as a humble, innocent baby.

What was once clouded in darkness is now revealed in the light!

### **Part Two**

There is a Leonard Cohen song called Anthem. Do any of you know it? The song has a chorus that goes

“There is a crack in everything.  
That’s how the light gets in.”

I like that line because it holds the reality of our lives. We are all broken. We all have been touched with heartache. We all have experienced loss, or we will some day. We all know what it means to be broken, to be brought to our knees with the realization that we are fallible, imperfect and broken.

When we come face to face with that brokenness, we see this as our human weakness. We resist the idea that we are less than perfect. We spend lots of time and money working to fix our flaws. This is why the self-help industry is a multi-billion dollar industry. We struggle mightily with our brokenness.

The Leonard Cohen song reminds us that we can acknowledge this reality of brokenness — we acknowledge and accept that this is our condition. It is at this precise point of acceptance that we allow the light of God to enter our lives and heal, restore and repair.

The good news of this season is that God broke into the darkness of this world through the cracks of humanity with a great light of love and grace.

It is our brokenness that makes Jesus' coming necessary, but also our brokenness that prepares us to receive the blessing and grace of God.

“There is a crack in everything.  
That's how the light gets in.”

The love and light of God can come to us not in spite of our brokenness, but because of it.

Amen!