

ARISE, AND SHINE!

“Rise and shine.”

I’m guessing that you’ve heard those words at least a few times, possibly many times, in your life. And maybe you’ve sent them in the direction of others.

I heard “rise and shine” more than a few times when I was growing up, nearly always early in the morning, uttered cheerfully by my mother or my dad. It was a cheerfulness that quite often elicited a painful groan. Those words became a signal—time to get up and go to school or get busy with chores. Mostly I heard the words, not as a cause for celebration, but as a summons to drag myself out of blissful slumber.

We don’t know how the people who first heard Isaiah’s command—“Arise, shine, for your light has come”—responded to those words. If, as Bible scholars tell us, they were far from their home, exiled in Babylon, they must have heard in these words an invitation to hope, to believe that the darkness they had been living in would soon be banished. “The LORD rises upon you,” sang Isaiah, “and his glory appears over you” (v. 2).

Darkness still troubles the human family in various guises: poverty, disease, ethnic hatred, war. But Isaiah’s words still resonate. They are both a promise and a summons for people of faith to rise and shine, to get up and get busy doing *light* work. Add to them the words of Jesus—“Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12*b*)—and we’re good to go!

—Ken Gibble
Greencastle, Pennsylvania

Text for Today

Isaiah 60:1-6 (1), *NIV*

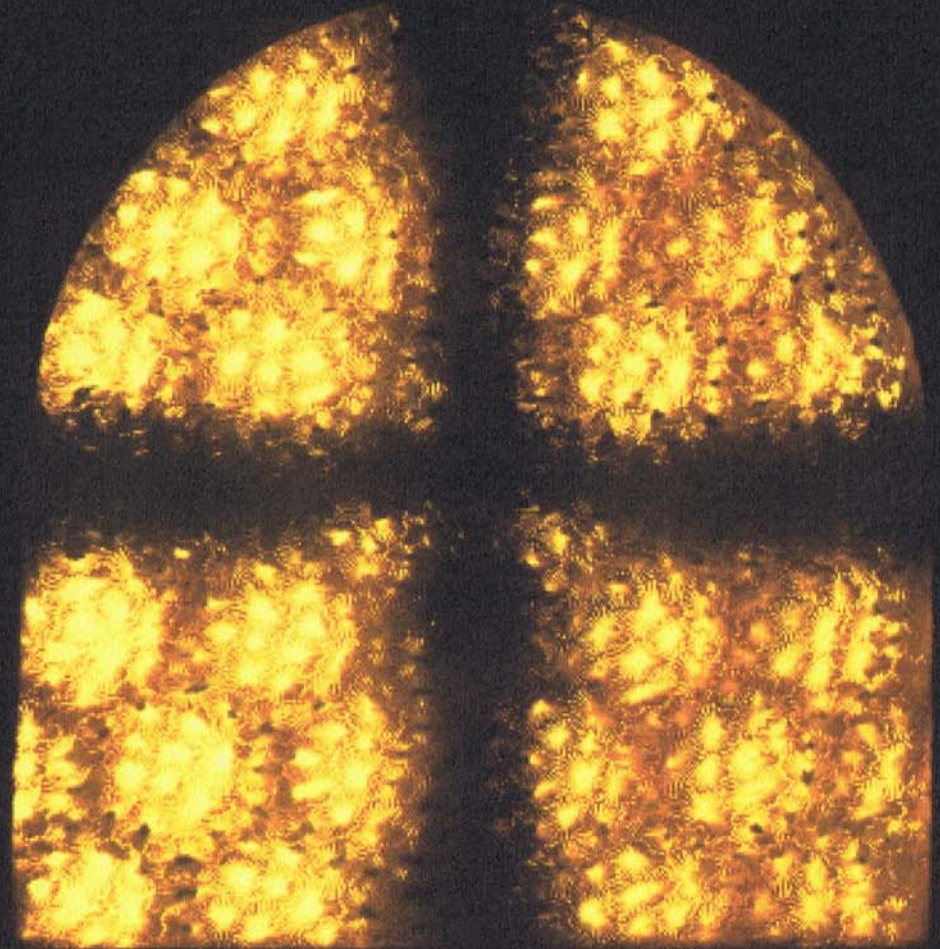
Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come.



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Arise, shine,
for your light has come





Sheldon Church of the Brethren
 David E. Loveall, Pastor
 Ministers - All Members
First Sunday After Christmas
 Sunday School Program
 December 27, 2009
 9:30 a.m. Worship



NOTE: The red hymnal will be used today, unless otherwise noted.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

WELCOME POEM - Sam, Simon & Rachel Maggert & Landon Kelderman

*CALL TO WORSHIP **December Memory Verse:** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
 Luke 2:11

* GATHERING HYMN #143 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

PRAISE HYMN #128 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

SCRIPTURE Colossians 3: 12-17

HYMN # 126 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

MUSIC MINISTRY - "Bethlehem Morning" - Teri Kelderman

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)
"The Christmas Lamb"

SKIT "Christmas Window" - Children

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #131 *There's A Song In The Air* (vs. 1)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pray For: Greene, IA Church

Praying For Us: Sioux City, IA Living Peace Church

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-13 (Unison Reading #740 - red hymnal)

HYMN # 137 *Away In a Manager*

CHILDREN'S SONG "Do You Hear What I Hear"

*BENEDICTION

*PARTING HYMN #138 *Angels, We Have Heard On High*

* - *Please Stand, if you are able*

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, December 27:

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Jo Rolston
Music	Teri Kelderman
Music Ministry	Teri Kelderman & Children
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	None Today
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, January 3:

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Marcene Cox
Music	Marcene Cox
Ushers	Mark Bilsland and Alan Cox
Adult Sunday School	Marcene Cox
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



United Christians
International

Haitian Ministry directed by Rev.
Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier.
www.unitedchristiansinternational.org

2009 CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator
Linda Adams

Deacons
Clarence & Rhelma Evans
Linda Adams & Jo Rolston

Clerk
Jo Rolston

Treasurer
Sandi Cox

Adult Sunday School Teachers
Linda Adams
Donna Brinkman

Alan Cox
Marcene Cox
Scott Maggert
Sally Young

Children's Message
Marcene Cox

Children's Sunday School
Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

Church Facility Trustee
Scott Maggert

Church Sign
Alan Cox

Custodial Care
Members take monthly turns

Farm Trustee
Ross Cox

Fellowship Time
Clarence & Rhelma Evans

Lawn Care
Jed Cox
Ross Cox

Messenger Agent
Donna Brinkman

Ministerial Committee
Marcene Cox
Ross Cox
Rhelma Evans
Jo Rolston

Nominating Committee
Ann Maggert
Sally Young

OUR CHURCH

Worship Service 9:30am
Christian Education (Sept.-May) .10:50 am

Communion
1st Sunday of Each Month

The Sheldon Church of the Brethren
3011 Marsh Ave
Sheldon, Iowa 51201
(712) 324-3842

Email: pastor@sheldonbrethren.org

Web Addresses:

The Denomination:
www.brethren.org

Northern Plains District:
www.northernplainsdistrict.com

The Church:
www.sheldonbrethren.org
www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org

Outreach & Evangelism

Alan Cox
Marcene Cox
Sally Young

Parsonage Committee
Ann Maggert

Pianists
Donna Brinkman
Marcene Cox
Jill Dykstra
Teri Kelderman
Lynn Rolfsmeier

Special Music
Marcene Cox

Sunday School Superintendent
Jo Rolston

Ushers
Mark Bilsland
Alan Cox
Scott Maggert

Anniversaries and Birthdays for December

04 - Liz Evans
07 - Sam Clemmens
18 - Liz Rolfsmeier
31 - Leah Bothmer
Simon Maggert

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May
sunshine and gladness be given and may the
Dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful
birthday in heaven.

Church Events

Welcome!

Welcome to all members and guests. You came to worship, go now to serve!
You've been given the Light, go now to let it shine!

Adult Sunday School

No Sunday School today. For next week we will discuss Tape 3, Session 8, "All
War Is Sin" (with book chapter 8). This is a series on church heritage and mem-
bership. We welcome your participation!

Devotional

The January-February *Upper Room* devotionals are on the back table. Please
take one for your daily devotions.

Christmas Program

There will be a Christmas program during the worship service on Sunday, Dec.
27. Plan to attend this special service.

WHERE YOUR HEART IS, THERE YOUR MONEY SHOULD BE AS WELL

Can the Church grow if we do not give our support? Can we be the Church
together without supporting the work of the Church beyond our own community?
Did you know that if we each gave just \$50 a year to the District, we could grow
our ministry together? Almost half of our budget goes to support the Executive
Director within our district and as he serves the larger church. The cost to sup-
port the district work is about 25% of the budget. Almost 10% of the budget
goes to support ministerial training in the district. The remaining 15% of the
budget goes to our work in outreach, stewardship and nurture. What can you
give? Whether you can give \$5 or \$500, it will help the church grow. You can
make a difference. Send your tax deductible gift to Northern Plains District, PO
Box 493, Ankeny, IA 50021-0493.

Community

Village Treasure Chest

Please remember the Village Treasure Chest when you have items you no
longer have a use for. The Treasure Chest relies on your donations. All pro-
ceeds from items sold are used to provide opportunities for people with disabili-
ties at Village Northwest Unlimited. Your donations, big or small, are all impor-
tant! Items may be dropped off at the Treasure Chest Monday-Saturday, 9 am -
4 pm. We, also, have a fun volunteer opportunity! We are looking for a few more
people willing to volunteer a few hours a week at the Treasure Chest. Contact
Judy TeGrootenhuis at (712)324-5416 for more information. We sincerely appre-
ciate the generosity received in the past and hope you will continue to support
people with disabilities in this way.

Those Among Us Who Need Our Prayers

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)



1. Jeannette Grove healing from a fall that broke two fingers in her left hand. Visit her, call her at 324-0028 or send her a card to Fieldcrest Assisted Living Apt. #1111.
2. Pastor David Loveall who is recovering from back surgery.
3. Helen Van Kekerix who is making strides to normalcy from a stroke.
4. Jennifer Caldwell, daughter of Linda Adams, who needs prayer support.
5. Rev. John Elder who is being treated for cancer.
6. Julie Fisher, daughter of Clarence and Rhelma Evans, who has thyroid cancer.
7. Ann Evans who has cancer.
8. Matt Pruin of Sheldon who has brain cancer.
9. Our congregation and children.
10. Living Peace Church, Sioux City. May its ministry be continually blessed.
11. UCI - Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier's ministry in Haiti.
12. Lost Brothers and Sisters. May you minister unto and lead by example.
13. Those Serving in the Military. Keep them from harm and danger.

Bethlehem Morning

By Teri Kelderman

Bethlehem Morning

Lift up your heads
No need to mourn
His hand is stretched out still
For unto us a child is born
His promise to fulfill

Jerusalem! He cried for you
He did not come to you in vain
His loving arms are open wide for you
And He will come, He will come again

Bethlehem morning is more than just a memory
For the child that was born there
Has come to set us free
Bethlehem sunrise I can see Him in your eyes
For the child that was born there
His spirit never dies
His star will never grow dim

And it's a brand new dawn a new Jerusalem
And we will reign we will reign with Him
Bethlehem morning is more than just a memory
For the child that was born there
Has come to set us free
Bethlehem sunrise I can see Him in your eyes
For the child that was born there
Is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords
And He will come again

