

Christmas Playlist

Christmas Eve- O Holy Night

Part 1: Pastor AMY

Long lay the world in sin and error pining 'Til He appears and the soul felt its worth

The people walking darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned...you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rid of their oppressor...

Isaiah 9: 2 & 4

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given...And he will be called wonderful, counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Part 2: Pastor MICHAEL

“A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.”

The weary can rejoice with hope because....

What was “yonder” is near.

Acts 17:26 (Message)

He doesn't play hide-and-peek with us. He's not remote; he's near.

- At Jesus' birth, God said to the weary world, “It's okay, I'm here.” It was a Holy Night because a Holy God came near.
- I'm sure the world into which Jesus came was weary. Weary of Roman occupation. Weary of religious oppression. Weary of waiting for the promise of the Messiah to be fulfilled. Can you relate?
- What makes us weary these days? I wonder if that fatigue goes deeper. Weary of looking for the right person or the right job. Weary of wondering when life is going to be worth living. Weary of waiting to see if God really cares about us. Just...weary.
- “Yonder” means over there. Some people feel this way about hope, help, and healing but these things that were out of our reach have come close in the Person of Jesus. Salvation, wholeness, peace, joy, and purpose are now within reach.
- Jesus is no longer yonder! Jesus is here. Hope is here.

What was old is made new.

Luke 1:78-79 (Message)

Through the heartfelt mercies of our God, God's Sunrise will break in upon us, Shining on those in the darkness, those sitting in the shadow of death...

- The birth of Jesus is the Sunrise of the Bible!
- This was not just another night. It was Holy and divine because it birthed a new day for humanity. **Jesus is hope for a fresh start.**
- Have you ever wanted another chance a “do-over?” Most of us have felt this when we have failed or have regrets. We might experience despair or feel that we are beyond hope...too far gone.
- This Sunrise announced a fresh start with God. While we can't go back, we can start fresh.
- A New heart, new destiny, new desires, new you. Not a better or remodeled version but brand-new creation.

John 1:5(TLB)

His life is the light that shines through the darkness—and the darkness can never extinguish it.

Salvation Response:

John 1:12 (TLB)

Only a few would welcome and receive him. But to all who received him, he gave the right to become children of God. All they needed to do was to trust him to save them.

Communion Response:

Let all within us Praise His Holy name