



**“The Longest Night”:
A Winter Solstice Celebration**

Thursday, December 21, 2017, 8:00 p.m.

Music for Gathering *Christopher Pasillas, piano*

***Singing** # 51 “Lady of the Season’s Laughter,” v. 1
*We will sing verse 1 as a chant
until we have called the Goddess forth.*

Welcome *Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Senior Minister*

Ring the Bell

Lighting the Chalice *Rodney Lemery, Intern Minister*

Sanctifying the Elements *Mary Jeanne Oliva, Frank Farris,
Colleen Cabot, Stephen Estes*

Creating the Sacred Space *Mary Jeanne Oliva and Stephen Estes*

Casting the Circle *Mary Jeanne Oliva*

***Singing** # 55 “Dark of Winter”

Reading “Bear Dreams” *Colleen Cabot*

Musical Meditation “The Sky Is Dark on Solstice Night”
words: Frank A. Farris; music: Walker’s Southern Harmony (1835)
Frank Farris, solo; Christopher Pasillas, piano

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Meditation on the Dark *Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones*

What lessons does the dark teach me?

What experiences am I reweaving?

What raw material am I working with this season?

What do I want from this season of dark and contemplation?

What do I hope for in the darkness?

Sharing Our Dreams

Reflection “The Gift of Darkness” *Frank Farris*

Silence

Anthem “The Longest Night,” by Jason Shelton
Alegría Singers; John Ector, Choir Director; Christopher Pasillas, piano

Bringing Our Light

*Please come forward to light a tea light from the Sun candle,
in an ever-expanding spiral.*

***Singing** “Silent Night, Solstice Night,” words by Ellen Reed
Please see insert for lyrics.

Closing Words *Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones*

Opening the Circle *Mary Jeanne Oliva*

Please feel free to sit in silence or to walk the labyrinth following the service.

Please leave quietly, with respect for those who wish to stay in silence.

And please receive a sweet gift from the Sun at the front door as you depart.

