

# Advent 2015

***We are born out of darkness with a presence  
stirring within us that brings our night into day.***

Myra Rodgers, CDP

Throughout my life, I've made a regular practice of observing the morning light. As an avid student of beauty, I love to watch the sunrise as the brilliant oranges, soft lavenders, and vibrant pinks dance across the morning sky, lighting up the horizon. Sometimes I notice that the sunrise has an absence of color. It contains simply the presence of gray light that cuts an opening through the dark sky and brightens the surrounding landscape, indicating that we are being blessed with a new day.

Light and darkness remain in stark contrast, but paradoxically are necessary to each other. Just as the light breaks through the darkness each morning, we are reminded of the enduring love of the God whose name is Providence.

Providence is birthed in our world each day. This unmistakable presence signifies life and hope, and reminds us that "all will be well" no matter what we face. Providence transforms and restores a world that is desperately searching for meaning and value. We who carry the brilliance of this name, Providence, have a special responsibility to make manifest the hope that brings our night into day. We are called to make believable the God of Providence as we wait hopefully for the dawn. During times of challenge and when faced with difficulty, we encounter Providence in its purest form when we have the courage to reflect the light of God within each of us as an example of the light to a world seeking its warmth.

*Margaret (Maggie) Pastro, SP  
Seattle, WA*

