



December 27, 2023
A Note from Pastor April

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas!

I've long been a fan of the writer and poet, Jan Richardson. Her words speak of what I hope this Christmas season brings for myself and for all of you.

May the light be fully alive for you this week...

WHERE THE LIGHT BEGINS

A Blessing for the Christmas Season

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.
Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see
what has forever
shimmered in front of us—
the luminous line
of the map
in the dark
the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart
the love
so searing



we cannot keep
from singing,
from crying out
in testimony
and praise.
Perhaps this day
will be the mountain
over which
the dawn breaks.
Perhaps we
will turn our face
toward it,
toward what has been
always.
Perhaps
our eyes
will finally open
in ancient recognition,
willingly dazzled,
illuminated at last.
Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.

—Jan Richardson
from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*
<https://www.janrichardson.com/>



The Rev. April Blaine
Lead Pastor
ablaine@hilliardumc.org
614.876.2403 (church office)
<https://hilliardumc.org/people/rev-april-blaine/>



God Loves You  No Matter What

5445 Scioto Darby Road
Hilliard, Ohio 43026 | 614.876.2403
info@hilliardumc.org
www.hilliardumc.org