

# Gather

Call to worship based on Psalm 32  
written by Joan Stott

Turn off all the lights in the building, and ask those who wear glasses to take them off. Spend a few moments absorbing the difference that light makes to our surroundings.

Light a single candle. Ask different people around the building if they can see it. Scientists have proved that we can see a candle flame from nearly 3km away. But if we want to read by it, we have to draw near to it. Ask someone to read Genesis 1:1-3 by the candlelight and then switch on the lights

Divide the congregation into teams and quiz them on amazing facts about the energy that God has created and how to preserve it

[www.energysavingcommunity.co.uk](http://www.energysavingcommunity.co.uk)

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# Engage

Genesis 1:1-3

Consider the simple phrase 'And God said...' Many think that because there was no one there to hear him, it is a picture for the for the instant power that was released by this creative energy. Light is the first created thing, on which everything else depends. We depend on the power and energy of our creator God, trusting that the sun will continue to come up on a new day.

When humans choose to go against God who is light, then there is darkness in our world—sadness and pain caused by greed and injustice. This might be physical darkness like the smog over cities where there is no thought to controlling pollution, or the feeling of darkness that we get when we are frightened, or feel helpless.

Today's lectionary reading from Romans though reminds us of the hope that we have in Jesus. The forgiveness that God offers us because of Jesus' obedience to death on the cross means that we don't have to live in darkness. God says 'Let there be light' in our lives

#LIVE LENT

CARE for GOD'S CREATION



LIGHT  
AND  
ENERGY

A child once told me that when Jesus said he was the Light of the World, he meant that he was all the goodness and all the happiness in the world. In small groups talk about ways that you

Thank you loving Father that because of Jesus, I can be your friend. Thank you that because of your great love for me, I can be part of Jesus's kingdom of light and hope and peace. Help me to live in ways that show your light to all around me. Amen

can be goodness and bring happiness to those around you.

Have trays of water placed around the church and T-lights.

Encourage the congregation to think about the darkness that there might be in their own life. This might because of things they have said or done or things that have happened to them. When they are ready they can spend some time blowing on the waters as a reminder of God's Spirit hovering over the waters before time began, or wash their hands in the water as a sign of God's forgiveness.

Then, they can light a candle as a sign that God's light dispels the darkness

# Respond

# Send