Sermon: **The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear nothing.** (Psalm 27.1)

National Geographic – eyes in nature. What eyes have in common is their ability to detect light. Why need light? Day/Night, depth of water, presence of shade, enemies, mates, landscapes. ie to know where you are.

[1] TEXT. **The Lord is my light.**

We are made with physical eyes, & spiritual eyes. Why? So we can detect the light – God. Why? So we can know where we are spiritually. As Abram needed to, and we as individuals, and as a Church.

Man seeking Irish village: “Well if I was you, I would not be starting from here!” But *here* is where we are. It may not be where we want to be, but…

[2] TEXT. **and my salvation.**

Sarah Beeny’s Restoration – Rise Hall. She is trying to save the vast premises. Salvation – cf ‘salve’ – is about putting right, healing, about the end product.

In life, we might want to save a sporting match, Christchurch after earthquakes, Church.

Salvation is to know the end of the journey spiritually – Abram given a promise for that future; for us not just ‘heaven’ but healing/wholeness.

[3] TEXT. **I will fear nothing.**

Of what are you afraid? Some fear is to do with present situation, some with long-term. The most potent is about the immediate future. Refugees, warfare, going on a first date, Abram.

What next step might we fear? Personal decisions, Parish dilemmas.

Natural to fear. Imagine in a minefield, fear the next step. With God this need not be. We know where we are and where we will end up, so with God beside us the next step will be OK. TEXT.