Sermon: **The God who said, “Out of darkness the light will shine!” is the same God who made his light shine in our hearts, to bring us the knowledge of God’s glory shining in the face of Christ.** (2 Corinthians 4.6)

Do you remember the first words spoken by a child? Or yourself? Or God (**Let there be light**)

This is no accident. Without light there is nothing. Light is important in the Bible – many references.

For light to mean anything there must also be darkness. TEXTa. Light means more than simply that which the eye can see; but the light of understanding. Eg **The Lord is my light and salvation.** (Psalm 27.1)

This light ever shines in the darkness – of creation, of our lives.

TEXTa/b. God wants to enlighten us (***God be in my head, and in my understanding***). This is more difficult to grasp, less obvious than daylight. Is understanding to unbelievers = daylight for those born blind? ***There’s none so blind as those who will not see*** – refusal to look, is like complaining about not seeing when keeping perfectly-able eyes shut. Those who want to ‘see’ are open to God & will see, even if gradually at first – like the man in Mark 9.22-25. What kind of things does God want to share with us? Do we see imperfectly now?

TEXTc. Transfiguration, when Jesus appearance changed. For whose benefit did this happen? Not for Jesus, who already knew his relationship with God; but for his disciples so they could realise that relationship. This was not merely head knowledge, but to enable us to trust God – which is the whole point of our faith. Paul goes on to say that we are like common clay pots, so that what we share is about God, not about ourselves. It is never about ourselves, but always about the one we trust.