

## To See the Light

Even though there's a light in the world  
We can still choose to see the night unfurled  
And walk in the dark- the dark might suit us very well.  
We can talk about peace and get ready for war  
While our standard of living is killing the poor.  
Our hearts are so numb  
Just what does it mean to come into the light.

Into the light. Into the light. Into the light.  
Oh God is like the sun, we were meant to come  
Into the light. Into the light.  
Into the light. Into the light.

Each is a light but it's weak and small  
And the night seems huge- we despair of it all  
But don't hide that light, the night won't have its way.  
What we learn in the dark we will tell to the day,  
What we're whispering now we'll shout to convey:  
Everything will be clear.  
Every pebble and stone will cheer to see the light.

CHORUS A: To see the light. To see the light. To see the light.  
Like a candle or a spark dancing in the dark  
To see the light. To see the light.  
To see the light. To see the light.

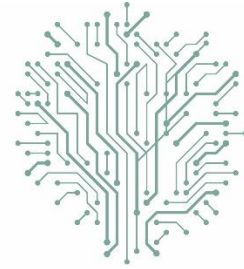
CHORUS B: Dancing through the wind and the rain.  
Blazing up from the ashes of pain.  
Calling out from the darkness again to see the light.

You know the truth, it's a simple thing:  
In the land of the blind the one eyed is king.  
But open both eyes, see disguises fall away.  
And when the morning shines over valley and hill,  
When the low is lifted and the empty filled,  
At the break of that day, with the blind man we'll say:  
I see the light.

CHORUS A: I see the light. I see the light. I see the light.  
Like a candle or a spark dancing in the dark.  
I see the light. I see the light.  
I see the light. I see the light.

CHORUS B:  
Candle light that softens the stain.  
Sun light that ripens the grain.  
Laser light that can cut through a chain.  
I see the light

Words and music by Peter Kearney



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 2:13-23  
Massacre of the Innocents

### Acknowledgment of Country

As we gather, we acknowledge the First Nations people on whose land we meet today. We pay respects to elders past and present and for their care and connection on country since the beginning of time.

### Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others

### Lighting of Christ Candle

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world.

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Eternal Truth,  
Move in our lives

**With your love that speaks out against hatred**

With your wisdom that shapes our actions.

**With your peace that brings reconciliation.**

With your hope that leads us beyond our despair.

**May your truth reign and your light shame the darkness.**

May we continue to walk in your ways, in Christ.

Amen

### Song

[To see the Light](#) by Peter Kearney

<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/58-to-see-the-light>

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

## The Word around the Bush

Matthew 2:13-23

<sup>13</sup>Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." <sup>16</sup>When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup>"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."<sup>19</sup>When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

## The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

## Questions for conversation

How do you reconcile the age old question: Why does God allow bad things to the innocent?

Nothing seems to have changed in our world over thousands of years. What do you take from the Christmas message about God's action in the world?

## Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert. Allow yourself the freedom to be aware of the Spirit's movement in your life.

## Prayers for Others

Merciful Creator, you call us to live the truth born out in love, compassion and wisdom. In a world where lies are so easily accepted, **give us the courage to speak your truth.**

(pause)

We hear the cry of the powerless, the innocent and the suffering in the world and know you are with them, Jesus Christ. **May we also be alongside them and bear witness to your healing.**

(pause)

We have ignored the truth of climate change, habitat destruction and the impact of pollutants on the land and in the seas. **Help us be honest with our actions and may we seek ways of restoration and renewal.**

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also. **Give us faith to be open and caring, as Christ is to us.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

## Song for Reflection:

[Trust Me](#) by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/trust-me>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the Truth found in Christ. Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace.

As the light of Christ guides you and resides within you.

Bless us and the people we meet along the way  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**