



## **THE DAY OF THE LORD**

*September 16, 2018*

**On this day** that we are scattered far and wide as God's People of Johns Island Presbyterian Church, let us gather in Spirit wherever we are and worship the Lord!

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Based on Genesis 1:1, John 1:1-5

*In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said: 'Let there be light,'*

**And there was Light.**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,*

**And the Word was with God.**

*He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him*

**And without Him not one thing came into being.**

*What has come into being in Him was life,*

**And the life was the light of all people.**

*The light shines in the darkness*

**And the darkness did not overcome it.**

**SILENCE** *Close your eyes. What sounds do you hear? Is your own breath fast, heavy, slow? Do you pause between breaths? The word for "breath" in both the Bible is the same for "wind" and "spirit." Receive God's Spirit as part of this silence.*

### **PRAYER**

*God of the sun, the moon and the stars,*

**Lord of the darkest hour just before dawn,**

*Spirit of all life including our own,*

**in this time still us in our wandering thoughts**

*and center us as Your People of the Word. Amen.*

### **THE WORD AND MEDITATION**

*This has been a week for all of us to be knocked out from our nest of daily routine*

*and the security of certainty because of a heck of a storm named Florence. It's been to not know what to expect as each update has been a change of unpredictability even with the best of technological world. It has been the challenge to live what last week's worship focus at JIPC on being centered and grounded as God's People of the Word. Let us listen for the Word of the Lord in the reading of scripture.*

### **James 1:22-25**

Be doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

For if any are hearers of the Word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

*Where have you have you been caught up in the disruption and the not knowing of what's what from day to day this week and then challenged to be not simply a hearer of God's Word but a doer---especially in the Word about "love your neighbor as yourself?"*

### **James 2: 14-26**

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

*Have you ever been "thrown a loop" by how someone of faith acted not as you thought they should? How about yourself?*

*What do these passages say to you in being a disciple of Jesus Christ?*

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

*This has been a week for light---- from the light of candles on a birthday cake to the candlesticks of a special dinner, from a child being unable to go to sleep in the dark to all of us being ready for the lights to go out in the storm and its*

*aftermath. Where has someone been Light for you this week?  
Where do you think you have been that Light for another?  
Where is the church being the Light?  
Where might God be calling us together to be the Light of the world?*

## **PRAYER**

**O God of our hearts,**

**Our faith is like the flame of a candle. When things are going well, our faith is strong. But when our life is thrown into the chaos of a storm, our faith dims and flickers and we feel the darkness of the world upon us. Lord, forgive us when our faith so quickly burns low and the flame is quenched. By Your Spirit, fill us with the love of Him who is the Light of the world and whom the darkness has not overcome. For it is only by Your grace, that our light can shine. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE**

Isaiah 9: John 8:12

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!*

## **PRAYER**

*In praise and to Your glory, with hearts overflowing, Lord, we pray whether by singing or humming or simply in these words:*

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

*Lord, we remember this day people whose lives have had a lot of darkness in them and for those who are in the dark even now.... (time for silent prayer)*

*God in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm going to let it shine.

Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm going to let it shine.

Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm going to let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

*Thank You, Lord, for those who have been the Light shining...(silent prayer)*

*God in Your grace, **hear our prayer.***

Don't hide it under a bushel, No! I'm going to let it shine.

Don't hide it under a bushel, No! I'm going to let it shine.

Don't hide it under a bushel, No! I'm going to let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!  
*We pray, Lord Jesus, that Your Light may shine in us...(silent prayer)*  
*God in Your power, **hear our prayers. Amen!***

**OFFERING** *Commit to one way that you can put your faith in action this week for the Light of Jesus Christ to shine in the world. Pray for the eyes of your heart to be opened for the unexpected times and ways that God calls forth the Light in you to shine.*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**BLESSING** *O People of God, may the Light of Jesus Christ shine in you as you go forth into this week.  
May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord make His face to shine upon you  
and give you peace both now and forevermore. Amen!*

