

# Light a lamp

Take time to look at the scene here or in the video below.

*You can keep the music on,  
choose the level of sound you  
wish, or choose to stay in silence.*

*Music Piper's Pavan, John  
Dowland, Guitar Ulla Kall, from  
the album: 'I en Gate', Gitar.  
(with kind permission)*

What do you see?

What do your hear?

What do you feel?

Is it cold, is is warm?

Any smell? Taste?



Have you ever been in a situation with no electricity, maybe waking up in the dark and preparing to step outside? How did it feel? What does the picture tell you?

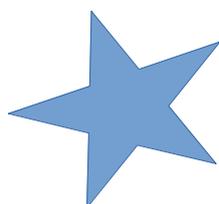
Lighting a lamp, a candle in the dark. How different from the experience of switching on something electrical! Notice that the picture shows two lamps being lit...

Stay with whatever memory or feeling comes to you.

Talk to God about it, as a friend talks to a friend, with whatever fills your heart now.

## More about 'Lighting a lamp'

- You may like to let come to mind images and texts from the Bible, many that we read at Christmas, about darkness and light. For instance: *Genesis 1.1-4; Isaiah 9.1-3; Psalm 18.29; Luke 1.78-79; Luke 2.8-13...*
- Reflect on the situation of the world, of your life. What darkness? Which lamp can be lit?
- An old **fairy tale** tells us of a king who has three sons and decides to give his kingdom to the one able to fill the banqueting hall in one day finishing at midnight. They can fill it with whatever they want. The eldest begins, collecting wood and frenetically bringing it in and piling it up in the hall. When the clock chimes, the hall is only half full. The second son chooses hay. He works all day shovelling hay into the banqueting hall, but at midnight the hall is only three quarters full. When the turn of the third and youngest son comes, he seems to do nothing. Has he given up, seeing that his two brothers were not able to accomplish the task set by their father the king? At the end of the day, the third son comes quietly smiling into the hall. Reaching the middle, he kneels and... lights a candle. Immediately, the hall is filled with light...



Sr Marie-Chrsitine