

# A Word on Wednesday from Pastor Tonia

## "Let There Be Light" 4/24/24

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep.*

*And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters and God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Gen 1:1-5)*

Darkness. The absence of light. Darkness. Darkness. Times of doubt, worry. Darkness, times of loss and change. Darkness, times you feel so lost not even God can find you. During creation, when there was no form, when nothing appeared to make sense, God was at work. His Spirit hovered over the formless void – like a mother hen sitting on her eggs, providing protection, bringing forth life.

We spend a lot of time in the dark. Sorrow, pain, loss, confusion, bad breaks, dead ends, more questions than answers, times we wonder if God really does care. We understand Thomas' doubts. We forget Thomas was so important, Jesus came back a second time, just for him; seeking him out to allay his doubts, showing him the wounds in His hands and on his side. I think Thomas wanted to believe but felt hostage to the "but it can't be's" which ran through his mind. And Jesus knew this, and understood, and loved him.

God loves us, that is the overriding fact of life. Into the darkness God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. There was food. There was water. There was healing. There was comfort. There was Jesus. This is true in creation and true in our lives. God is here to provide and protect, to bring forth life. To shine a light into our darkness.

When we go through tough times, disappointments, times of great loss, we can know God is with us. God will strengthen us so we can endure. We can be assured, there has never been a storm so violent, a night so dark, as to hinder the sun from rising the next morning. Oh yeah, sometimes it is impossible to think things can go on, there will be a way out of this one, it can ever be ok, we'll ever be happy again. We're pretty sure this is it, condemned to be miserable forever. But God is here. He walks with us. We are being made stronger in the darkness. Our faith is being honed. Our joy will come in the morning, like a glorious sunrise.

Creation was enveloped in darkness, but the Spirit of God hovered over it, protecting and caring for it, preparing it for the time the voice of God would say, "Let there be light." When the Light of God came forth, darkness would never be able to overcome it.

## **Please pray with me:**

God of creation, thank You for shining a light into our darkness, for preparing us and for protecting us for Your good pleasure. Remind us to turn to You when we feel lost and all alone. Thank You for being beside each of us on this path which leads us to You.

**Amen.**