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Central Congregational Church  
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”  
www.ccclamesa.com

### Let There Be Light!

Series: *Cosmic Christmas – Advent 2014*  
John 1:1-5

**Genesis 1:3–5 (NIV)** — 3 And God said, “**Let there be light,**” and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and **he separated the light from the darkness.** 5 God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

**John 1:4–5 (NIV)** — 4 In him was life, and **that life was the light of all mankind.** 5 The light shines in the darkness, and **the darkness has not overcome it.**

#### Darkness... the absence of light.

**Genesis 1:1–2 (NIV)** — 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, **darkness was over the surface of the deep,** and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

**Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)** — 2 The people **walking in darkness** have seen a great light; on those living in **the land of deep darkness** a light has dawned.

- ❖ Christmas confronts us with the reality of Darkness.

#### Light...brings definition and direction

**John 8:12 (NIV)** — 12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “**I am the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (See also John 9:5; Psalm 18:28)

- ❖ Christmas confirms Jesus as The source of Light for everyone.

**Central Thought:** The coming of Christ at Christmas reveals to us that the ultimate wisdom, the light of the universe is not a particle or a principle but a person, and thus, must be engaged relationally, not simply intellectually and analytically.

- ❖ Christmas creates the opportunity for us to be Life Lights.

**Matthew 5:14–16 (NIV)** — 14 “**You are the light of the world.** A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, **let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.**

#### Questions/Homework

- ❖ How are you responding to the reality of darkness within you and around you?
- ❖ Where are you searching for light?
- ❖ We move toward the light – toward Jesus – through prayer, worship, the Word (Bible), fellowship with other believers and service and witness in Jesus name.