December 18

2 Corinthians 4:6 (NRSV)

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

God's first decree in Genesis 1:3 was "let there be light" and God saw that this was good. From then on light has come to symbolize goodness, to symbolize hope, and to symbolize knowledge.

For us as Christians, Jesus is the embodiment of that goodness, hope, and knowledge. Through Christ's sacrifice that hope became our salvation, the separation between man and God bridged, the promise realized. In knowing Jesus as our Lord and Savior, He shines in our hearts and we become that light reflected into the world, glorifying God.

In the season of Advent, in this year that has been so very dark, we are all in desperate need of that light to buoy our spirits, to carry us through and remind us that God is with us always.

It is my prayer for you on this day as you read these words that God puts on your heart the knowledge that you were created to be a source of light in His world. You possess the gift that His goodness, hope, and knowledge would shine through you in the unique way that you were designed and the circumstances in which you find yourself. You can be that embodiment in the world for someone who so desperately needs it. God bless you.

~ Duke Holliway