



October 31st

Celebrate the Light!

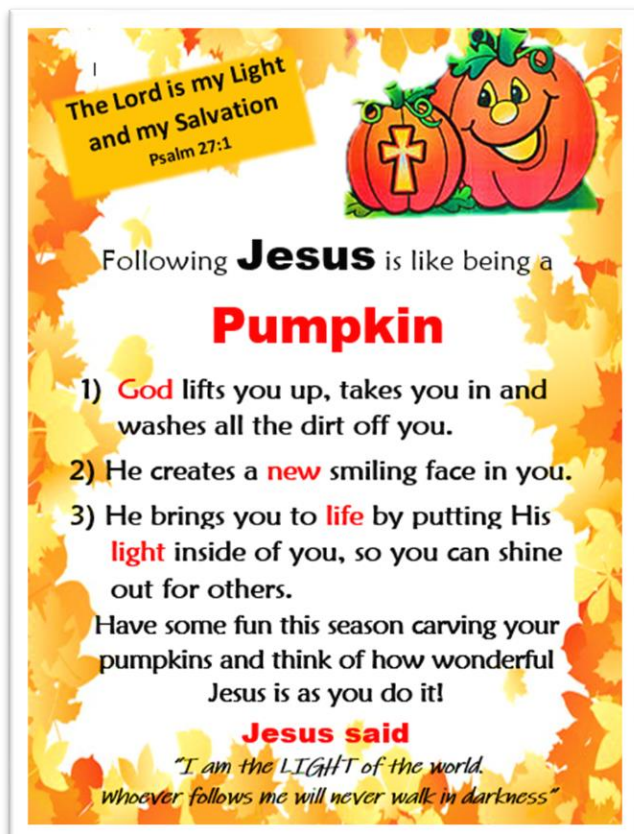
It's that time of year again – October half term (Yeah!) and the festival of **Halloween**. Originally, Halloween was a time of celebrating joy and happiness and of remembering all the good people in the world. Today, many people have forgotten these original roots and it has become a time of darkness and fear.

When so much of today's news is filled with stories of difficulty and pain and sadness why not try this year, reclaiming the festival for what it was meant to be and have all the fun whilst celebrating goodness and light? How about carving a happy Pumpkin? St Paul writing to believers in the early church encouraged them to keep focussed on good things.

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable; if anything is excellent or praiseworthy then think about such things.' ^{* Philippians 4:8}

You might find the ideas below interesting and helpful. On behalf of the church family across the Dale, we hope that you have a very enjoyable half term break.

Rev Dave and Rev Tom



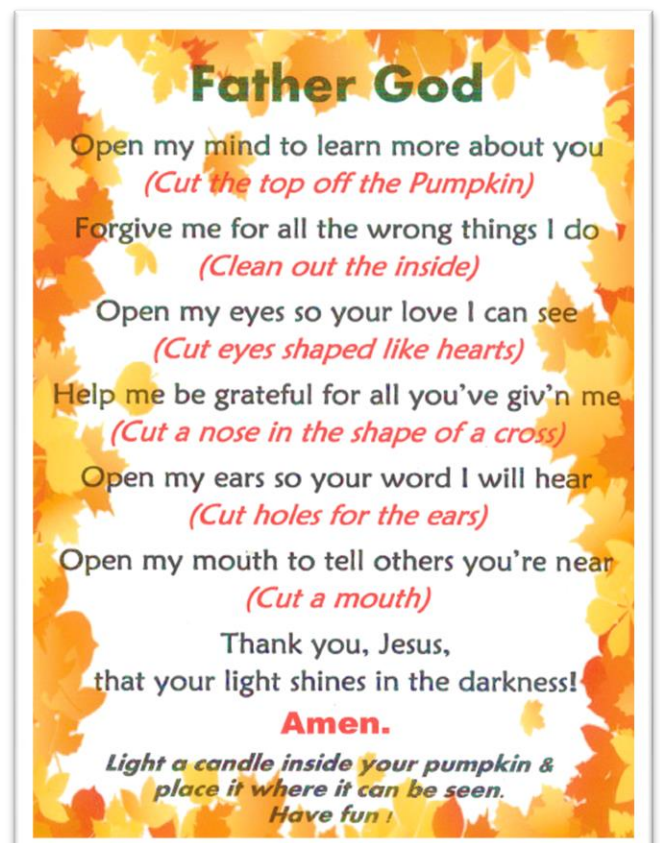
The Lord is my Light
and my Salvation
Psalm 27:1

Following **Jesus** is like being a
Pumpkin

- 1) **God** lifts you up, takes you in and washes all the dirt off you.
- 2) He creates a **new** smiling face in you.
- 3) He brings you to **life** by putting His **light** inside of you, so you can shine out for others.

Have some fun this season carving your pumpkins and think of how wonderful Jesus is as you do it!

Jesus said
*"I am the LIGHT of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness"*



Father God

Open my mind to learn more about you
(Cut the top off the Pumpkin)

Forgive me for all the wrong things I do
(Clean out the inside)

Open my eyes so your love I can see
(Cut eyes shaped like hearts)

Help me be grateful for all you've giv'n me
(Cut a nose in the shape of a cross)

Open my ears so your word I will hear
(Cut holes for the ears)

Open my mouth to tell others you're near
(Cut a mouth)

Thank you, Jesus,
that your light shines in the darkness!

Amen.

*Light a candle inside your pumpkin &
place it where it can be seen.
Have fun!*