



Welcome to Worship at Zion Lutheran Church

*Sunday, March 23, 2025
9:00 am*



Welcome and Announcements

Mid-week Lenten Worship at Zion

Wednesdays

March 12 through April 9

Join us in the
Fellowship Hall
and

Around the Table

with

Jesus

Take time this Lent

to follow Jesus through scripture as he meets with people over meals.

5:00 pm- Light meal

6:15 pm- Lenten worship



March 26

Lenten worship

At Simon the Pharisee's House

5:00 to 6:00 pm-
Lenten meal served
by the Stewardship Committee
and the Joanna Circle:
soup buffet

6:15 pm-
Lenten worship
in the Fellowship Hall

Sharing the Peace

Thy Holy Wings

ELW #613

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3, Gracia Grindal, b. 1943. st. 2; tr. Composite. Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. Hymnal version.


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1.

**Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment
be lived within thy grace.**

2.



**Oh, let me nestle near thee,
within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort
and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me
and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.**

3.

**Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.**

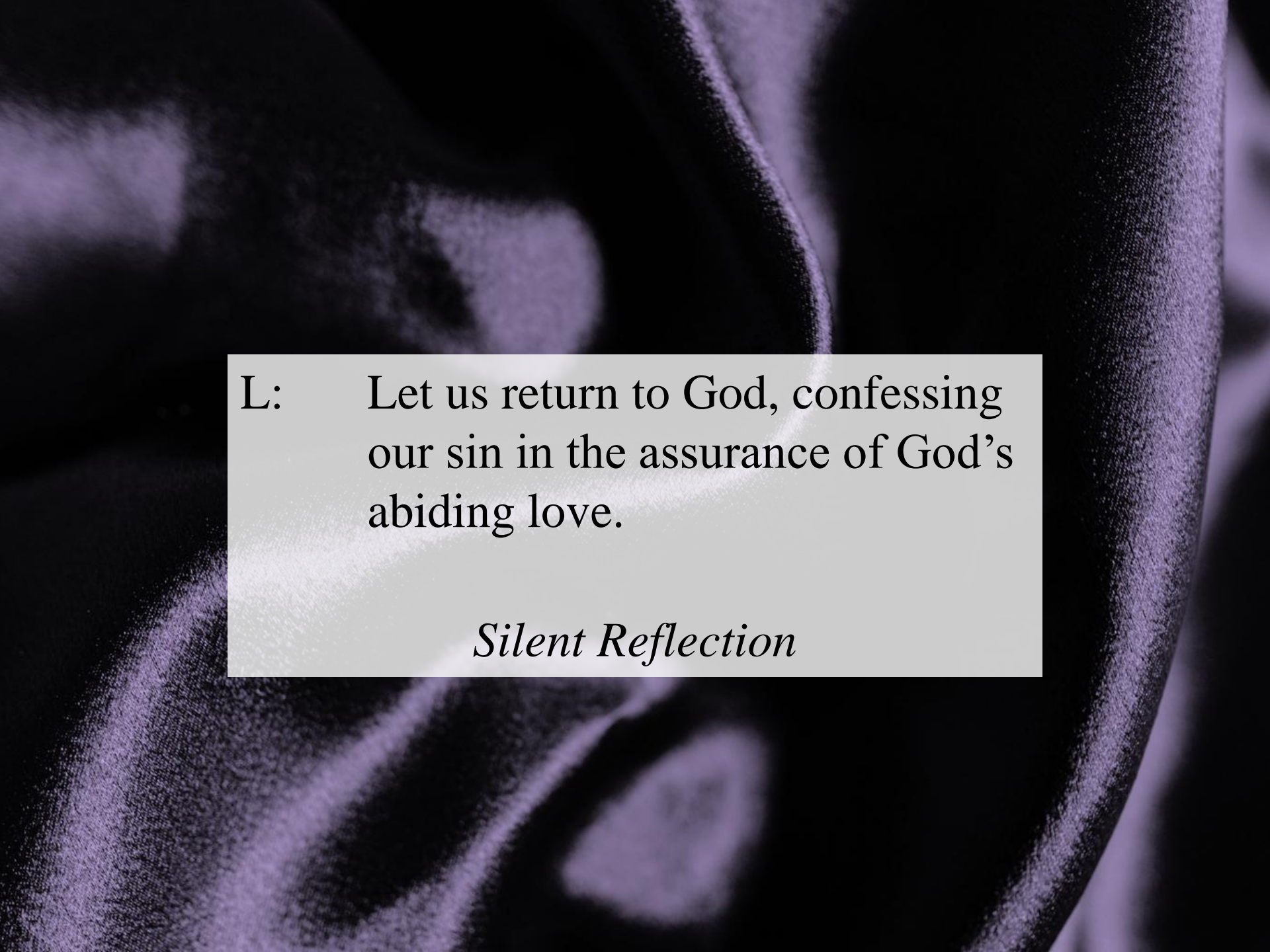
**Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.**

**Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.**

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**



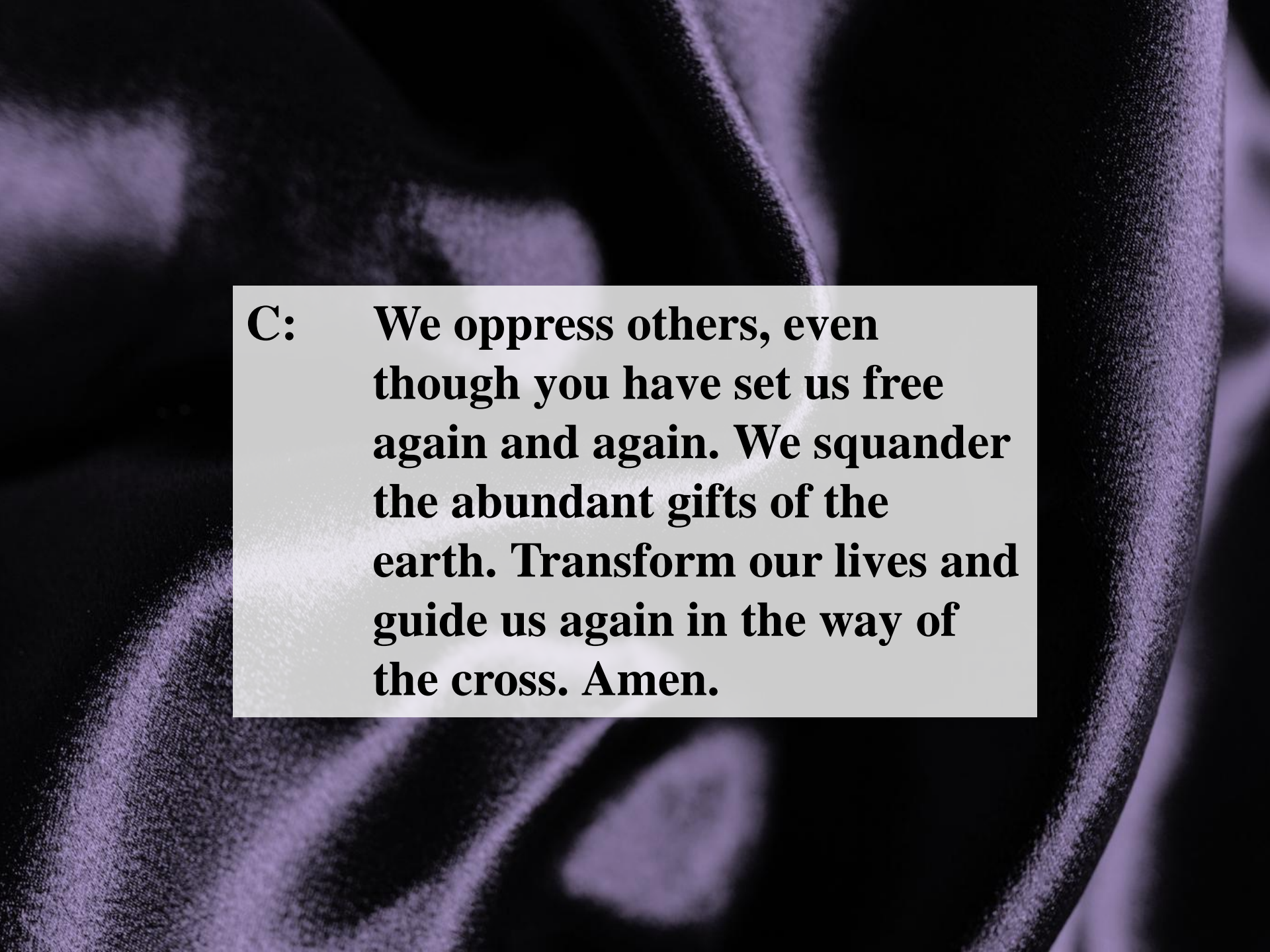
L: Let us return to God, confessing
our sin in the assurance of God's
abiding love.

Silent Reflection

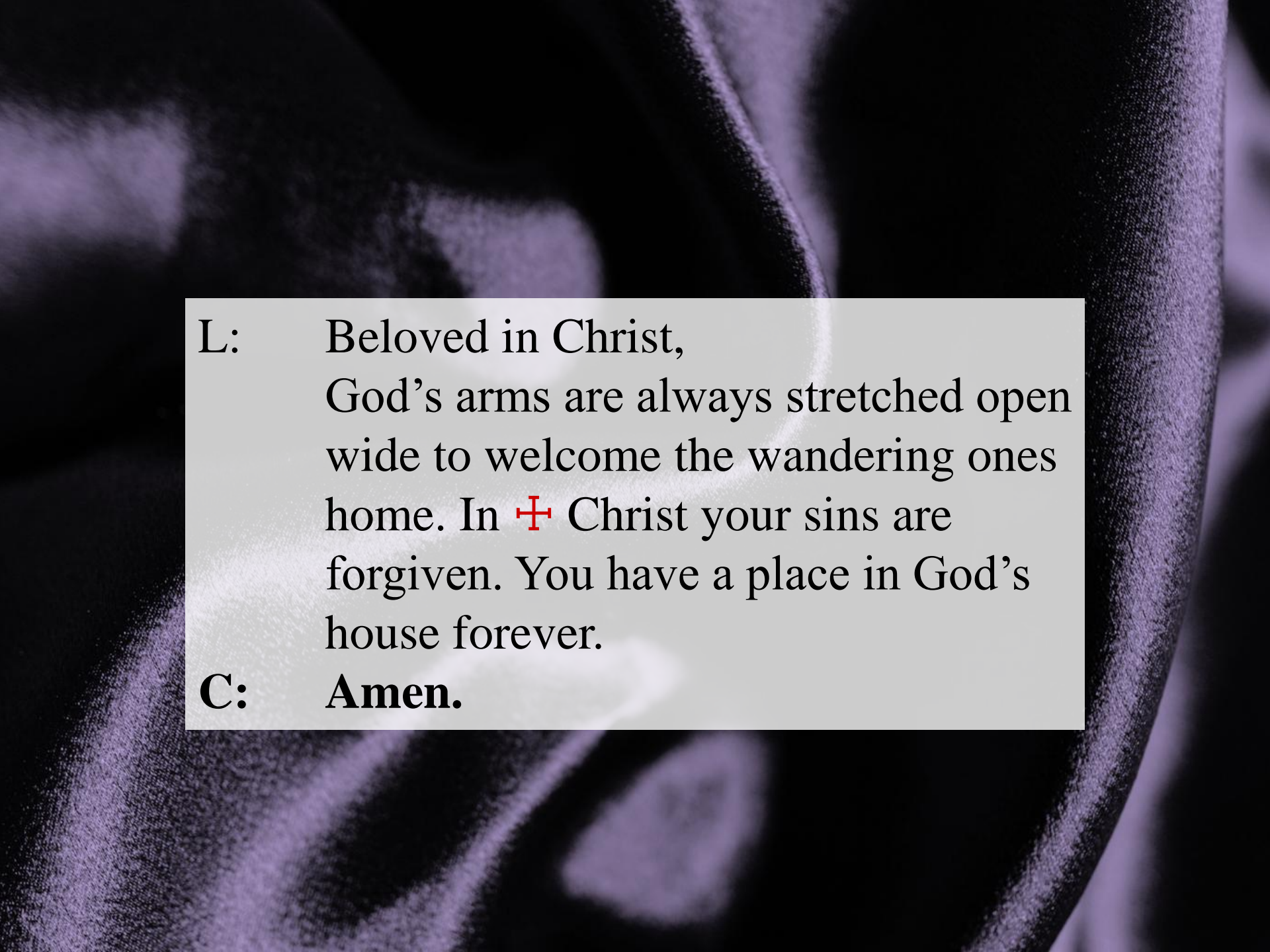


L: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.



C: We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.



L: Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open
wide to welcome the wandering ones
home. In ✝ Christ your sins are
forgiven. You have a place in God's
house forever.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

p. 203

**Have mercy on us, Lord,
and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word:
it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ,
and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us whole
that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord;
make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r;
create in us new hearts!**

Canticle of Praise

p. 204

**Glory be to God in heaven;
peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation,
Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you,
we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you;
here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever,
Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior,
you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us;
now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us;
in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you;
Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you,
God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit,
in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit,
glory be to God on high!**



L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money
for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know
you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD,
that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8

L: ¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

C: ² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

L: ³ For your steadfast love is better than life
itself; my lips shall give you praise.

C: ⁴ **So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

L: ⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of
foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful
lips,

C: ⁶ **when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

L: ⁷ For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings
I will rejoice.

C: ⁸ **My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did.

⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.

¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Gospel Acclamation

p. 205

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you;
You are merciful and kind
Slow to anger, rich in blessing,
and with love to us inclined.**

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?

⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW #632

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.. Music: William Croft, 1678-1727. Public Domain.

- 1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

**2. Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.**

**3. Before the hills in order stood
 or earth received its frame,
 from everlasting you are God,
 to endless years the same.**

**4. A thousand ages in your sight
 are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
 before the rising sun.**

**5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.**

**6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.**



Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Offering



We Are an Offering

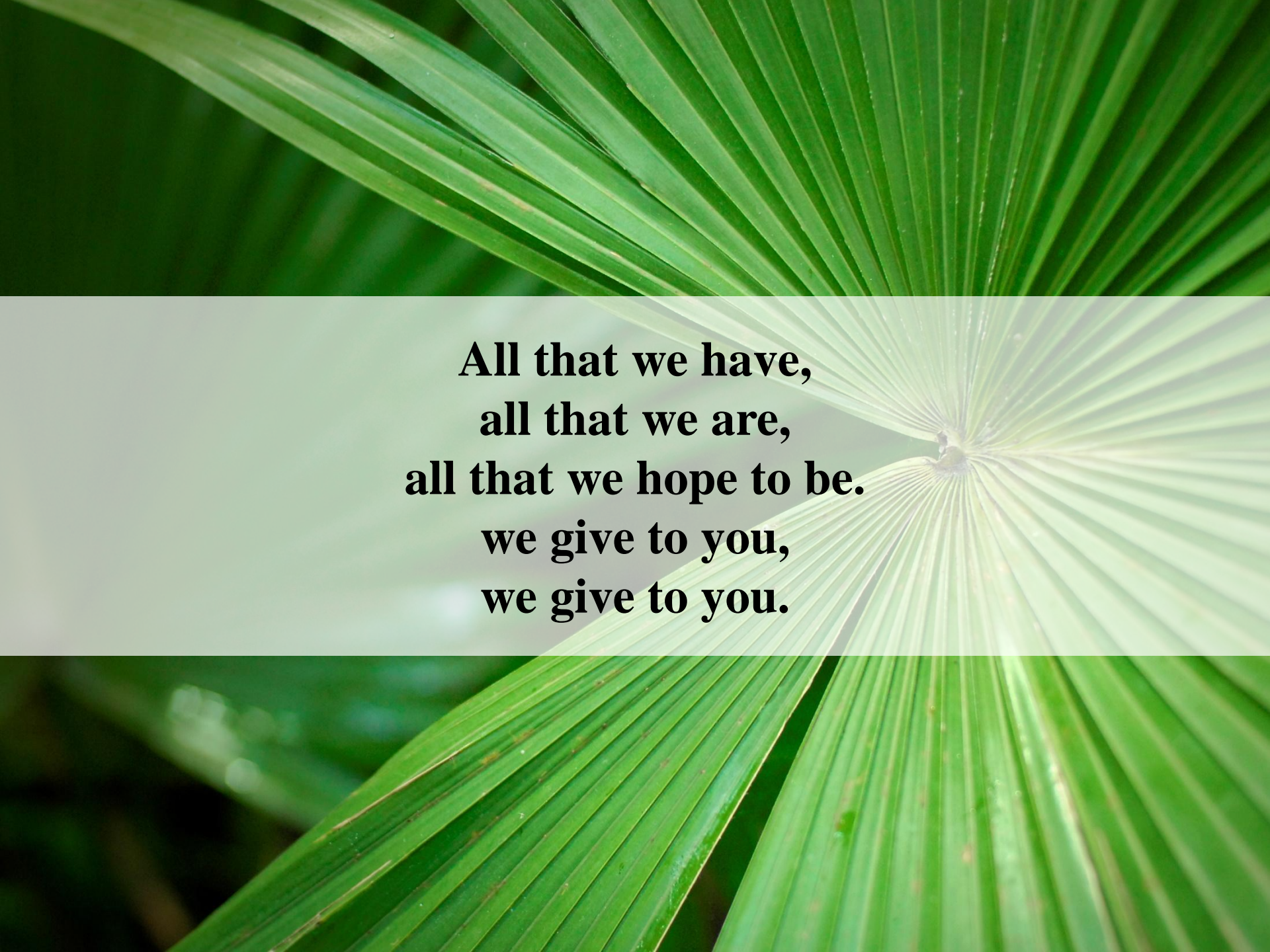
ELW #692

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**We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you;
we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours:
we are an offering.**



**All that we have,
all that we are,
all that we hope to be.
we give to you,
we give to you.**



**We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering,
we are an offering.**

Offering Prayer

L: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition:

L: God, in your mercy,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

L: God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✝ bless you now and forever.

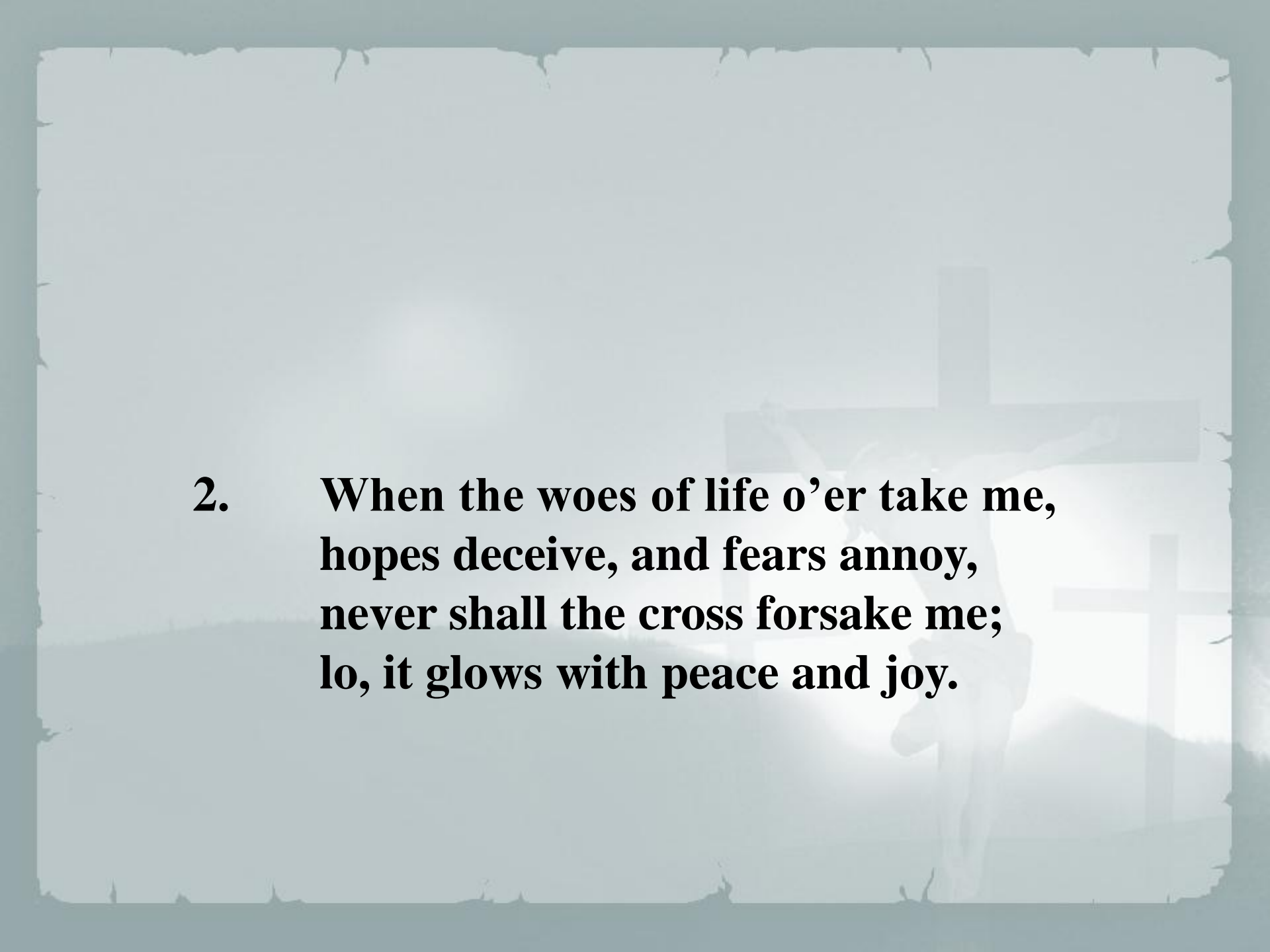
C: **Amen.**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

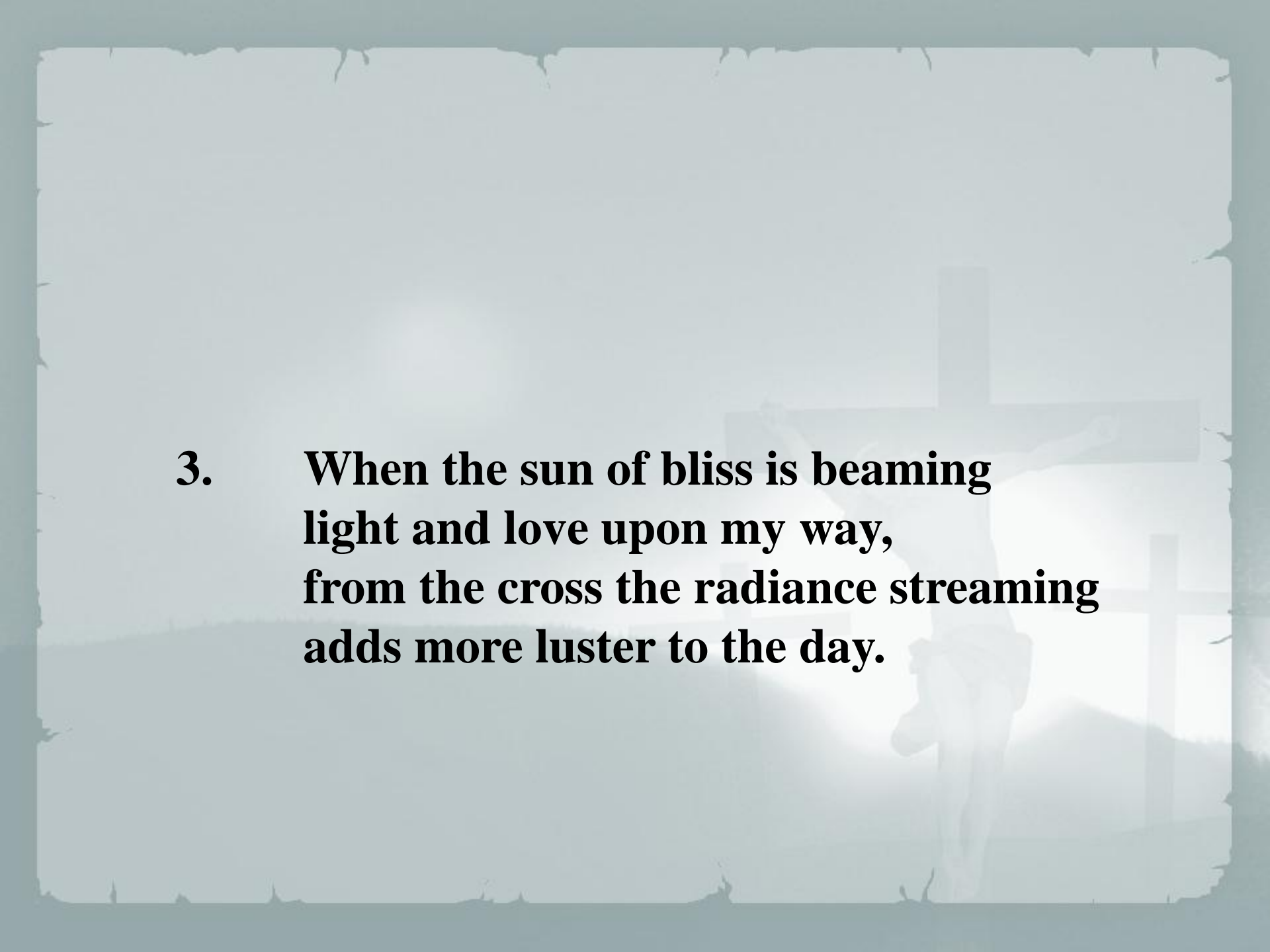
ELW #324

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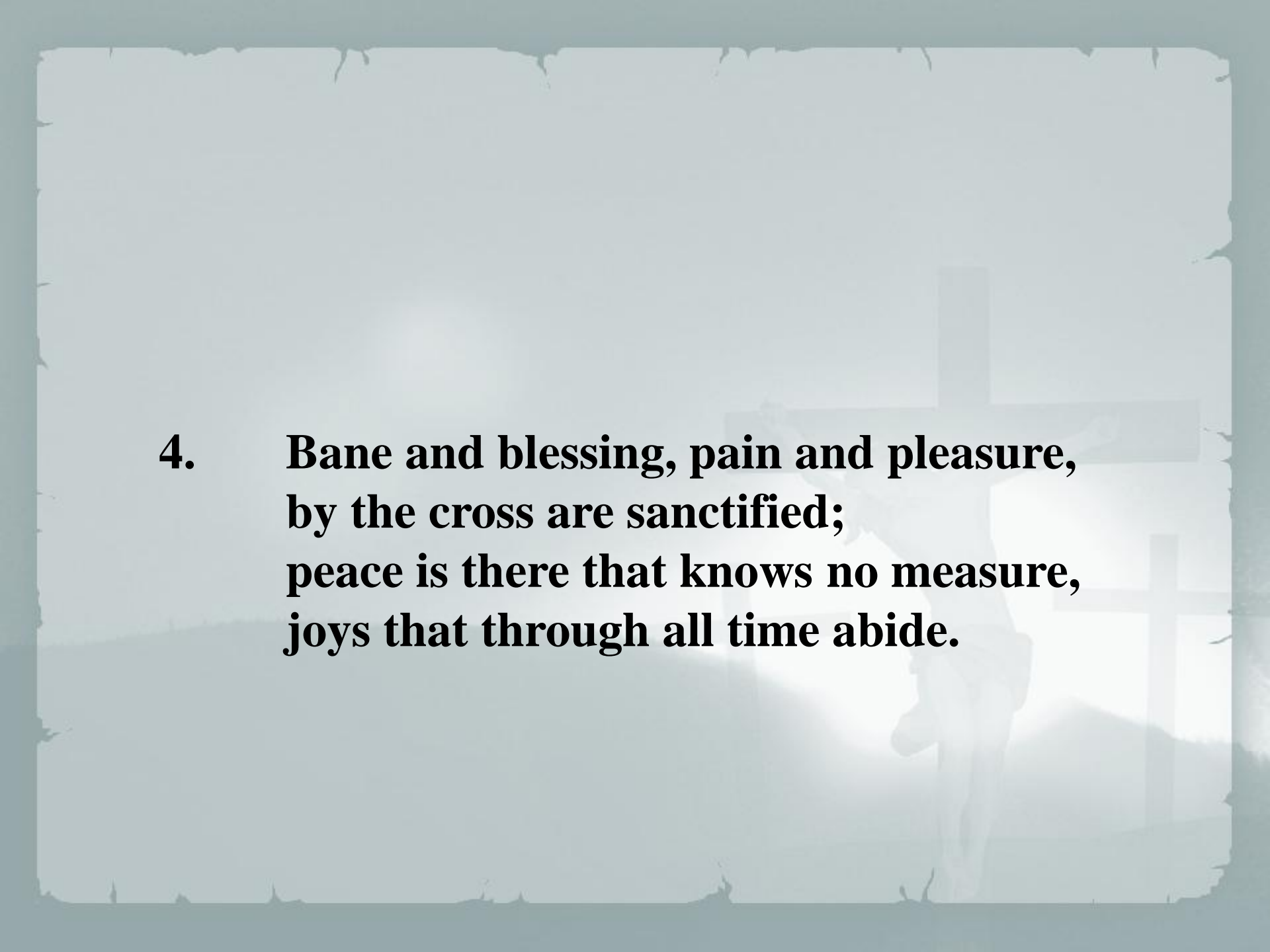
- 1. In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**



**2. When the woes of life o'er take me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.**



**3. When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.**



**4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.**

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Care for others
as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God!



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!