



*Welcome to Worship at  
Zion Lutheran Church*

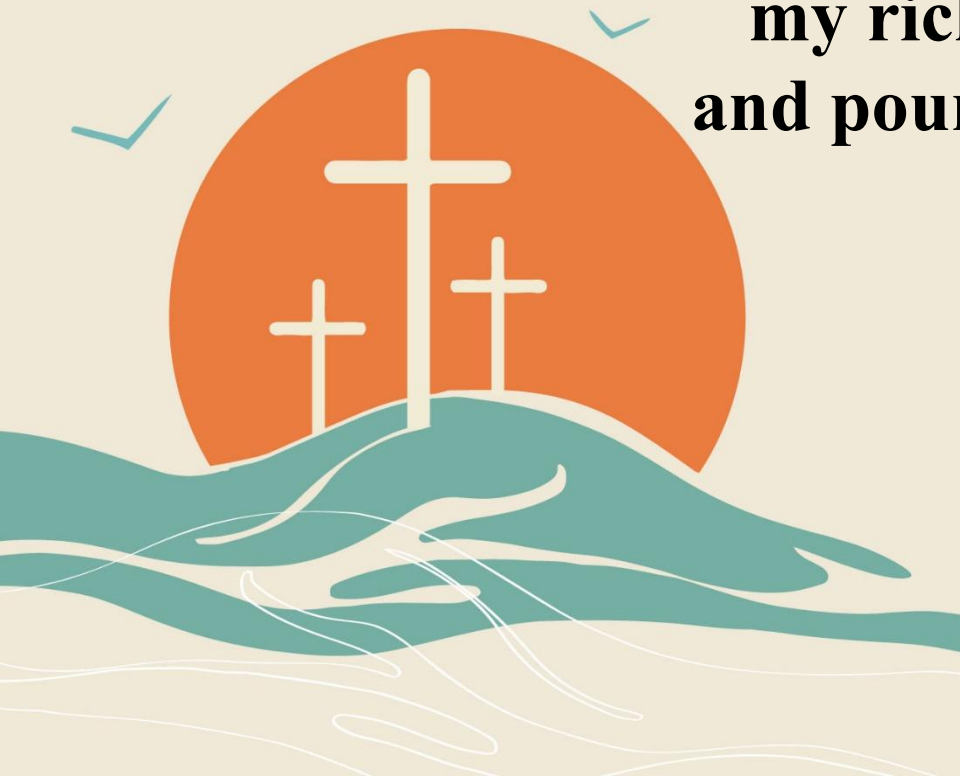
*Sunday, April 26, 2026  
9:00 am*

Montana  
Photo by Sharon Smith

# The Wonderful Cross

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**When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.**



**See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**



**O the wonderful cross,  
O the wonderful cross  
bids me come and die and find  
that I may truly live.  
O the wonderful cross,  
O the wonderful cross;  
all who gather here by grace  
draw near and bless your name.**



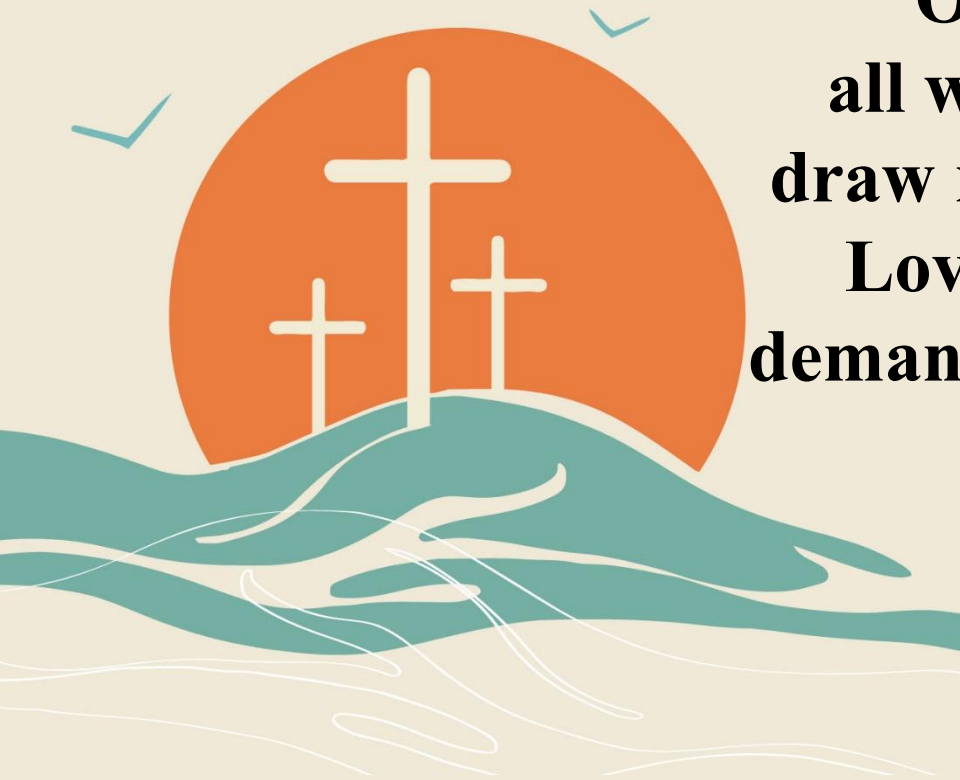
**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.**



**O the wonderful cross,  
O the wonderful cross  
bids me come and die and find  
that I may truly live.**

**O the wonderful cross,  
O the wonderful cross;  
all who gather here by grace  
draw near and bless your name.**

**Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

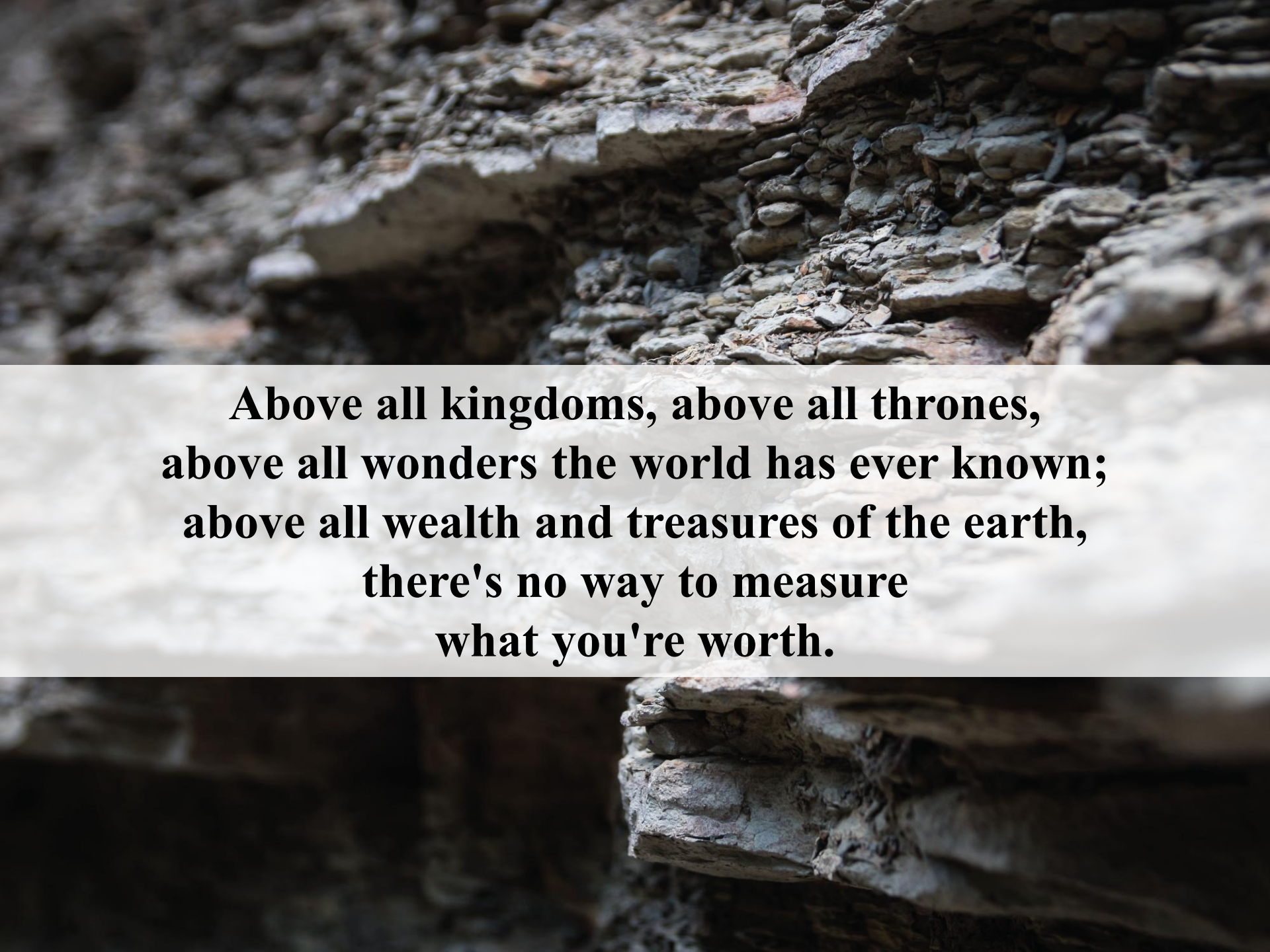




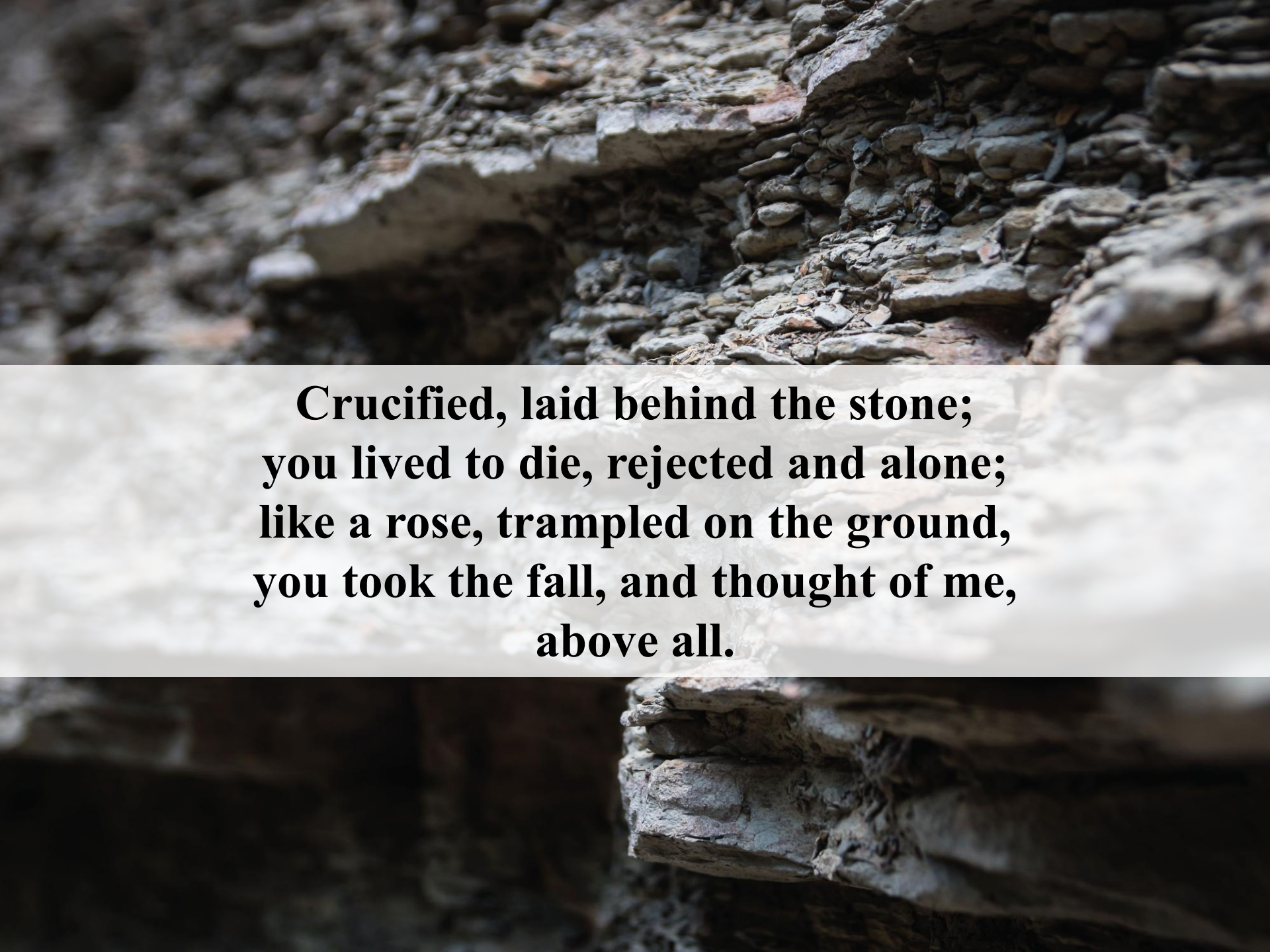
# Above All

CCLI Song # 2672885 © 1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music | LenSongs Publishing  
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**Above all powers, above all kings,  
above all nature and all created things;  
above all wisdom and all the ways of man,  
you were here before the world began.**

A close-up photograph of a rocky, layered cliff face. The rocks are dark and textured, with some lighter-colored layers visible. A white text overlay is centered on the image.

**Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,  
above all wonders the world has ever known;  
above all wealth and treasures of the earth,  
there's no way to measure  
what you're worth.**



**Crucified, laid behind the stone;  
you lived to die, rejected and alone;  
like a rose, trampled on the ground,  
you took the fall, and thought of me,  
above all.**

# **Lion of Judah**

CCLI #1079280 Author: Robin Mark. 1997 Song Solutions Daybreak  
(Admin. by Song Solutions [www.songsolutions.org](http://www.songsolutions.org))

**You're the lion of Judah,  
the lamb who was slain,  
you ascended to heaven and  
evermore will reign.  
At the end of the age  
when the earth you reclaim,  
you will gather the  
nations before you.**

**And the eyes of all men  
will be fixed on the  
lamb who was crucified;  
With wisdom and mercy and  
justice you'll reign at your father's  
side.**

**And the angels will cry,  
“Hail the lamb  
who was slain for the world,  
rule in pow’r.”**

**And the earth will reply,  
“You shall reign  
as the King of all kings  
and the Lord of all lords.”**

**There's a shield in our hand  
and a sword at our side,  
there's a fire in our spirits  
that cannot be denied;  
'Cause the Father has told us,  
for these you have died,  
for the nations who  
gather before you.**

**And the ears of all men  
need to hear of  
the lamb who was crucified; Who  
descended to hell,  
yet was raised up to reign  
at his Father's side.**

**And the angels will cry,  
“Hail the lamb  
who was slain for the world,  
rule in pow’r.”**

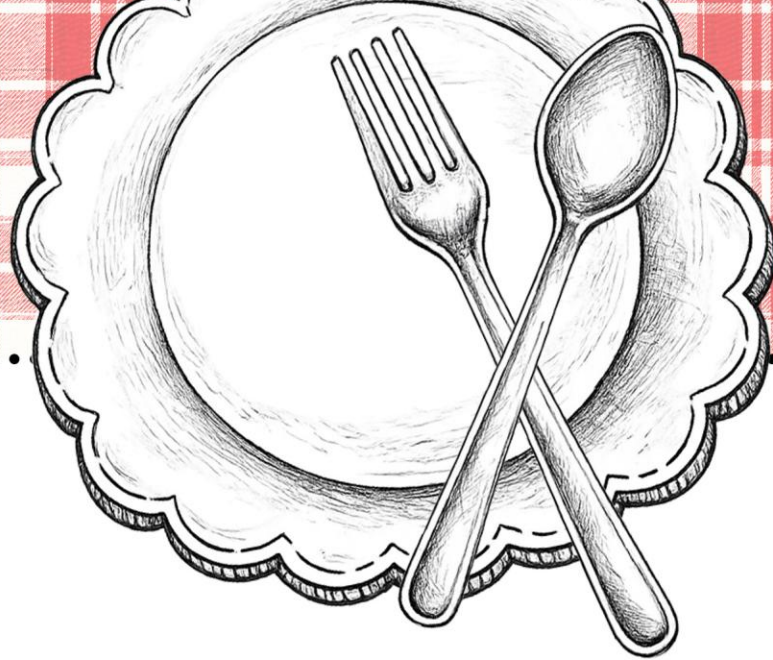
**And the earth will reply,  
“You shall reign  
as the King of all kings  
and the Lord of all lords.”**

**And the angels will cry,  
“Hail the lamb  
who was slain for the world,  
rule in pow’r.”**

**And the earth will reply,  
“You shall reign  
as the King of all kings  
and the Lord of all lords.”**



*Welcome and Announcements*



Wednesday evening meals  
will continue through  
Wednesday, May 6.  
Serving begins at 5:00 pm.

Sloppy Joe meal will be served by youth & family alongside the  
pre-confirmation and confirmation classes.





# MOVING HELP

Pastor Linda is moving  
to her new rental!

Sign up with Buck Bue  
if you can help.

They will be moving  
everything on May 1 at  
10:00 am.

# *Sharing the Peace*

# *Call to Worship*

**L:** Day by day, God leads us:

**C:** **to the deep, deep pools of peace,  
to the green, lush lawns of grace.**

**L:** Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**C:** **to pour out ourselves in service,  
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

**L:** Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**C:** **the community we could be,  
the family we are called to become.**

# My Jesus

CCLI Song # 7174531 Anne Wilson | Jeff Pardo | Matthew West; © 2021 BrentHood Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Jacobs Story Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Meaux Mercy (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Matthew West (Combustion) (Admin. by Ole Media Management LP); For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 1943036

**Are you past the point of weary?  
Is your burden weighing heavy?  
Is it all too much to carry?  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**Do you feel that empty feeling  
'cause shame's done all its stealing,  
and you're desperate for some healing?  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**He makes a way where there ain't no way.**

**Rises up from an empty grave.**

**Ain't no sinner that he can't save.**

**Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**His love is strong and his grace is free,**

**and the good news is I know that he  
can do for you what he's done for me.**

**Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**And let my Jesus change your life.**

**Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah,  
amen, amen.**

**Who can wipe away the tears  
from broken dreams and wasted years,  
and tell the past to disappear?  
Oh, and let me tell you 'bout my Jesus,  
and all the wrong turns that you would  
go and undo if you could.  
Who can work it all for your good?  
Let me tell you about my Jesus.**

**He makes a way where there ain't no way.  
Rises up from an empty grave.  
Ain't no sinner that he can't save.  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**His love is strong and his grace is free,  
and the good news is I know that he  
can do for you what he's done for me.  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus  
and let my Jesus change your life.**

**Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah,  
amen, amen. (amen)**

**Who would take my cross to Calvary?  
Pay the price for all my guilty?  
Who would care that much about me?  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus, oh.**

**He makes a way where there ain't no way.  
Rises up from an empty grave.  
Ain't no sinner that he can't save.  
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.**

**His love is strong and his grace is free,  
and the good news is I know that he  
can do for you what he's done for me.**

**Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.  
And let my Jesus change your life.**

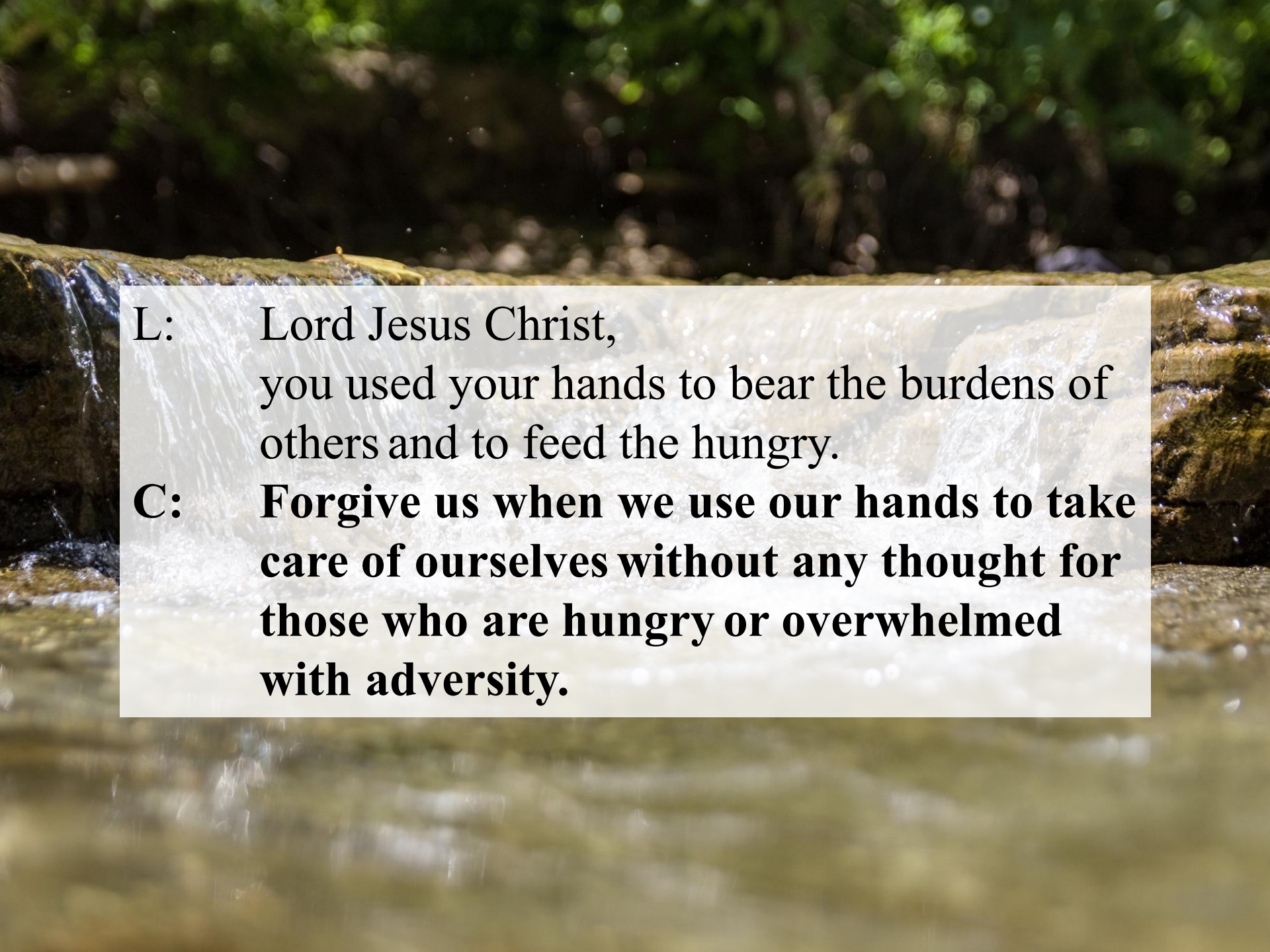
**Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah,  
amen, amen.**

**Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah,  
Let my Jesus change your life!**

# *Confession and Forgiveness*

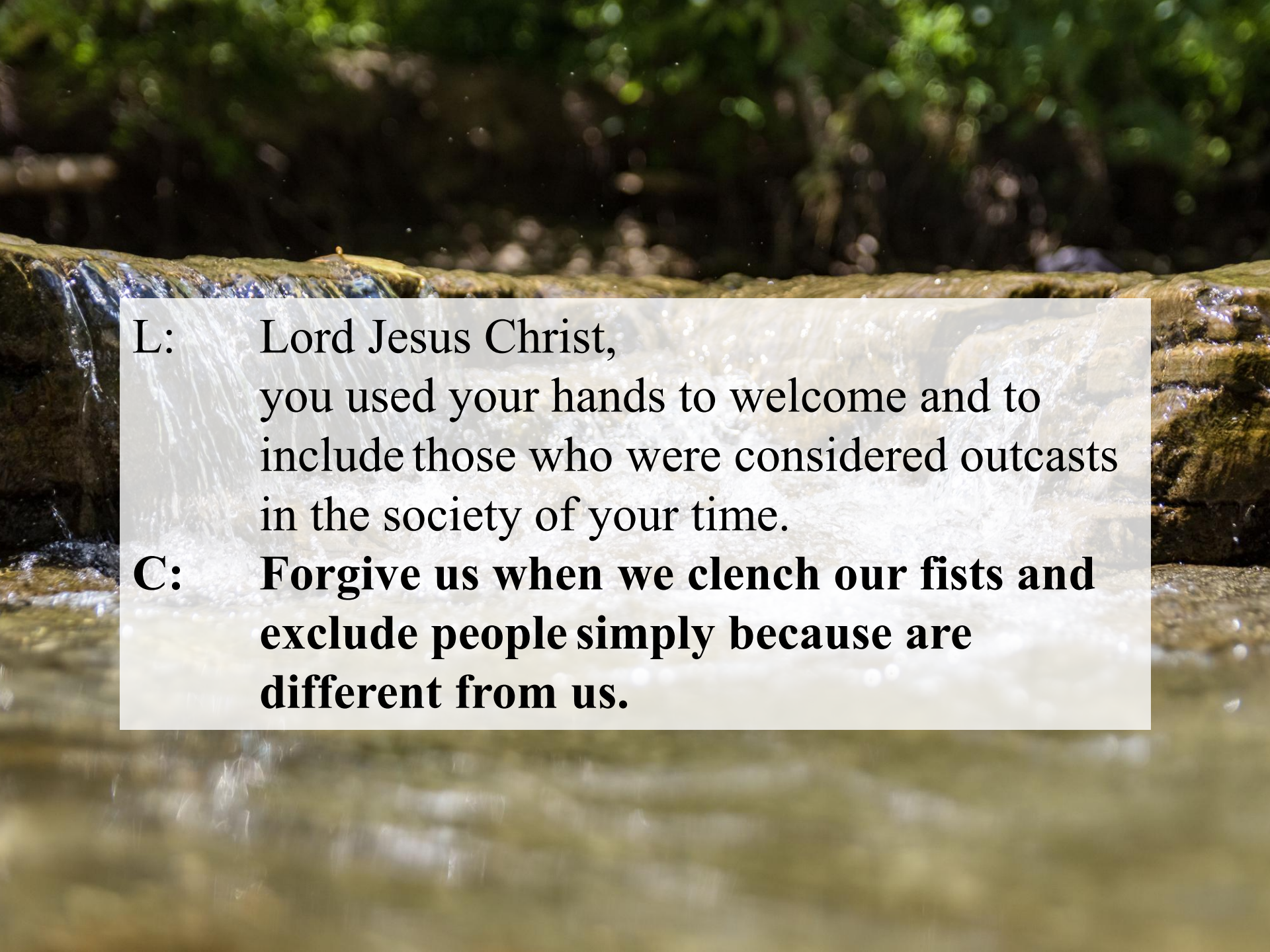
**L:** Lord Jesus Christ,  
you used your hands to heal; to lift up; to  
bless; to sow kindness and tenderness in  
desolate lives.

**C:** **Forgive us when we keep our hands at  
our sides when we could be reaching out  
in love.**



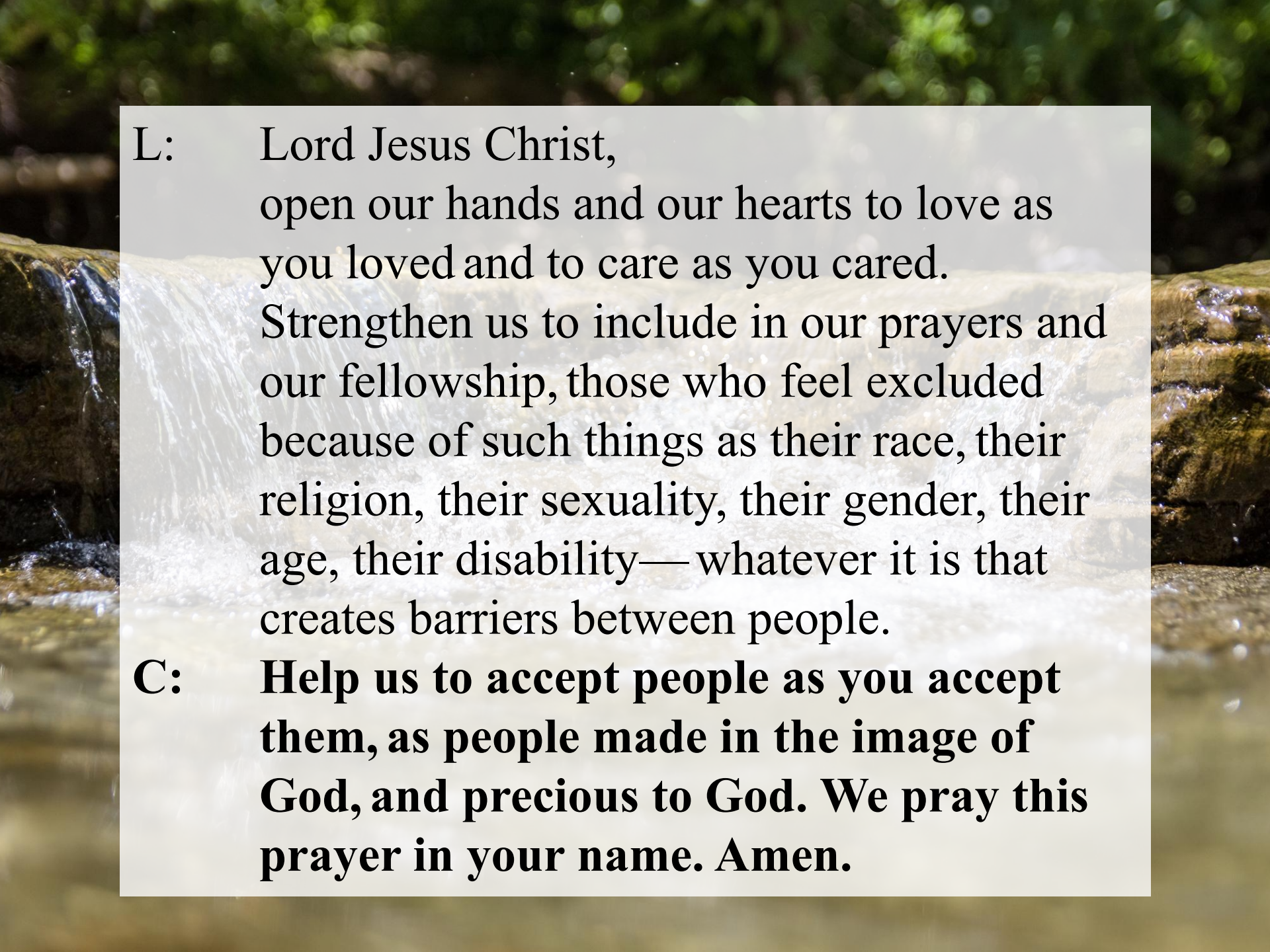
L: Lord Jesus Christ,  
you used your hands to bear the burdens of  
others and to feed the hungry.

**C: Forgive us when we use our hands to take  
care of ourselves without any thought for  
those who are hungry or overwhelmed  
with adversity.**



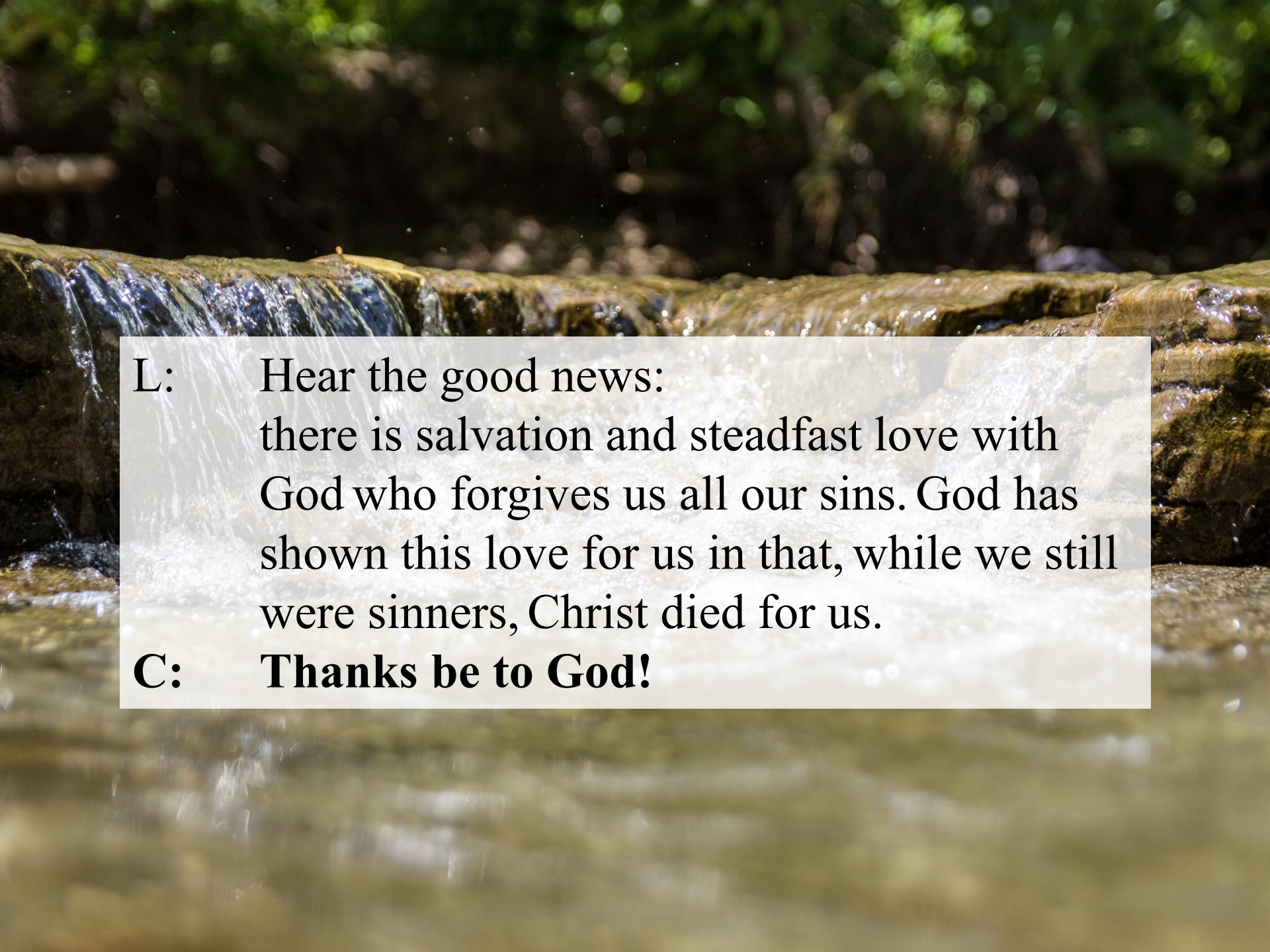
L: Lord Jesus Christ,  
you used your hands to welcome and to  
include those who were considered outcasts  
in the society of your time.

**C: Forgive us when we clench our fists and  
exclude people simply because are  
different from us.**

A photograph of a waterfall cascading over dark, mossy rocks in a lush green forest. The water is white and frothy as it falls. The background is filled with vibrant green foliage, creating a serene and natural setting. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area in the center of the image.

L: Lord Jesus Christ,  
open our hands and our hearts to love as  
you loved and to care as you cared.  
Strengthen us to include in our prayers and  
our fellowship, those who feel excluded  
because of such things as their race, their  
religion, their sexuality, their gender, their  
age, their disability—whatever it is that  
creates barriers between people.

**C: Help us to accept people as you accept  
them, as people made in the image of  
God, and precious to God. We pray this  
prayer in your name. Amen.**



L: Hear the good news:  
there is salvation and steadfast love with  
God who forgives us all our sins. God has  
shown this love for us in that, while we still  
were sinners, Christ died for us.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*A Message for  
All God's Children*





## **First Reading: Acts 2:42-47**

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.



**L: The Word of the Lord.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 23

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**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
his goodness restores my soul.**



**And I will trust in you alone,  
and I will trust in you alone.  
For your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.**



**He guides my ways in righteousness,  
and he anoints my head with oil;  
and my cup it overflows with joy,  
I feast on his pure delights.**



**And I will trust in you alone,  
and I will trust in you alone.  
For your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.**



**And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one;  
for you are with me,  
and your rod and staff  
are the comfort I need to know**



**And I will trust in you alone,  
and I will trust in you alone.  
For your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.**

**And I will trust in you alone,  
and I will trust in you alone.  
For your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.**

**For your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.**





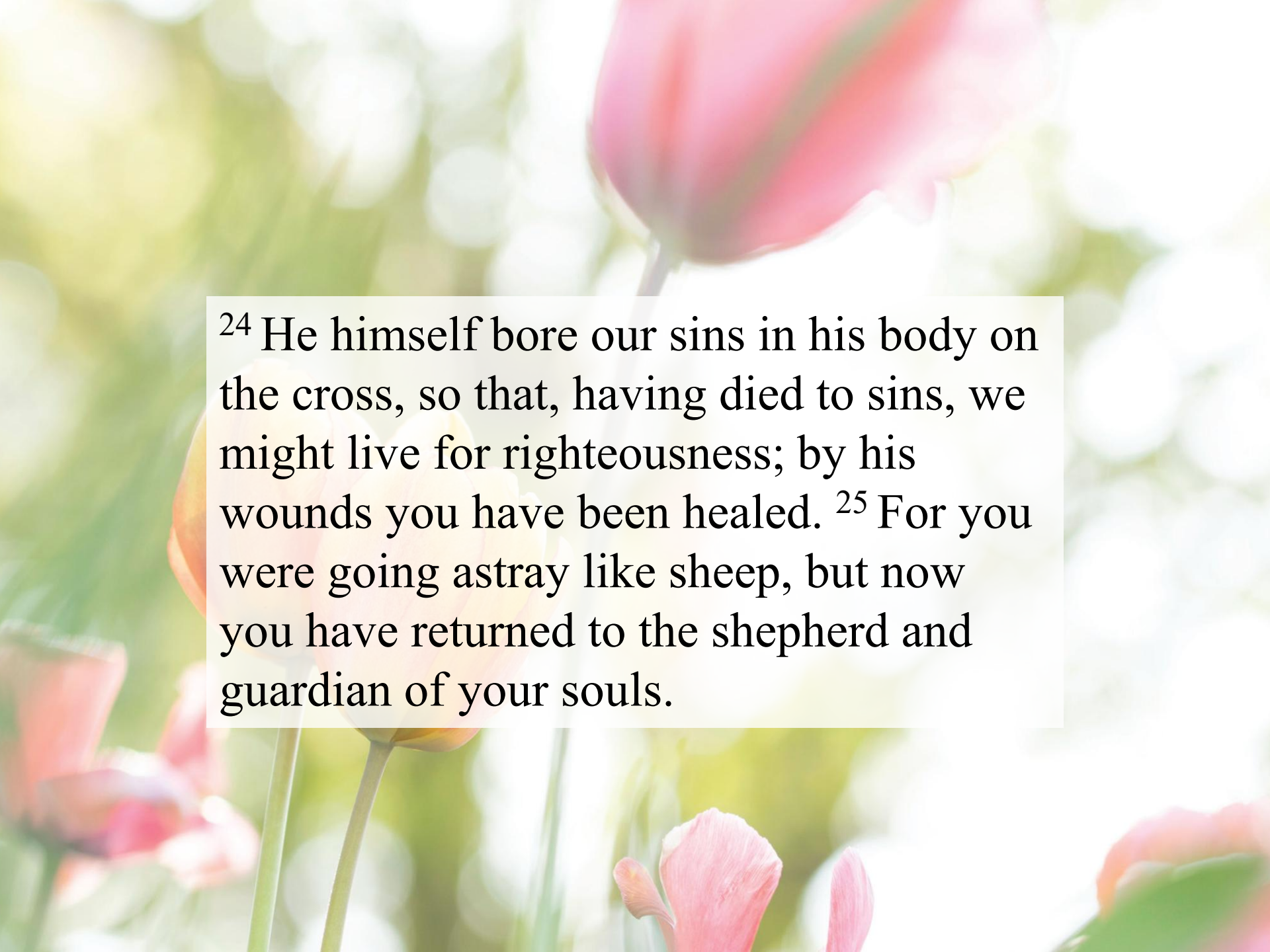
## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup> “He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.



<sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.



L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# **Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

ELW #512

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950. Music: Handt Hanson. Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.  
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**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow  
and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

## **Gospel: John 10:1-15**

<sup>1</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

<sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

A photograph of a forest floor covered in fallen leaves, with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box in the center.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

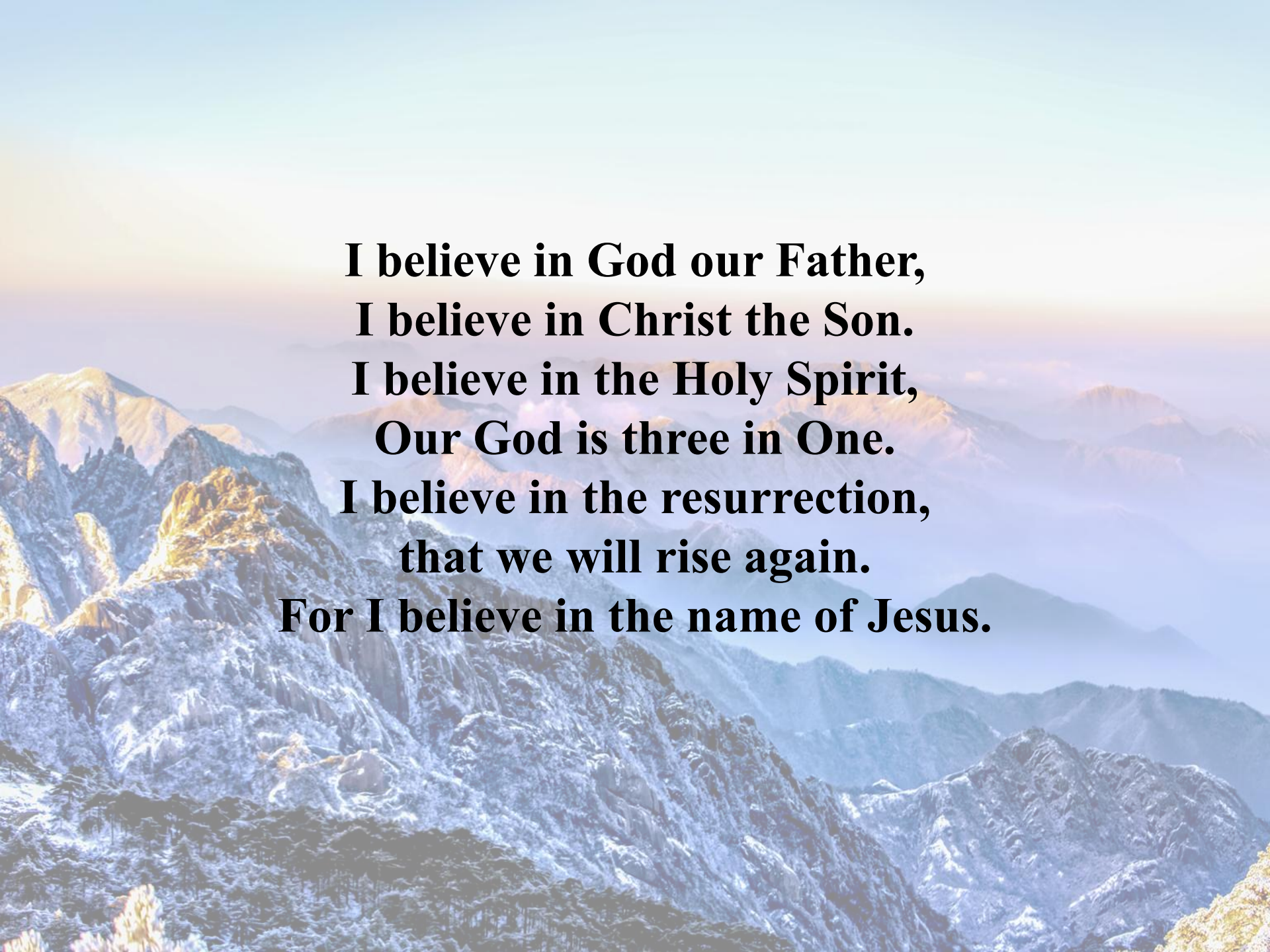


*Message*

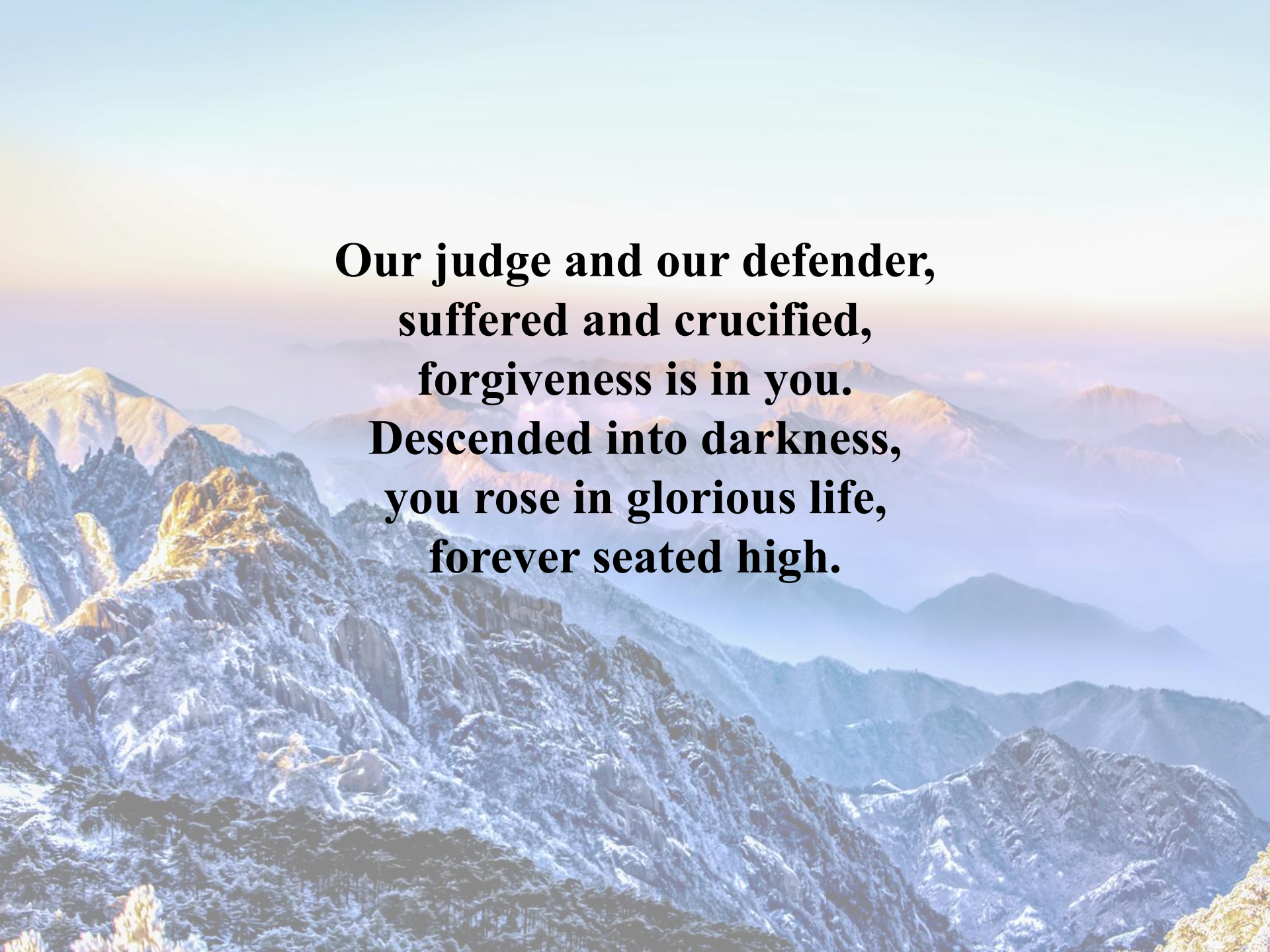
# **This I Believe (The Creed)**

CCLI # 7018338 Ben Fielding | Matt Crocker © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
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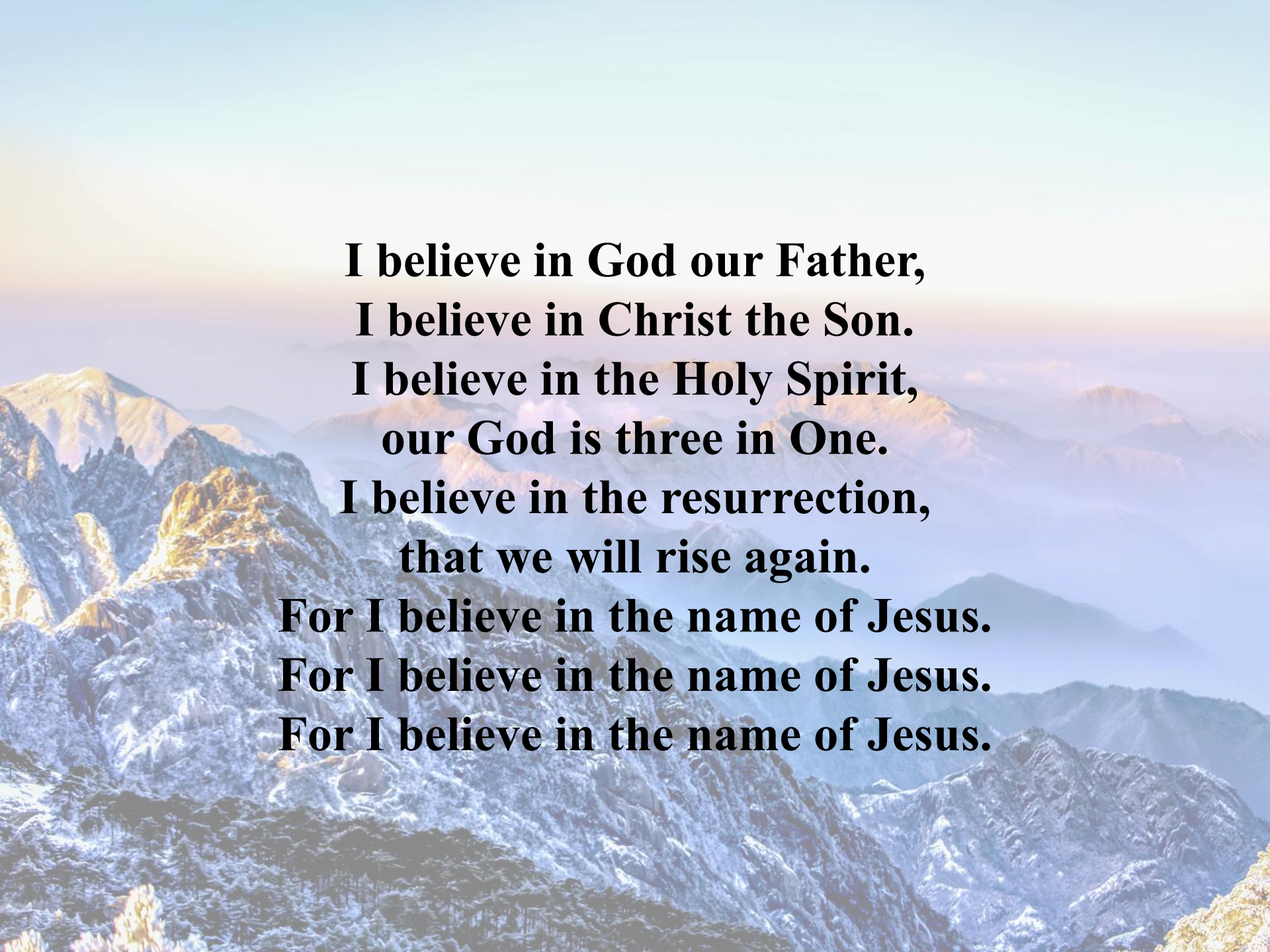
**Our Father everlasting,  
the all creating One,  
God Almighty.  
Through your Holy Spirit,  
conceiving Christ the Son,  
Jesus our Savior.**



**I believe in God our Father,  
I believe in Christ the Son.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Our God is three in One.  
I believe in the resurrection,  
that we will rise again.  
For I believe in the name of Jesus.**



**Our judge and our defender,  
suffered and crucified,  
forgiveness is in you.  
Descended into darkness,  
you rose in glorious life,  
forever seated high.**



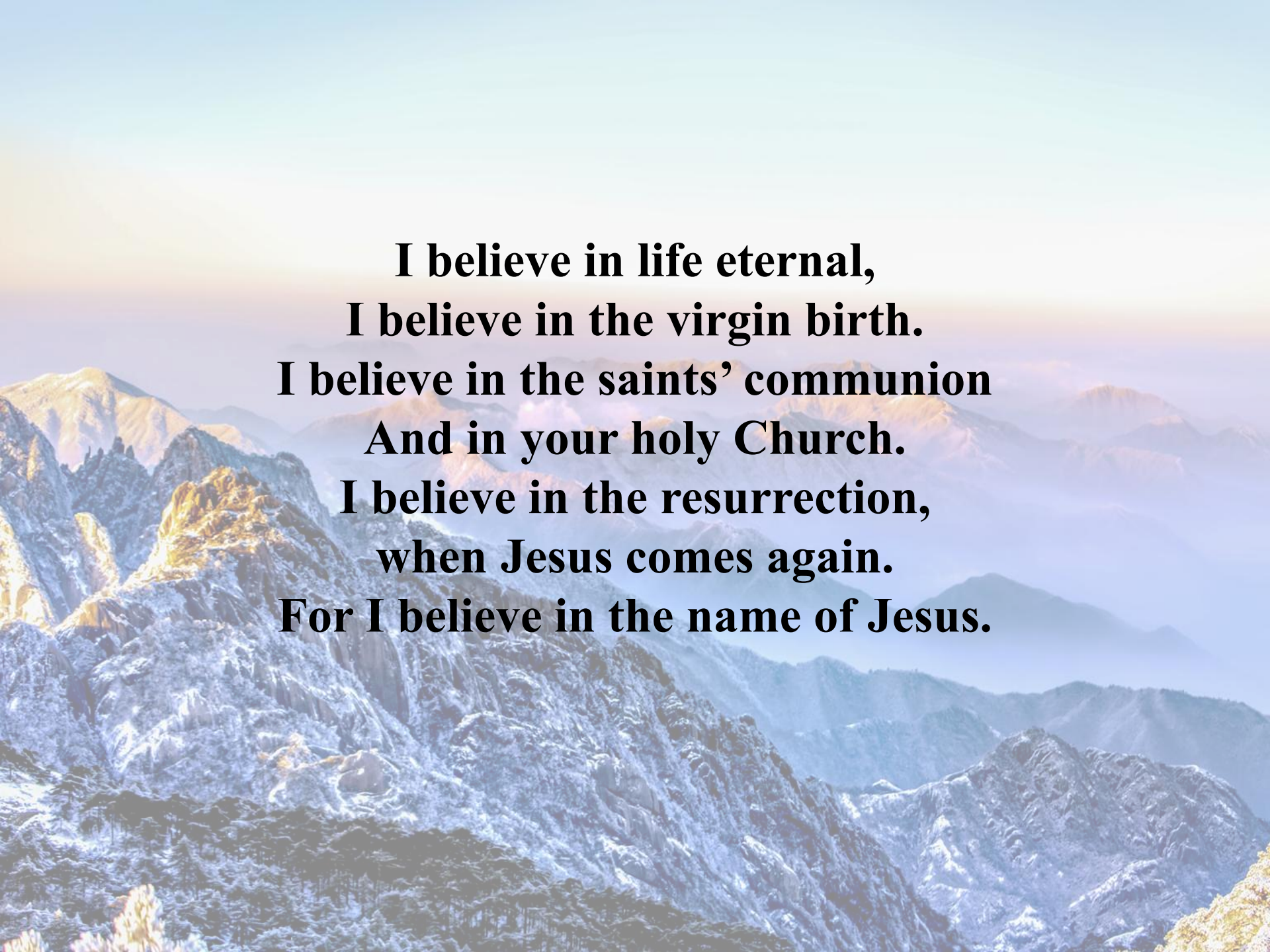
**I believe in God our Father,  
I believe in Christ the Son.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
our God is three in One.**

**I believe in the resurrection,  
that we will rise again.**

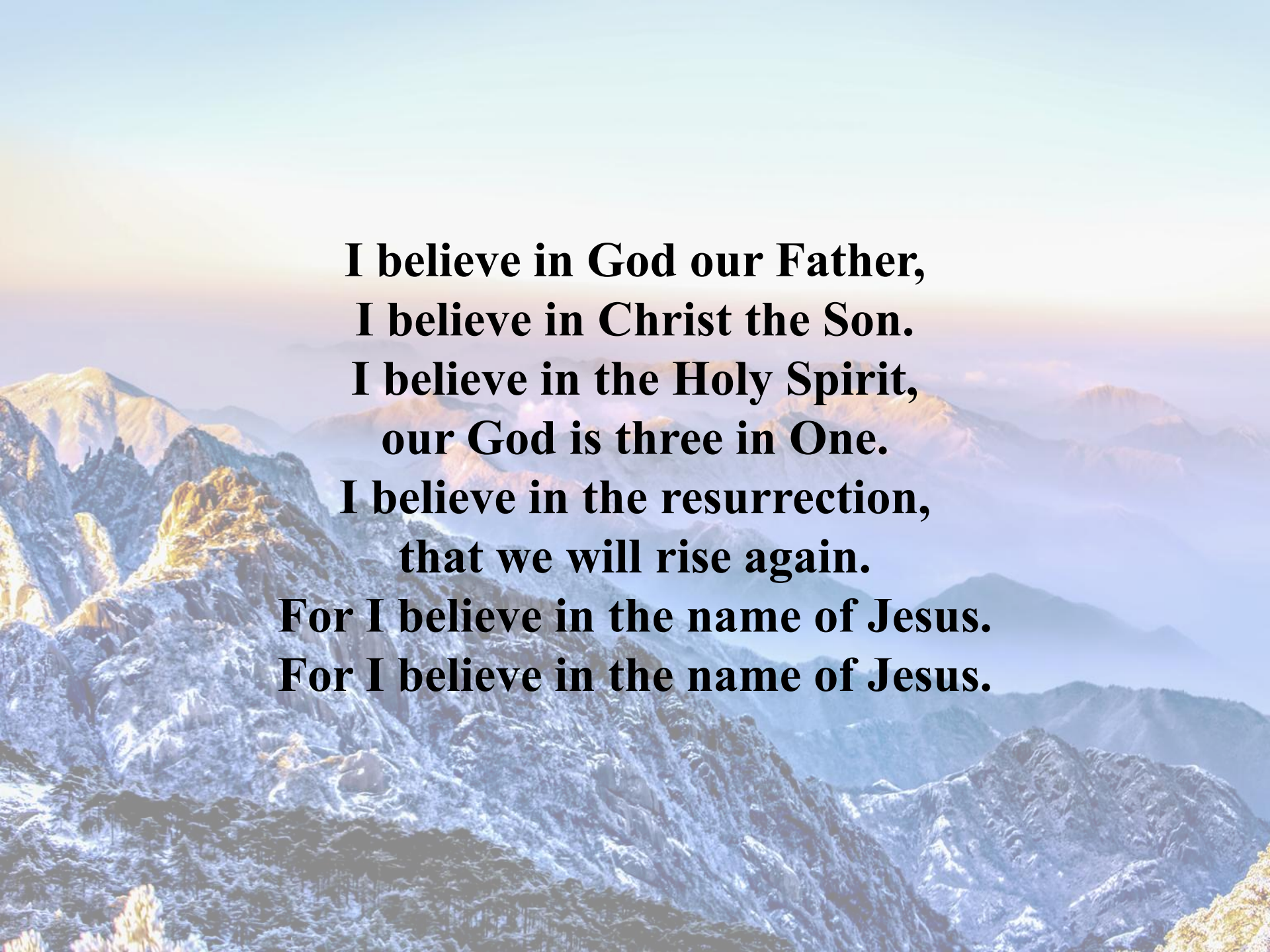
**For I believe in the name of Jesus.**

**For I believe in the name of Jesus.**

**For I believe in the name of Jesus.**



**I believe in life eternal,  
I believe in the virgin birth.  
I believe in the saints' communion  
And in your holy Church.  
I believe in the resurrection,  
when Jesus comes again.  
For I believe in the name of Jesus.**



**I believe in God our Father,  
I believe in Christ the Son.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
our God is three in One.  
I believe in the resurrection,  
that we will rise again.  
For I believe in the name of Jesus.  
For I believe in the name of Jesus.**

A close-up, low-angle shot of a vast field of golden wheat. The sun is positioned high in the sky, creating a strong lens flare effect that washes over the scene with a warm, golden light. The wheat stalks are densely packed and reach towards the top of the frame. The overall mood is peaceful and abundant.

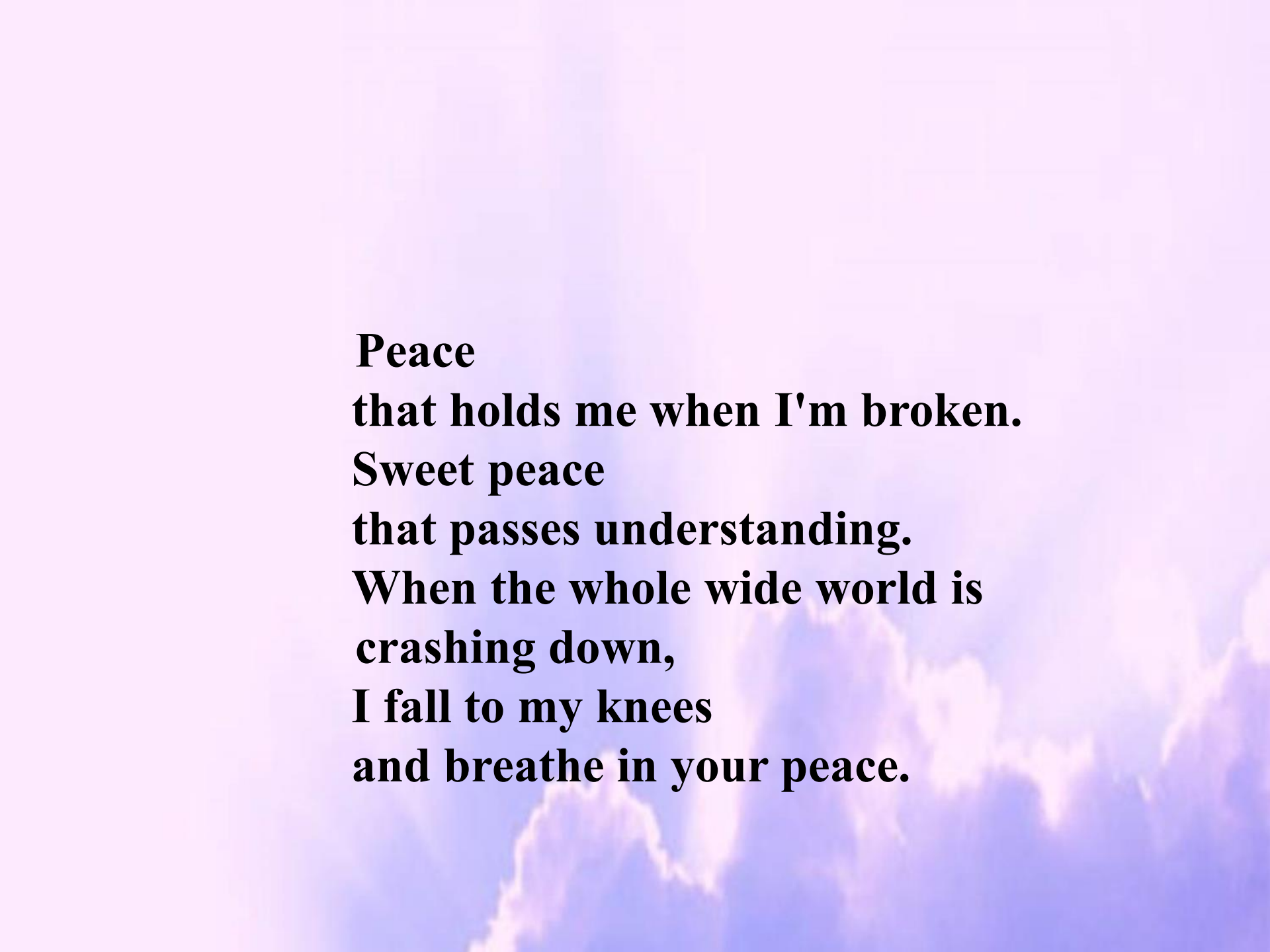
*Offering*

# Peace


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**When my mind is like a battlefield  
and my heart is overcome by fear  
and hope seems like a ship that's lost at sea.**

**My enemies on every side  
and I'm tempted to run and hide,  
your gentle whisper reaches out to me.**



**Peace  
that holds me when I'm broken.  
Sweet peace  
that passes understanding.  
When the whole wide world is  
crashing down,  
I fall to my knees  
and breathe in your peace.**



**Fiery arrows whistling,  
the terror of the night sets in,  
but I can feel your angels all around.**

**I am resting underneath  
the shelter of your mighty wings.  
Your promises are where my hope is found.**



**Peace**

**that holds me when I'm broken.**

**Sweet peace.**

**That passes understanding.**

**When the whole wide world is crashing down,**

**I fall to my knees**

**and breathe in your peace.**

**I remember who you are:  
You're the God who's never far.  
So I will not be afraid.  
God, you always keep me safe in your arms.**

**I remember who you are:  
You're the God who's never, ever far away.  
So I will not be afraid.  
God, you always you always keep me safe.**

**You give me peace  
that holds me when I'm broken.**

**Sweet peace  
that passes understanding.**

**When the whole wide world is crashing down,  
I fall to my knees  
and breathe in....**

**I breathe you, I breathe you in.  
Take a deep breath and be still  
and know that you are God alone.**

# *Offering Prayer*

**L:** God of love,  
you abide with us; you provide for all our  
needs and guide us in your ways. Out of  
gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts  
before you. Use them for your work of  
caring, that all may feast at the table of  
abundance, walk without fear, and drink  
deeply from the cup of compassion.

**C:** **Amen.**

# *Prayers of Intercession*

Response after each petition:

L: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**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:** May God create in you a clean heart, a transformed heart, a heart that knows and seeks and loves the justice and mercy of the Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

# **Build Your Kingdom Here**

CCLI Song # 6186078 Chris Llewellyn | Gareth Gilkeson | William Herron © 2011 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1943036

**Come set your rule, and reign  
in our hearts again.**

**Increase in us we pray.**


**Unveil why we're made.**

**Come set our hearts ablaze with hope,  
like wildfire in our very souls.**


**Holy Spirit, come invade us now.**

**We are your church;**


**We need your pow'r in us.**




**We seek your kingdom first.  
We hunger and we thirst;  
Refuse to waste our lives,  
for you're our joy and prize.  
To see the captives' hearts released;  
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace.  
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause.  
We are your church;  
We pray, revive this earth.**




**Build your kingdom here.  
Let the darkness fear.  
Show your mighty hand.  
Heal our streets and land.  
Set your church on fire.  
Win this nation back.  
Change the atmosphere.  
Build your kingdom here, we pray!**



**Unleash your kingdom's pow'r,  
reaching the near and far.  
No force of hell can stop  
your beauty, changing hearts.  
You made us for much more than this;  
Awake the kingdom seed in us.  
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.  
We are your church;  
We are the hope on earth.**



**Build your kingdom here.  
Let the darkness fear.  
Show your mighty hand.  
Heal our streets and land.  
Set your church on fire.  
Win this nation back.  
Change the atmosphere.  
Build your kingdom here, we pray!**



**Build your kingdom here.  
Let the darkness fear.  
Show your mighty hand.  
Heal our streets and land.  
Set your church on fire.  
Win this nation back.  
Change the atmosphere.  
Build your kingdom here, we pray!**



## *Dismissal*

L: Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem, so God sends you into the world this day to be light and love, healing and hope. Go now to be light for the world!

**C: I will let my light shine! Amen!**



*Thank you  
for worshipping  
with us!*

*God bless you!*

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