



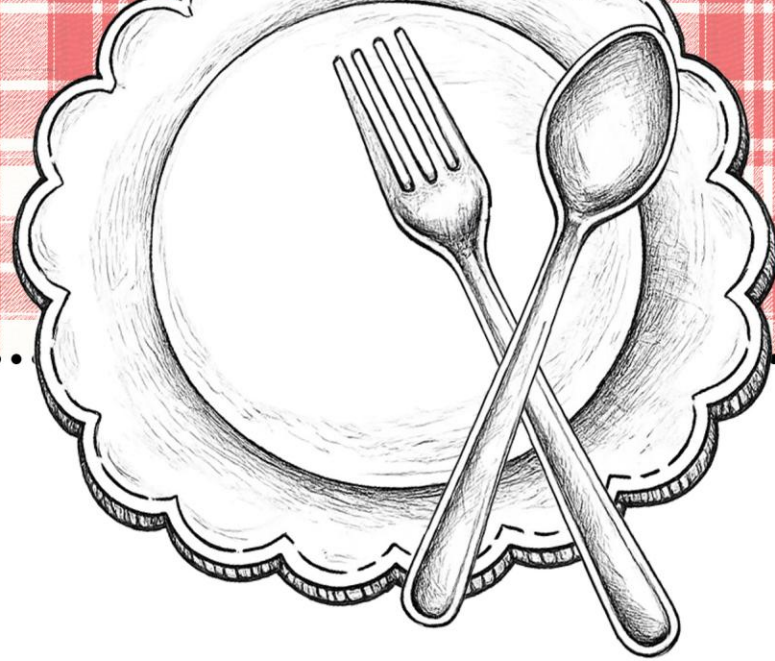
*Welcome to Worship at
Zion Lutheran Church*

*Sunday, May 3, 2026
9:00 am*

Sunset in Green Valley, AZ. April 2026
Photo by Keith Landin

A photograph of a sunset over a residential area. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds in shades of orange, pink, and light blue. In the foreground, the silhouettes of various trees, including palm trees and a large, leafy tree, are visible against the bright horizon. A house is partially visible in the background, its roofline and windows silhouetted. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

Welcome and Announcements



Wednesday meals,
worship, and classes
end for the spring
on May 6!



Wednesdays in June
5:30 pm

A midweek evening Bible Study led by Pastor Linda will be held at 5:30 pm each Wednesday in June.

The Bible study will be on the Scripture readings for the week.

Drop in when you can or come each week.

Everyone is welcome!

Join Kamarra Brunelle in the next book club!

Good Soil:
*The Education of An
Accidental Farmhand* by
Jeff Chu

The first meeting will be on
Sunday, June 7 at 11:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall.
Following meeting dates will be
Mondays at 10:00 am.



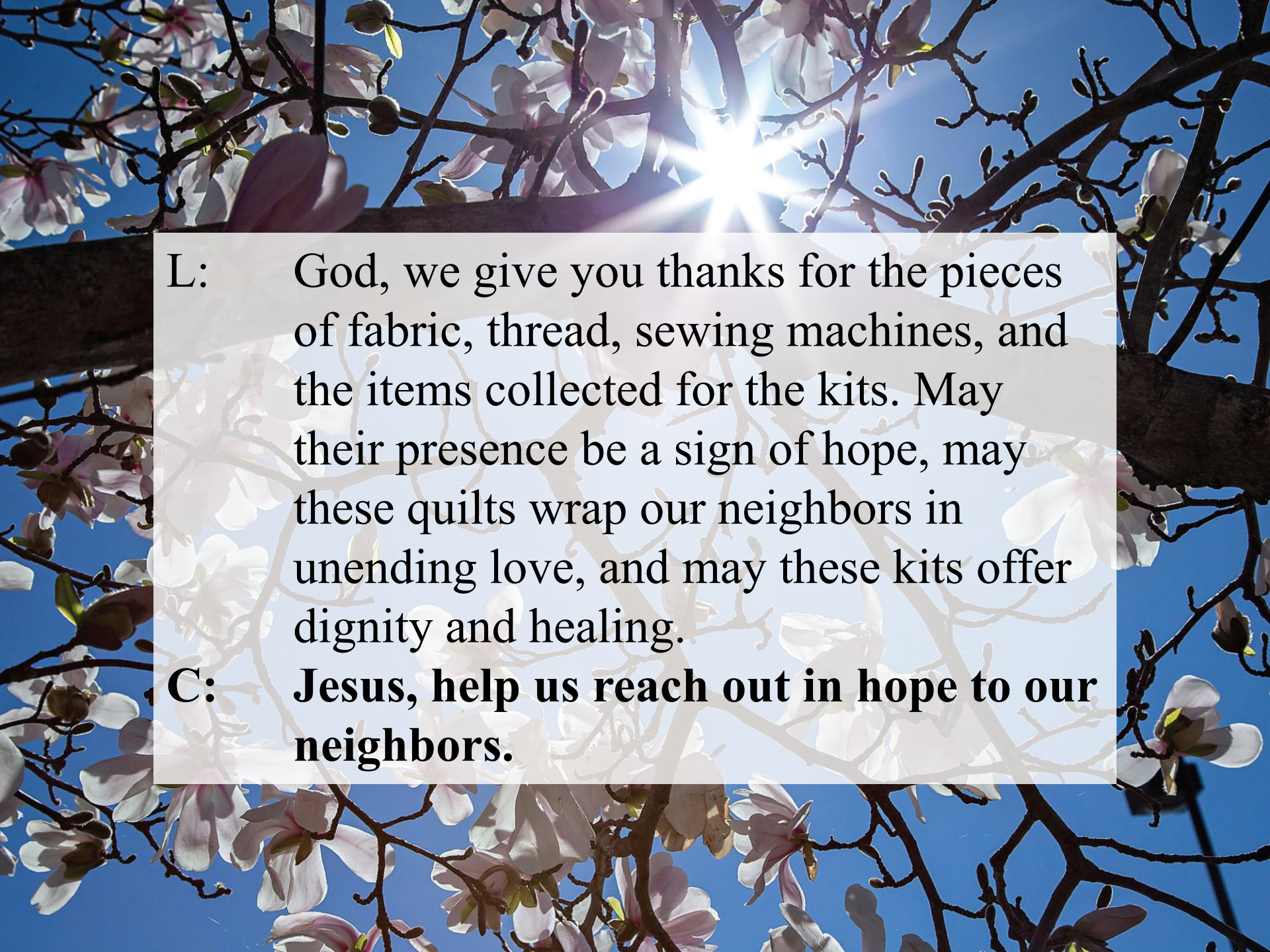
Need help finding and ordering the book?
The church office will order it for you! Contact
Kamarra or the church office to get your name
on the order list by May 27 (cost is \$19).



Quilt and Kit Blessing

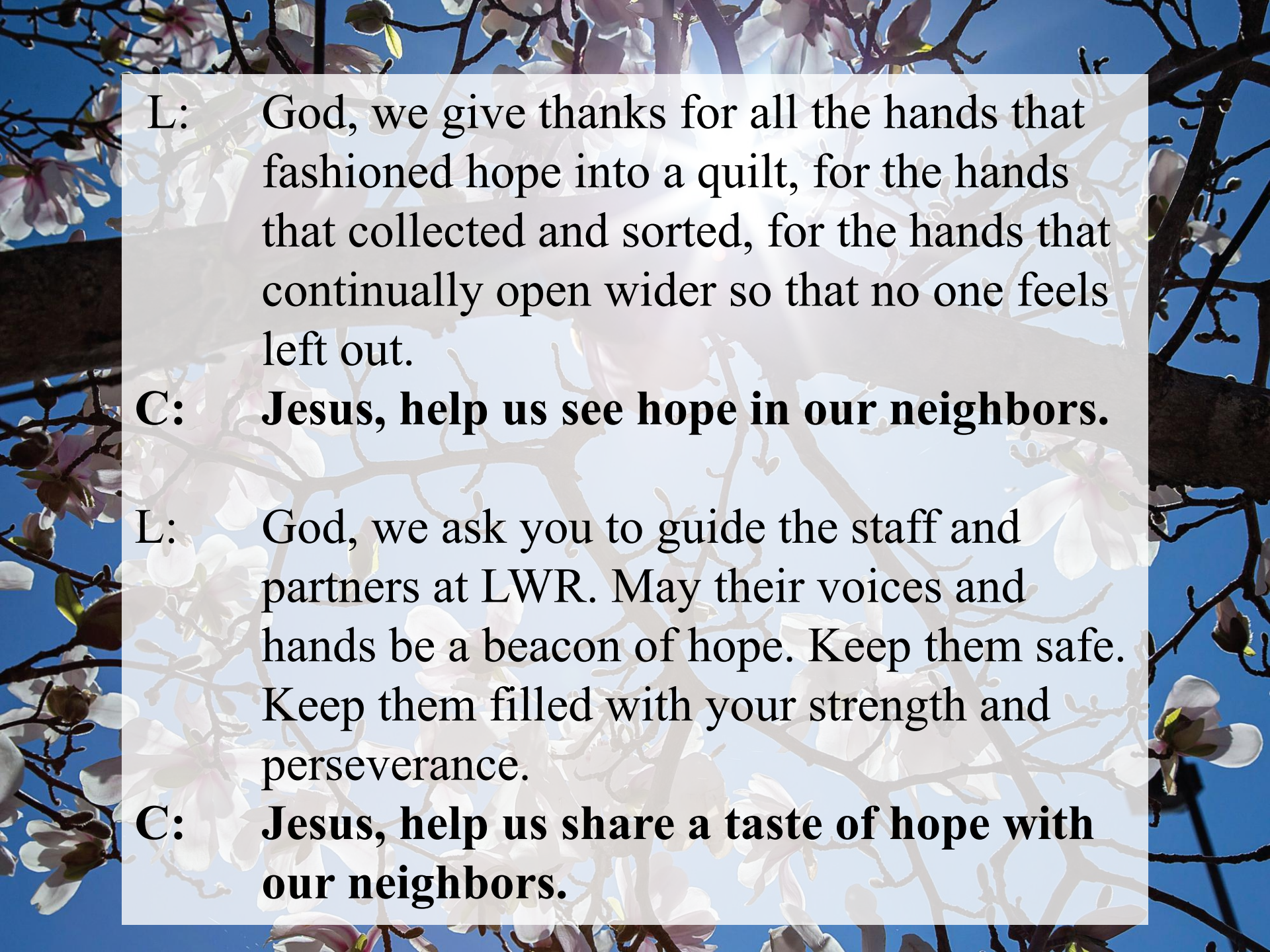
L: God, our neighbors around the world are in need of hope. Your Spirit is a mighty force, your whispers of hope bring light into the world. Open our hearts and hands to see your presence in our neighborhoods and across the world.

C: **Jesus, help us speak words of hope to our neighbors.**



L: God, we give you thanks for the pieces of fabric, thread, sewing machines, and the items collected for the kits. May their presence be a sign of hope, may these quilts wrap our neighbors in unending love, and may these kits offer dignity and healing.

C: Jesus, help us reach out in hope to our neighbors.

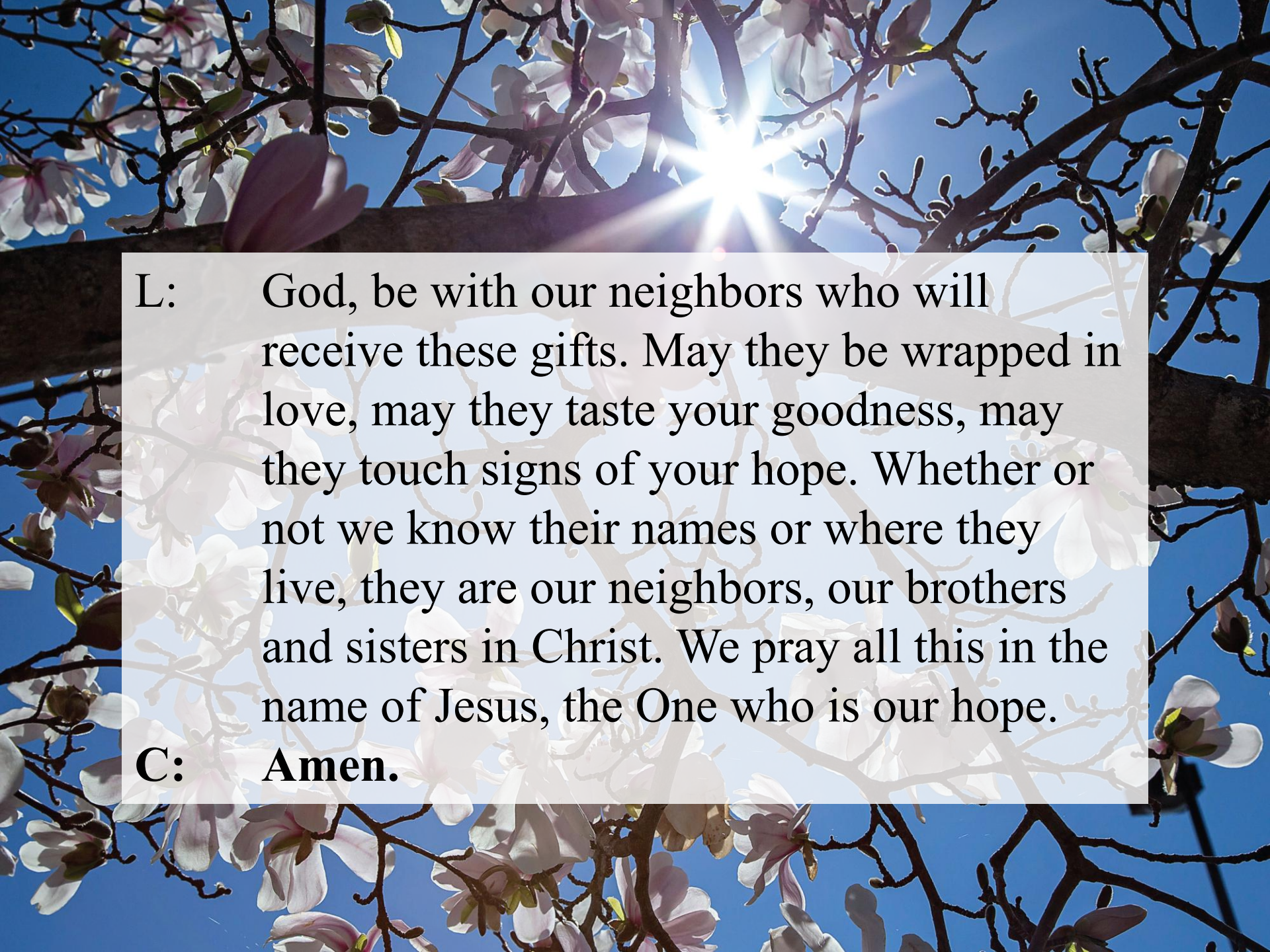


L: God, we give thanks for all the hands that fashioned hope into a quilt, for the hands that collected and sorted, for the hands that continually open wider so that no one feels left out.

C: Jesus, help us see hope in our neighbors.

L: God, we ask you to guide the staff and partners at LWR. May their voices and hands be a beacon of hope. Keep them safe. Keep them filled with your strength and perseverance.

C: Jesus, help us share a taste of hope with our neighbors.



L: God, be with our neighbors who will receive these gifts. May they be wrapped in love, may they taste your goodness, may they touch signs of your hope. Whether or not we know their names or where they live, they are our neighbors, our brothers and sisters in Christ. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the One who is our hope.

C: Amen.

Sharing the Peace

God is Here!

ELW #526

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991. Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A and CCL #1943036. All rights reserved.

1. God is here!

As we your people meet
to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

**2. Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.**

**3. Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**

**4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

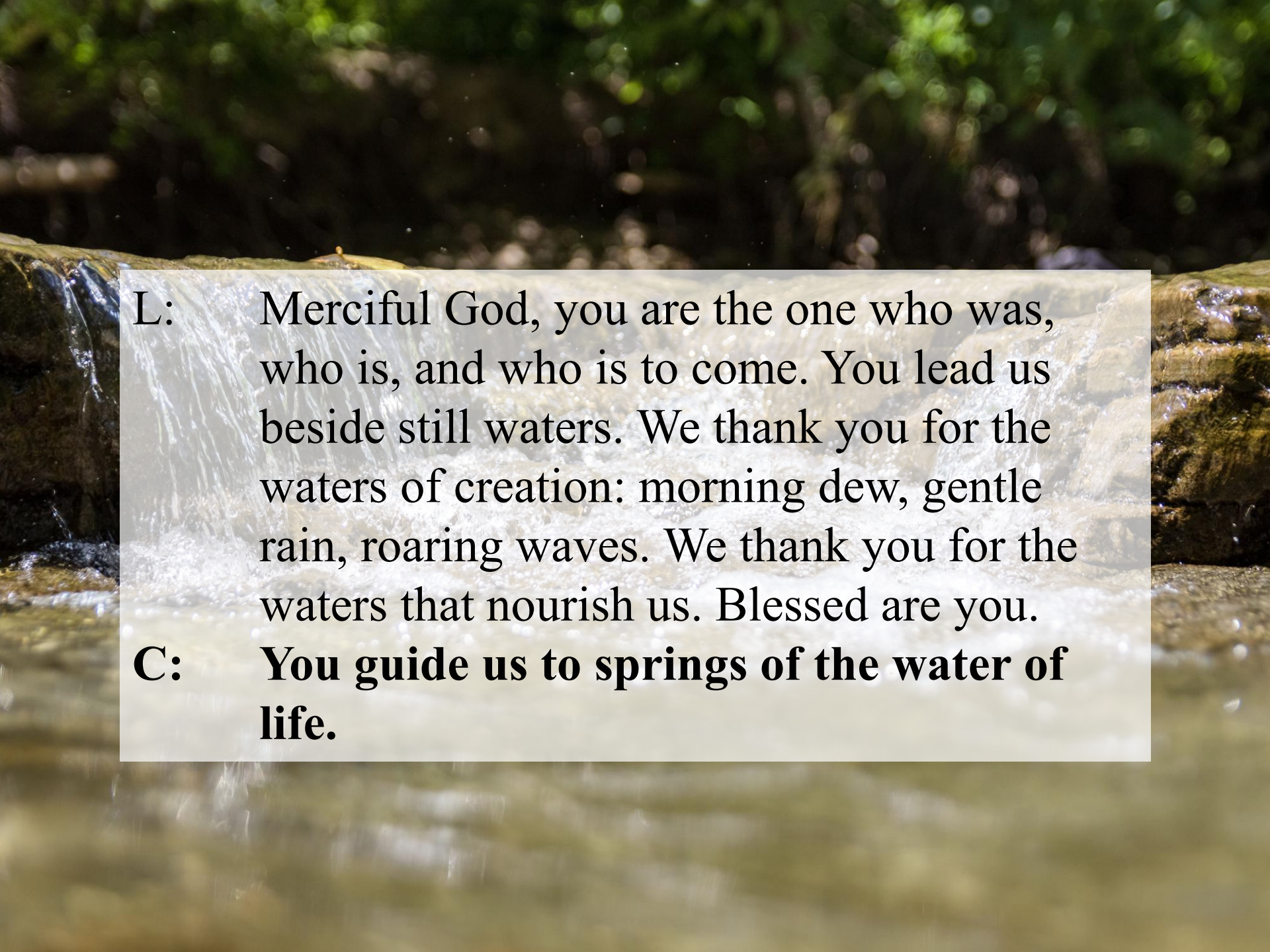
L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

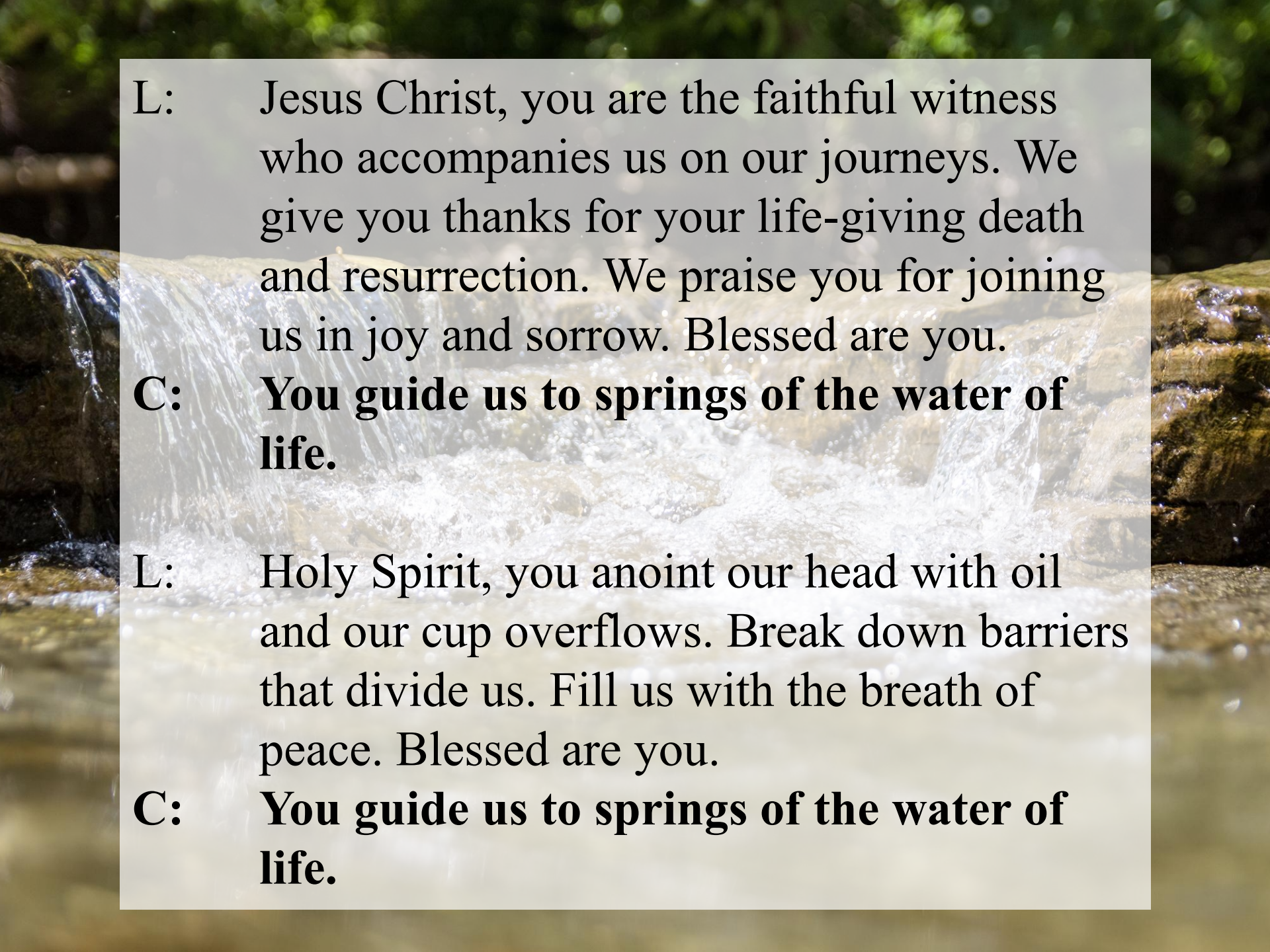
C: **Amen.**

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.



L: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

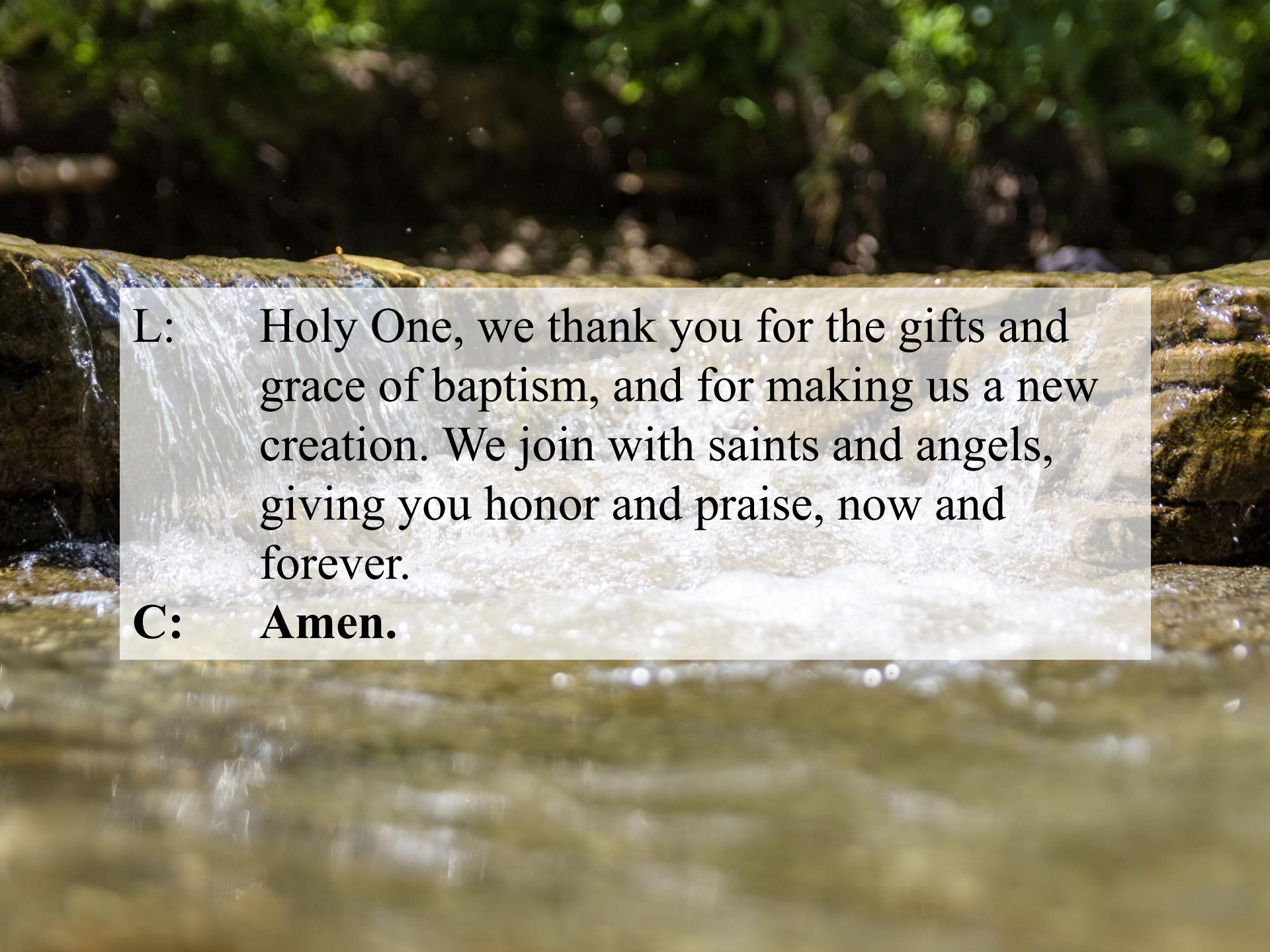
A photograph of a waterfall cascading over rocks in a lush green forest. The water is white and frothy as it falls, creating a sense of movement and freshness. The background is filled with vibrant green foliage, slightly out of focus, emphasizing the waterfall as the central subject.

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.



L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

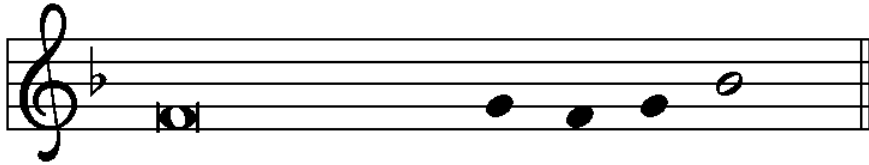


Greeting

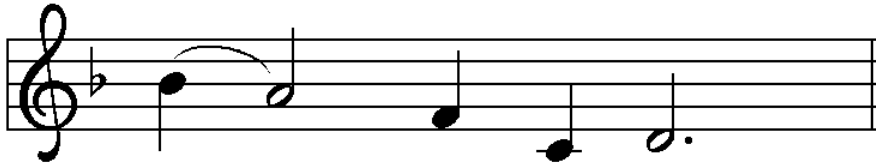
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

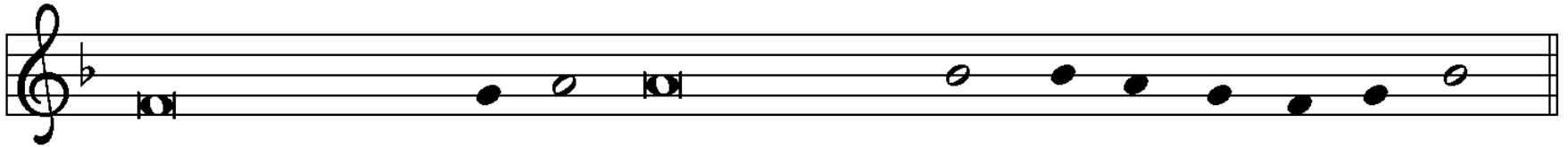
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



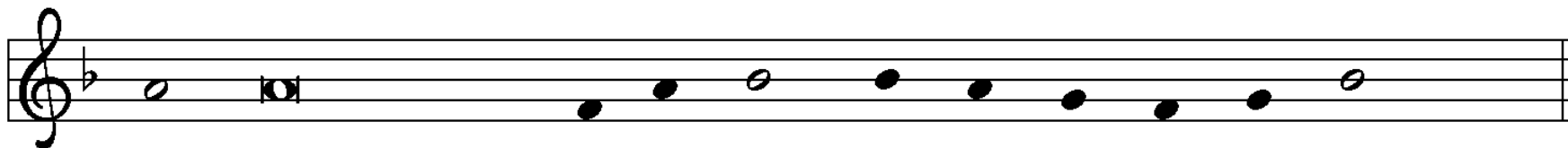
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



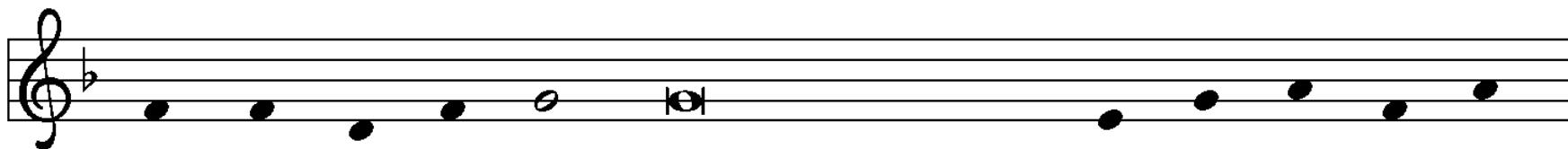
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



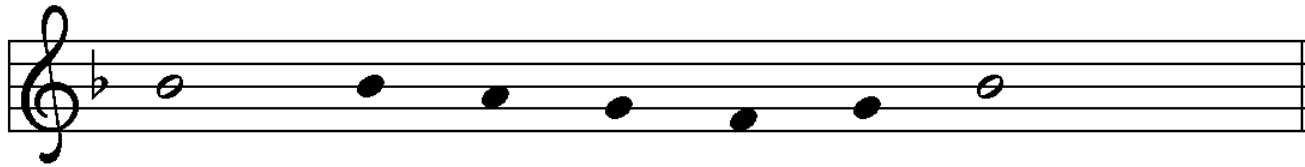
God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



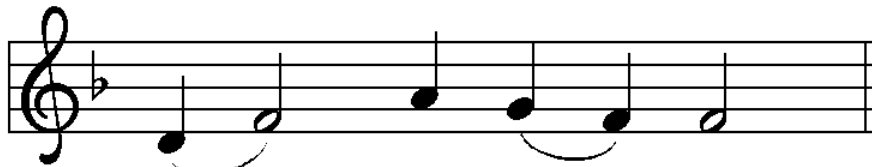
Lord, have mer - cy.



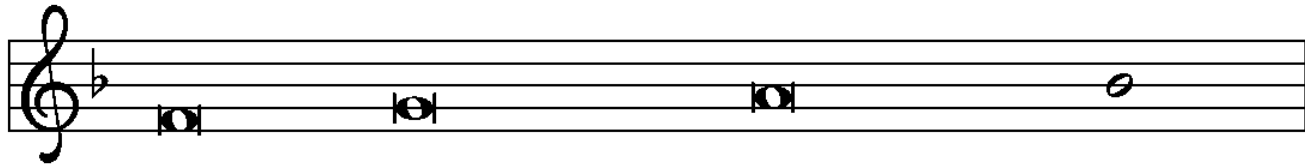
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



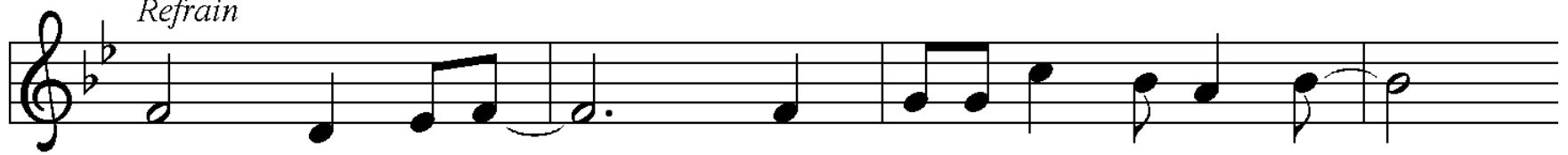
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



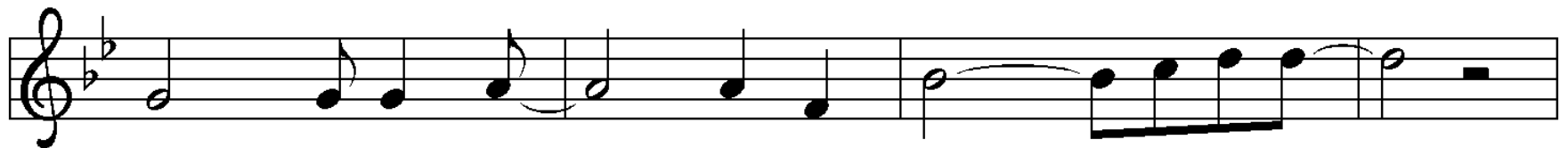
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



Refrain

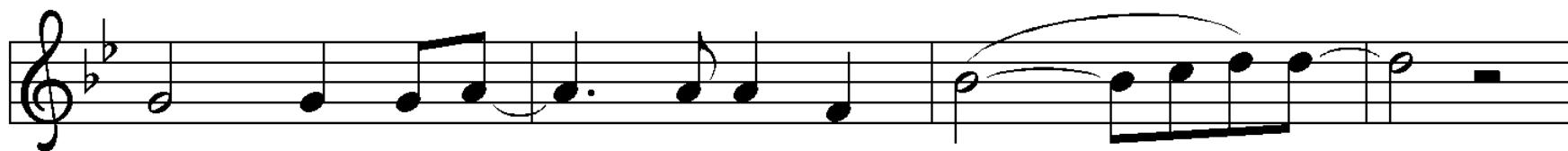
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



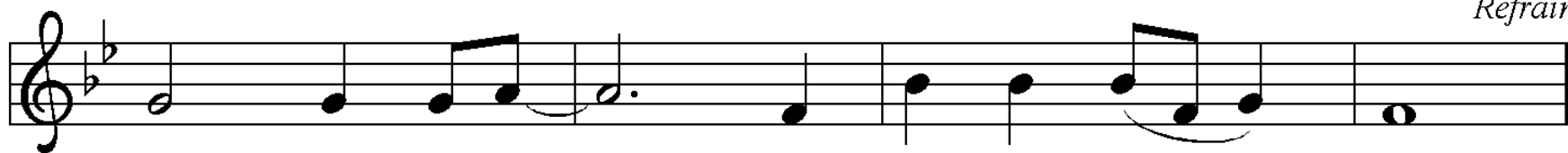
2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

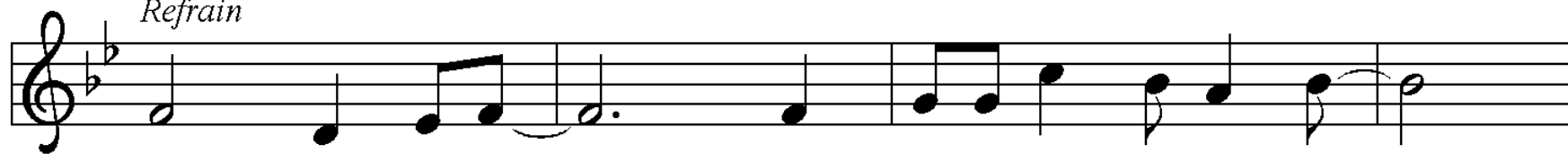


Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

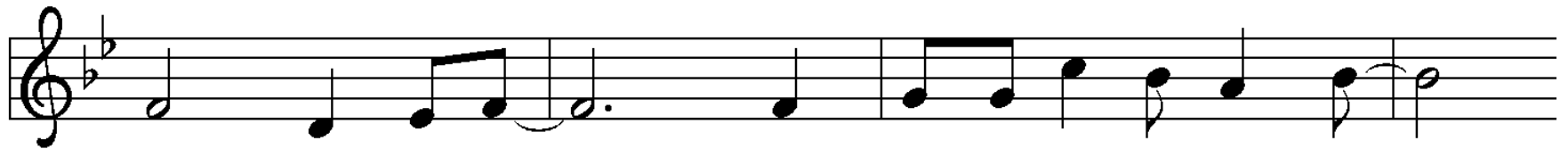
Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*A Message for
All God's Children*





First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.



L: The Word of the Lord.

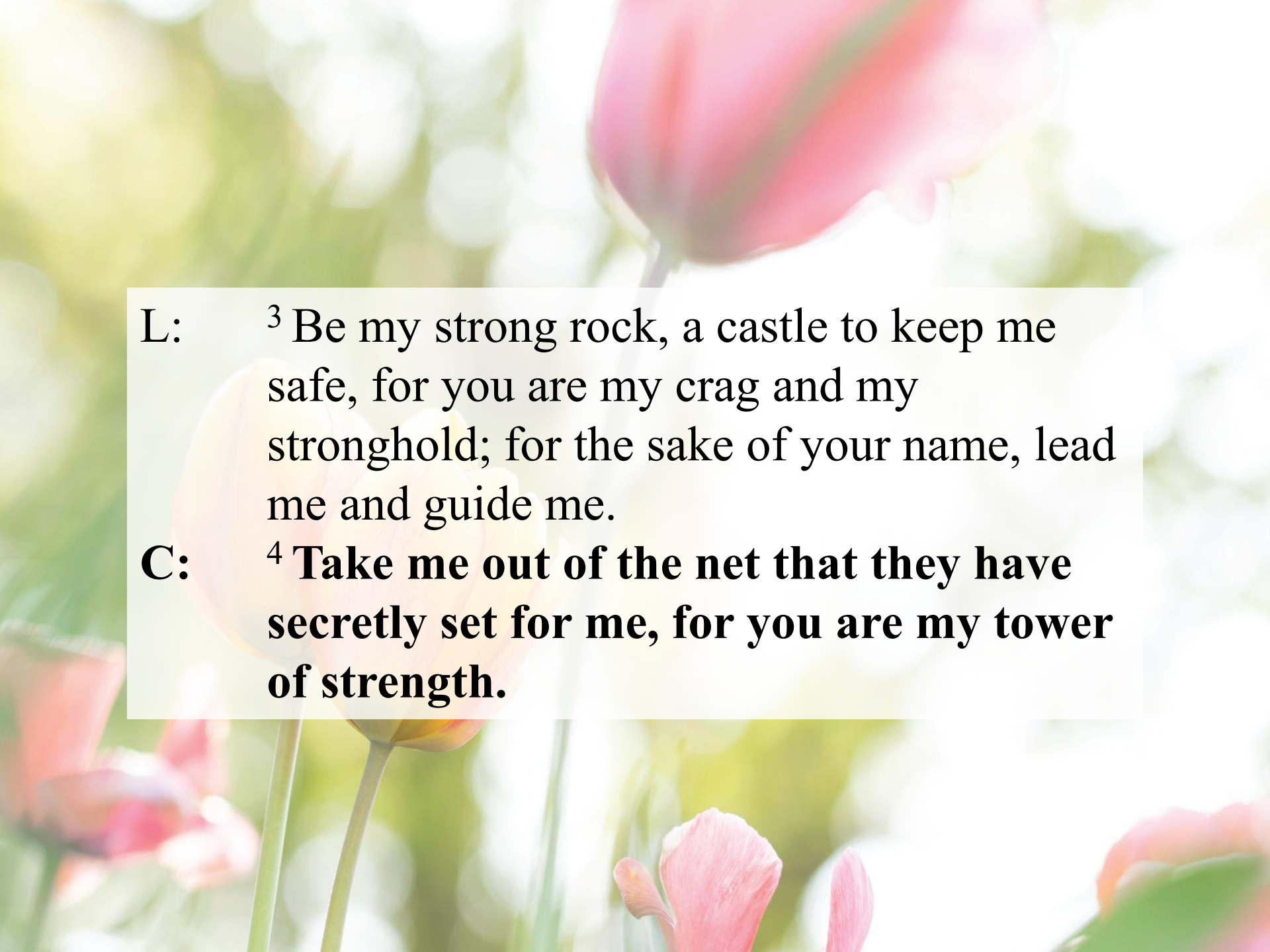
C: Thanks be to God.



Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

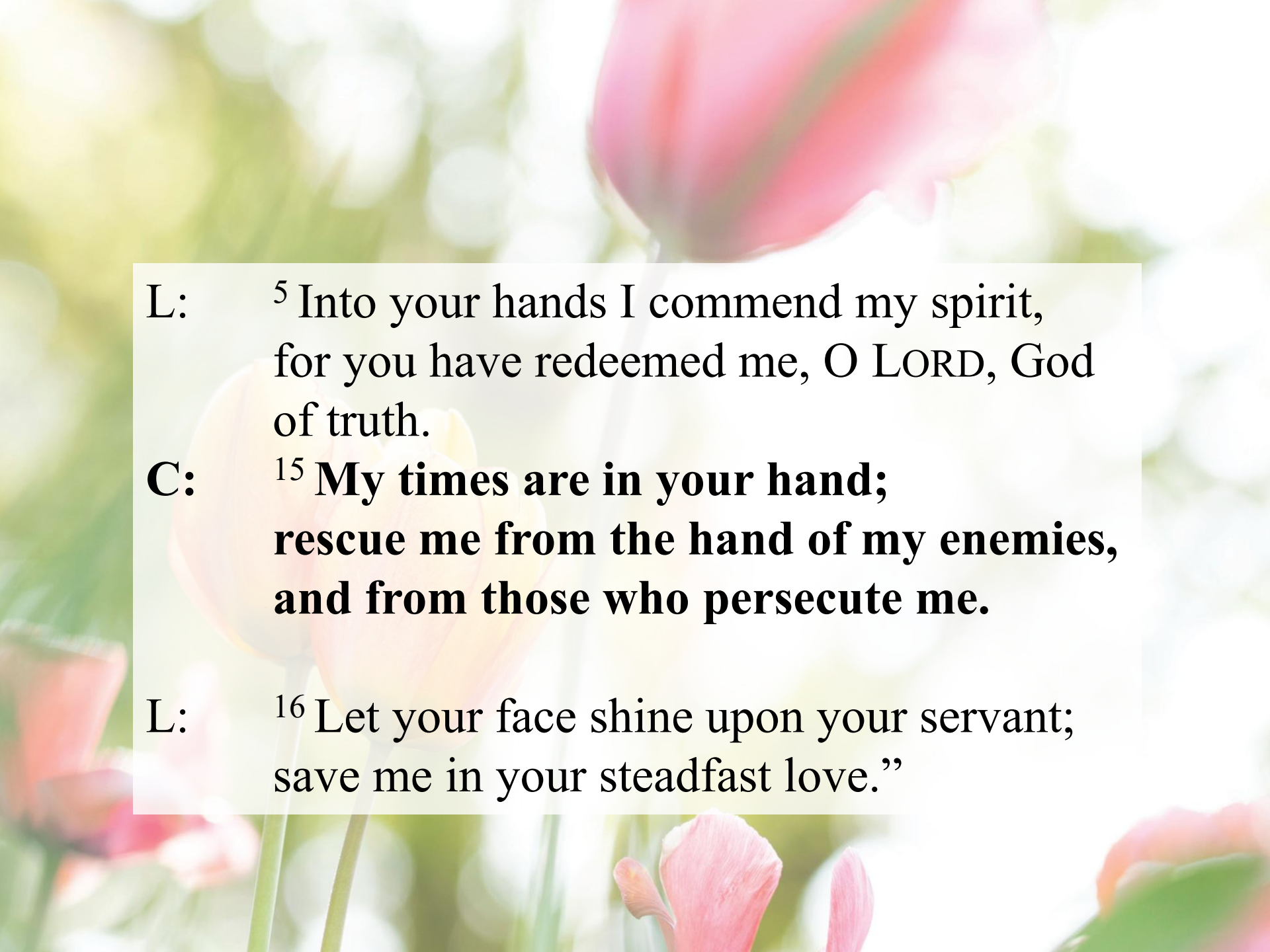
L: ¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

C: ² **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**



L: ³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

C: ⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**



L: ⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God
of truth.

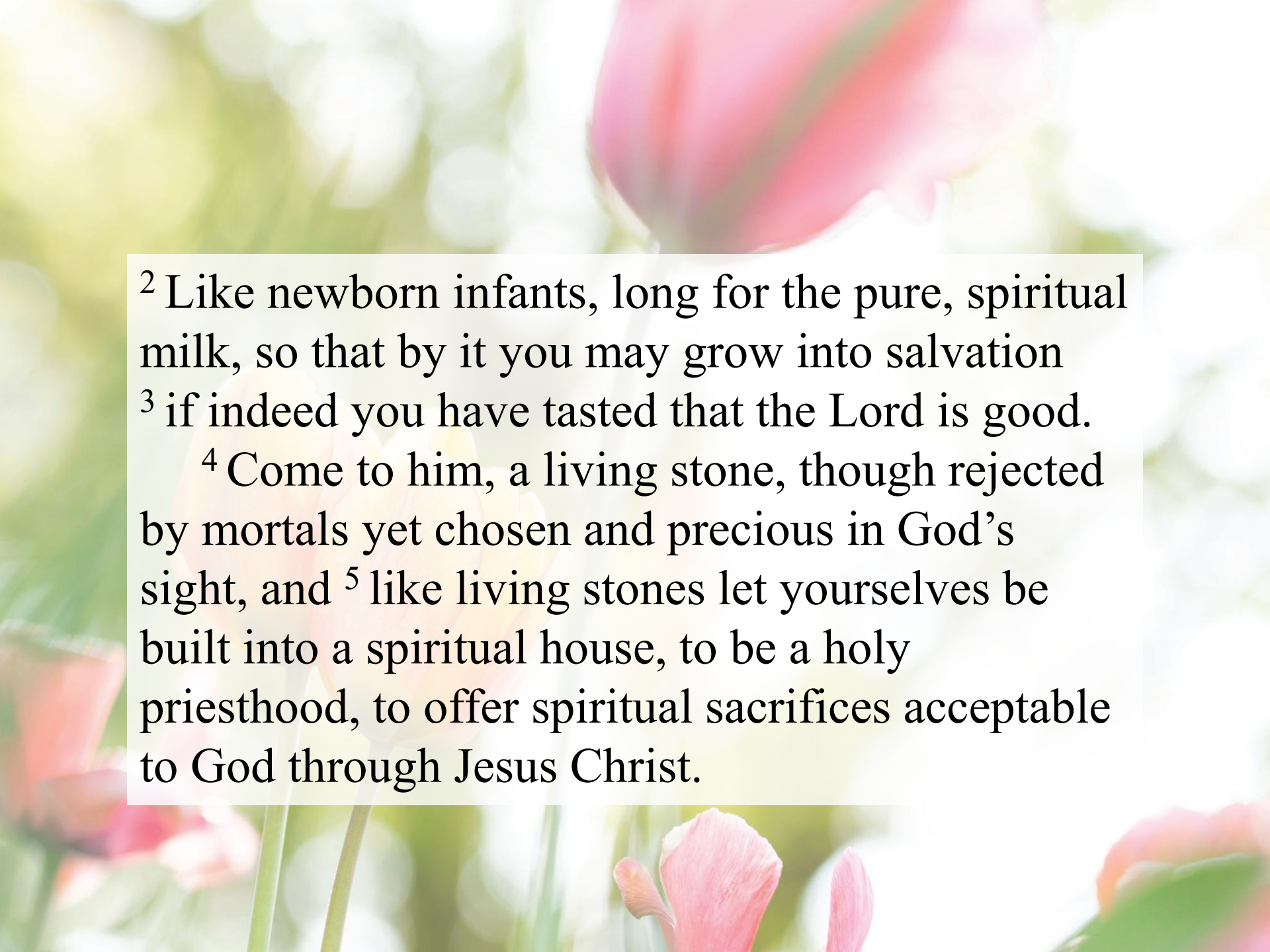
**C: ¹⁵ My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

L: ¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”



Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.



² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation
³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

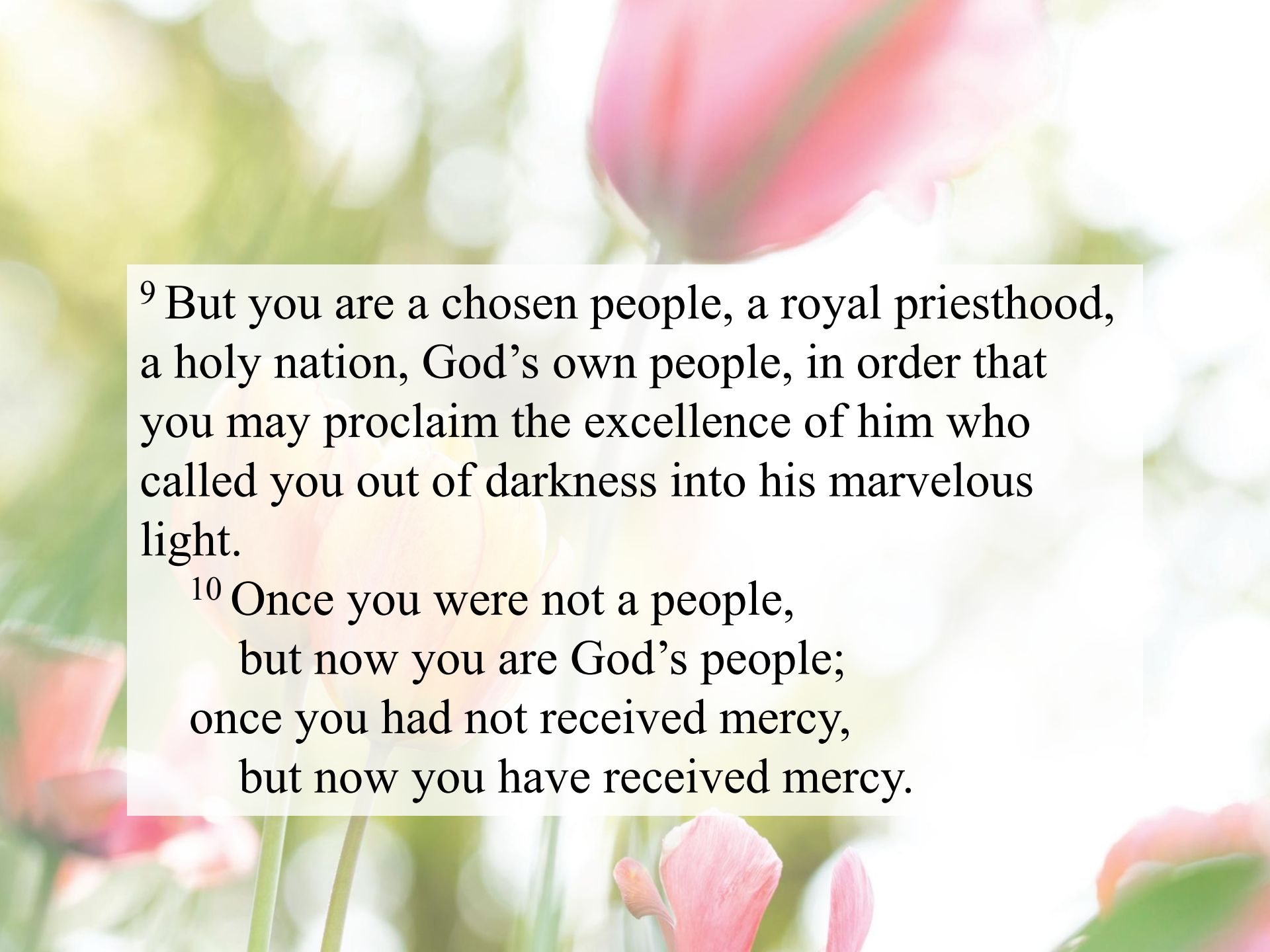
⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those
who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they
were destined to do.



⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW #172

1998, 2020 Hope Publishing Company. Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731814. All rights reserved.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

The Church's One Foundation

ELW #654

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900. Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876. Public Domain.

- 1. The church's one foundation
 is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 she is his new creation
 by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
 to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
 and for her life he died.**

2.

**Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with ev'ry grace endued.**

3.

**Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms.. rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: “How long?”
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

4.

**Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

5.

**Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.**

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.

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.

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 top half of the image. The wheat stalks are densely packed and reach towards the top of the frame. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by golden yellows and soft oranges.

Offering

Blessed Assurance

ELW #638

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915. Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908. Public Domain.

- 1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

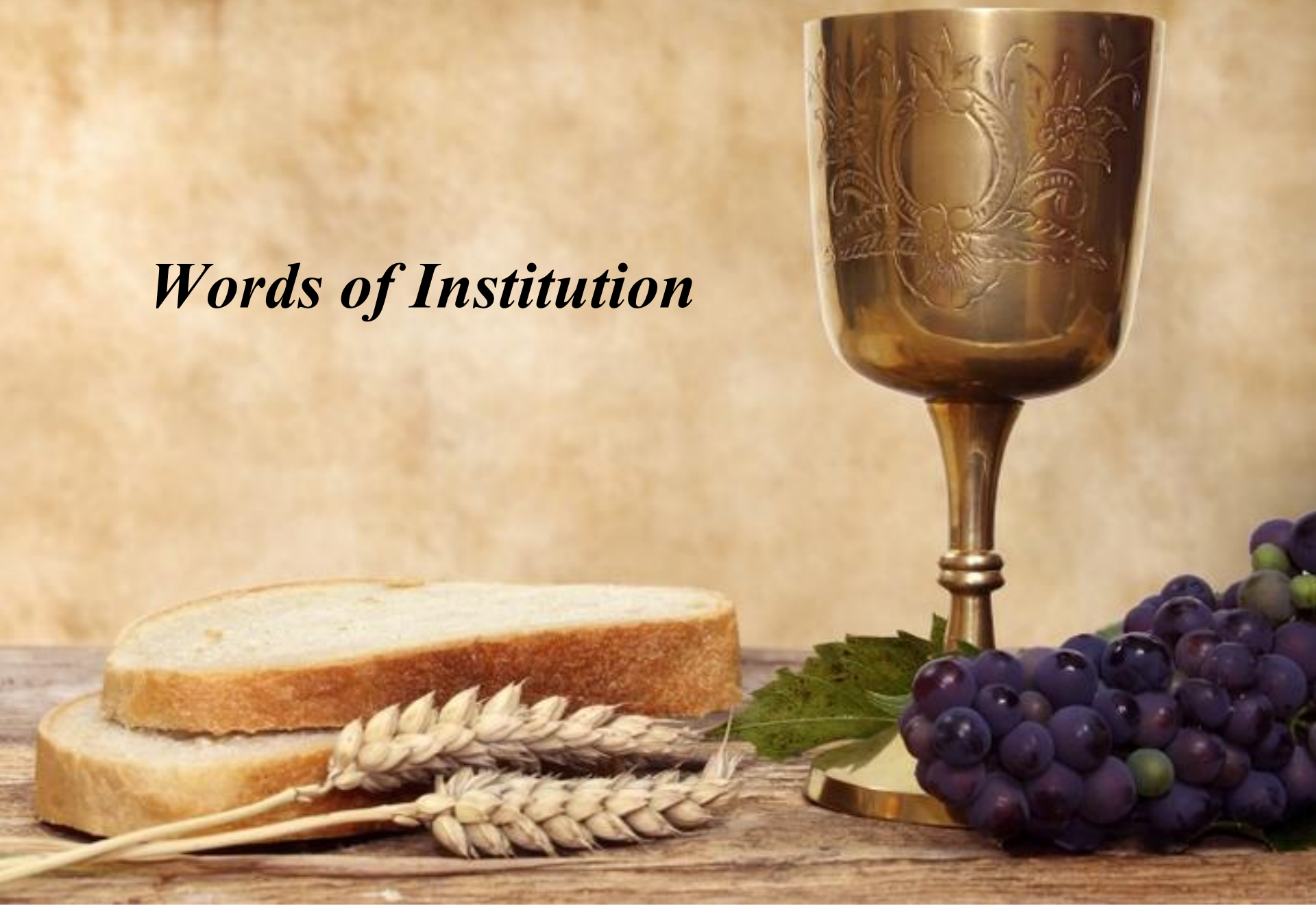
**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

Offering Prayer

L: Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to
give you glory. You have set a table
before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of
Jesus, that goodness and mercy may
follow us and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

Words of Institution



Eucharistic Prayer

L: [...] Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

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.**

Holy Communion

An usher will guide you forward. Wafers or gluten-free bread and wine or juice will be offered. You will be served a wafer unless you indicate otherwise. Please take the wine or juice from the tray yourself.





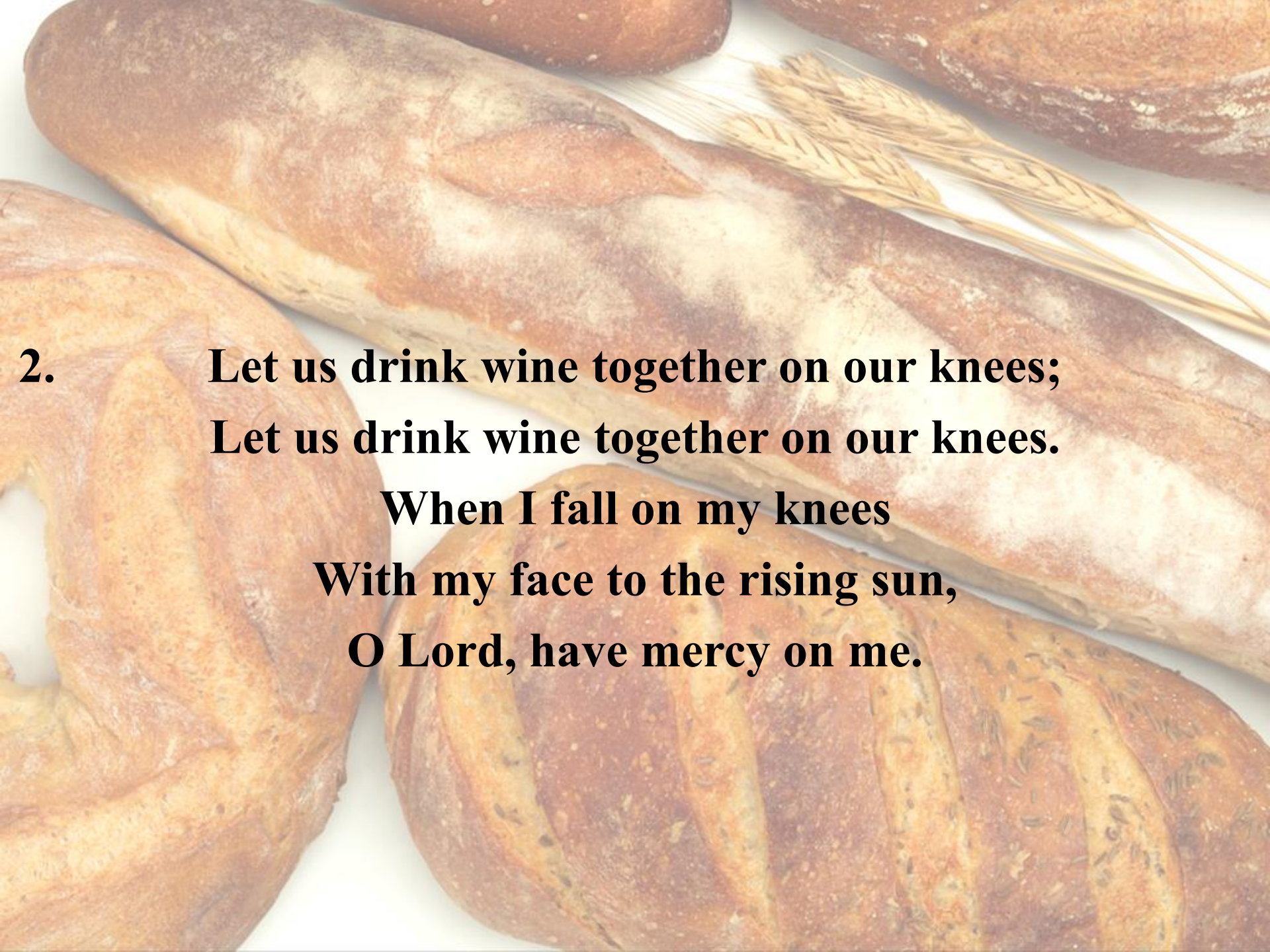
Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW #471

Text/Tune: African/American Spiritual. Music: African American spiritual. Public Domain.

- 1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees.**

**When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**



**2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**



**3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees.**

**When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

I Am the Bread of Life

ELW #485

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6. Music: Suzanne Toolan, RSM. Text and music © 1966, 1986, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc.
Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

- 1. "I am the Bread of life.
You who come to me shall not hunger,
And who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father beckons."

"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."**

**2. "The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever, you shall live forever."**

**"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."**

3.

**"Unless you eat
of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his blood,
and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you."**

**"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."**

4.

**"I am the resurrection,
I am the life.**

**If you believe in me,
even though you die,
you shall live forever."**

**"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."**

**5. Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who have come into the world.**

**"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."**

Communion Blessing



Prayer after Communion

L: Holy One,
through this meal you have made your
home among us and are making all
things new. Send us now to speak
peace to anxious hearts, to love our
enemies, and to bring your healing to
the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: **Amen.**



Blessing

L: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✚ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

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.**



Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!

Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from OneLicense with license 731814-A and from CCLI CSPL166945/1943036. Scripture and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com with Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS010651. All rights reserved.