

# PRELUDE

Pastor:  
Jonathan Lamb

*First Sunday of  
Lent*

February 18<sup>th</sup> ,  
2024

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WELCOME,  
ANNOUNCEMENTS,  
and  
CELEBRATIONS





## Give Thanks

Let us quiet our minds, hearts, and spirits as we begin to focus on the presence of God as we bring the *Light of Christ* into our midst.



**Bringing In The Light of Christ**

“Holy Ground”



# CONFESSION

A wooden cross is centered in the background. A purple sash is draped over the cross, and a green palm frond is visible at the bottom left.

*Leader:* Lord, we confess our day to day failure to be truly human.

*People:* **Lord, we confess to you.**



# CONFESSION

*Leader:* Lord, we confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are, often because we do not fully understand what loving means, often because we are afraid of risking ourselves.

*People:* **Lord, we confess to you.**



# CONFESSION



*Leader:* Lord, we cut ourselves off from each other and we erect barriers of division.

*People:* **Lord, we confess to you.**



# CONFESSION



*Leader:* Lord, we confess that by  
silence and ill-considered word

*People:* **We have built up walls of  
prejudice.**



# CONFESSION

*Leader:* Lord, we confess that by selfishness and lack of sympathy.

*People:* **We have stifled generosity and left little time for others.**

*Leader:* Holy Spirit, speak to us. Help us listen to your word of forgiveness, for we are very deaf. Come, fill this moment and free us from sin.

# “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873    MUSIC: USA folk melody

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

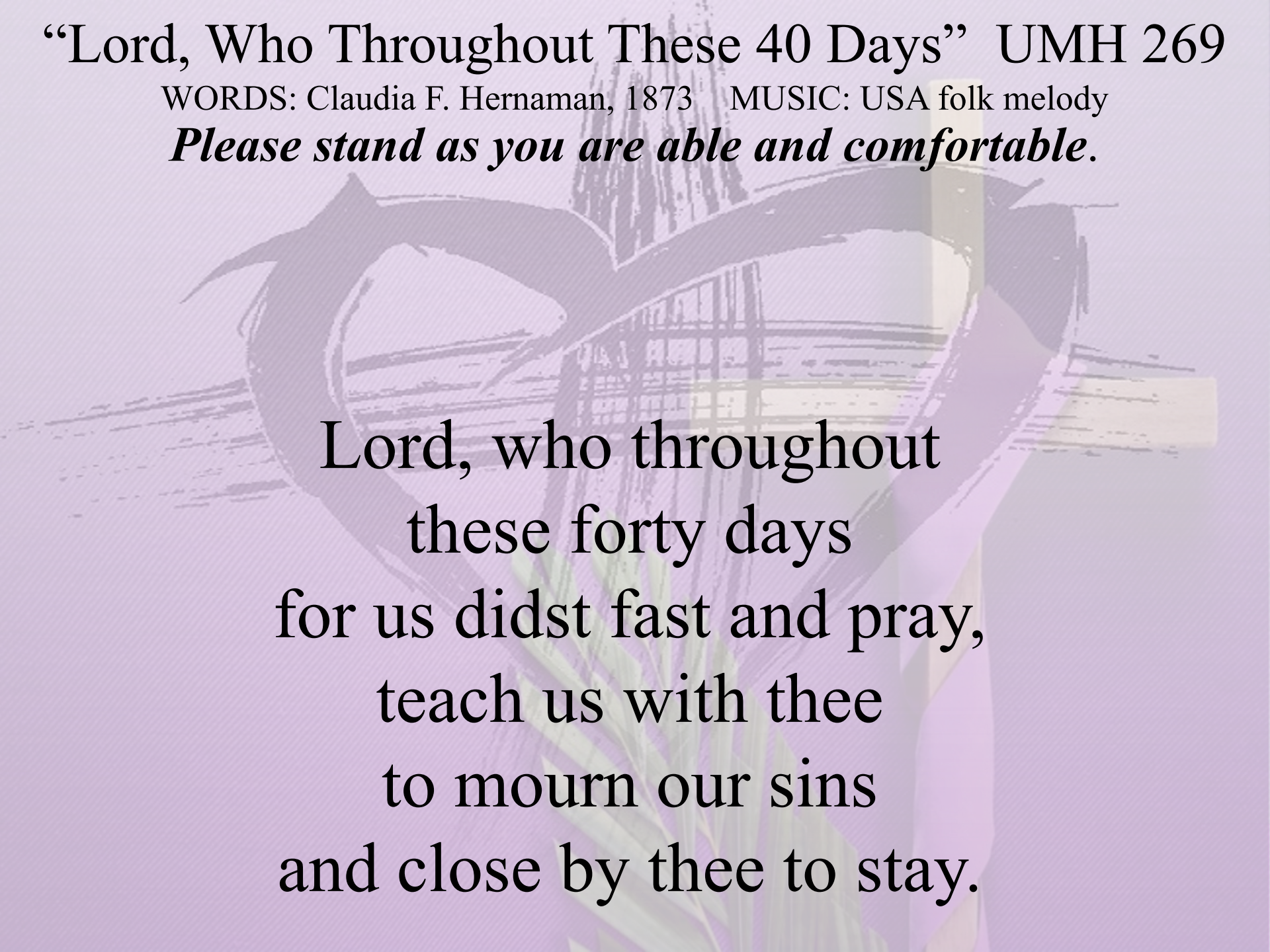




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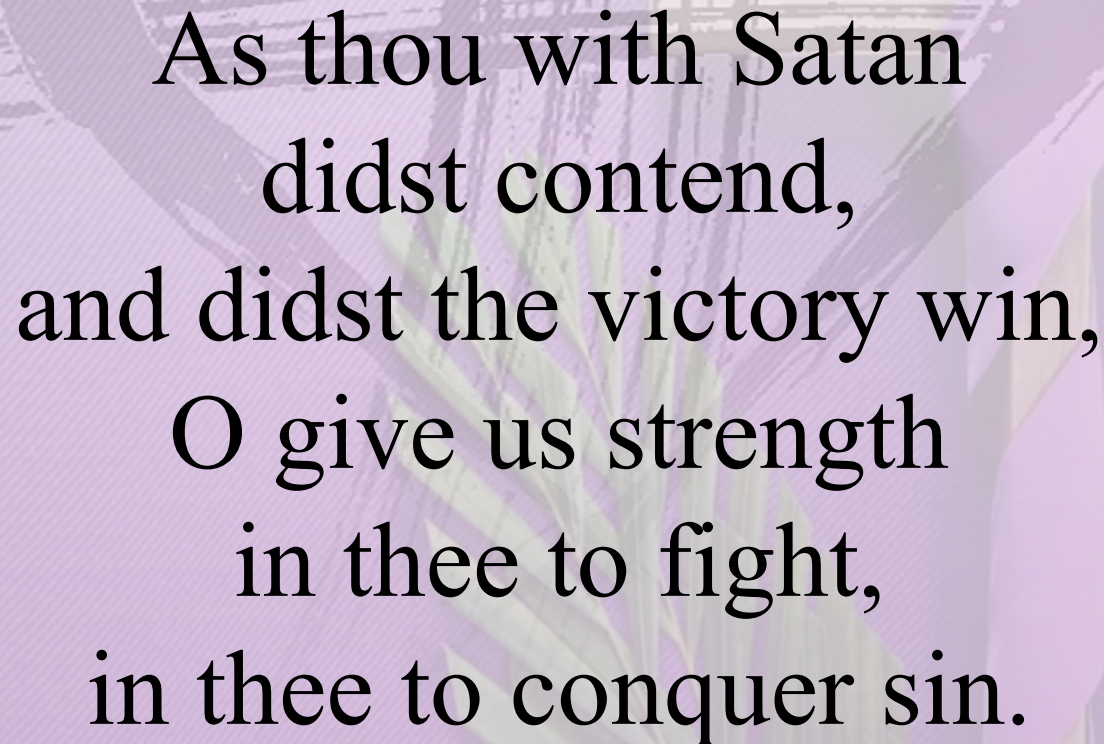
Lord, who throughout  
these forty days  
for us didst fast and pray,  
teach us with thee  
to mourn our sins  
and close by thee to stay.



# “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873    MUSIC: USA folk melody

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*



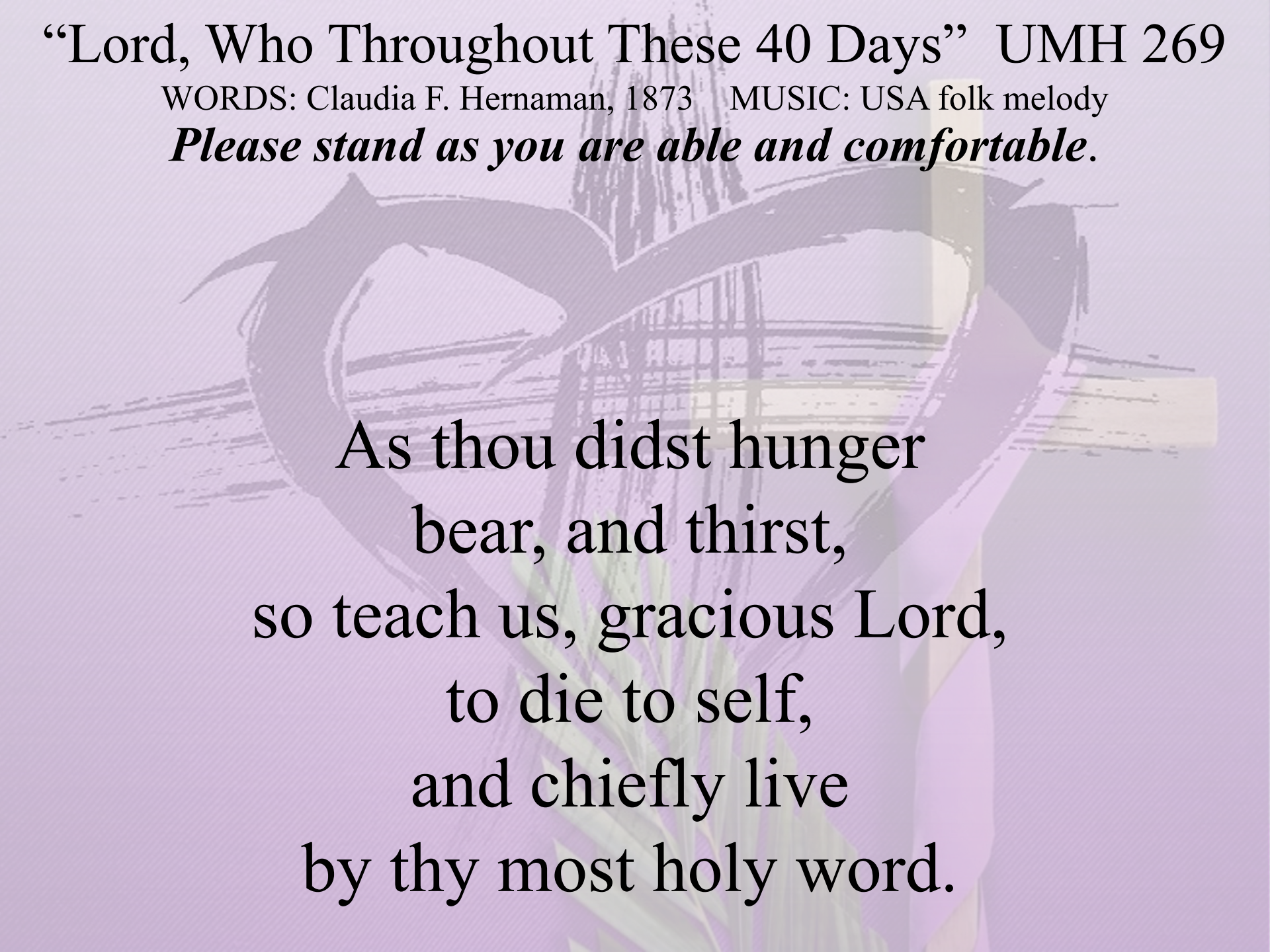
As thou with Satan  
didst contend,  
and didst the victory win,  
O give us strength  
in thee to fight,  
in thee to conquer sin.



# “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873    MUSIC: USA folk melody

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*



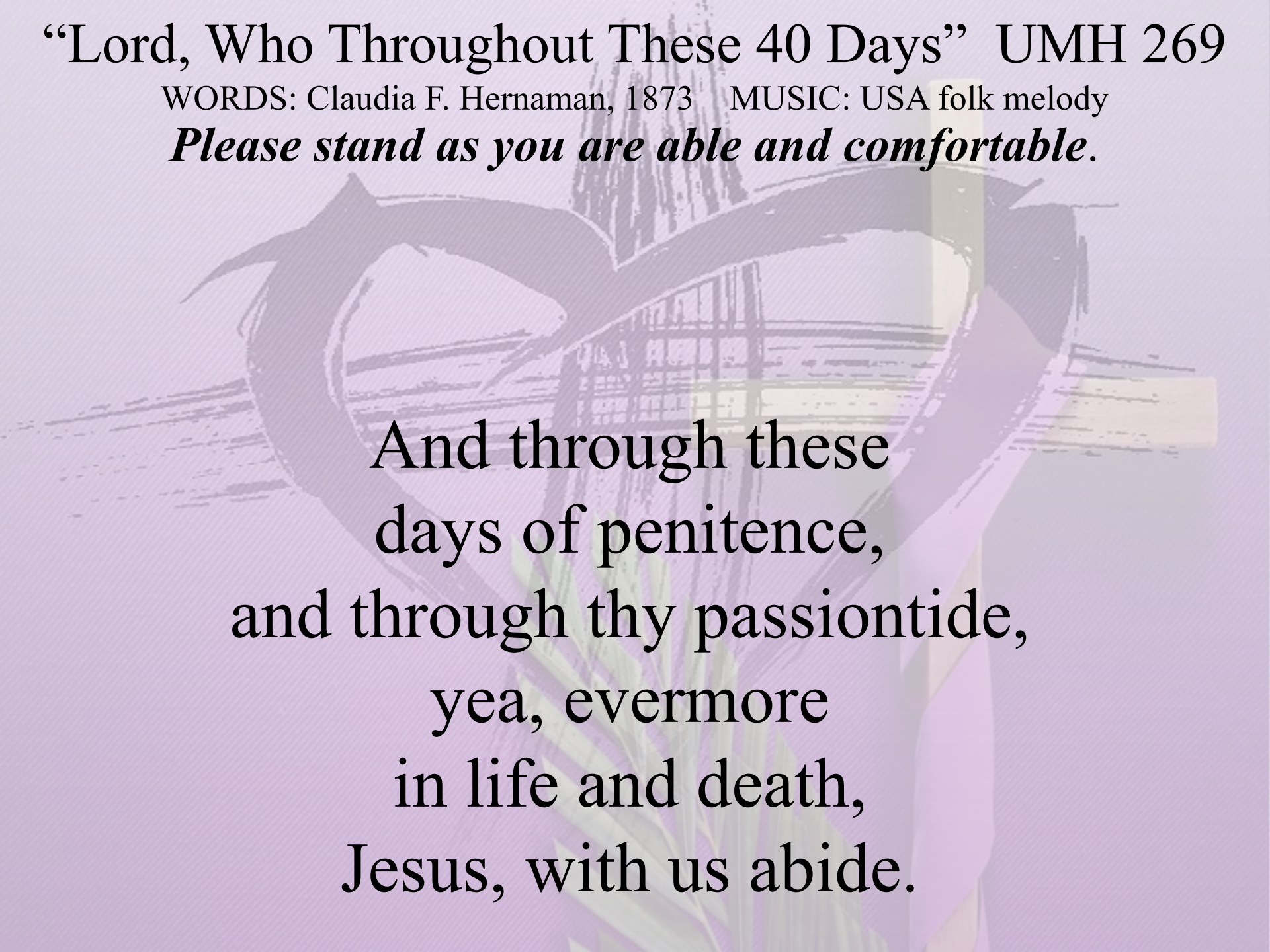
As thou didst hunger  
bear, and thirst,  
so teach us, gracious Lord,  
to die to self,  
and chiefly live  
by thy most holy word.



# “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873    MUSIC: USA folk melody

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*



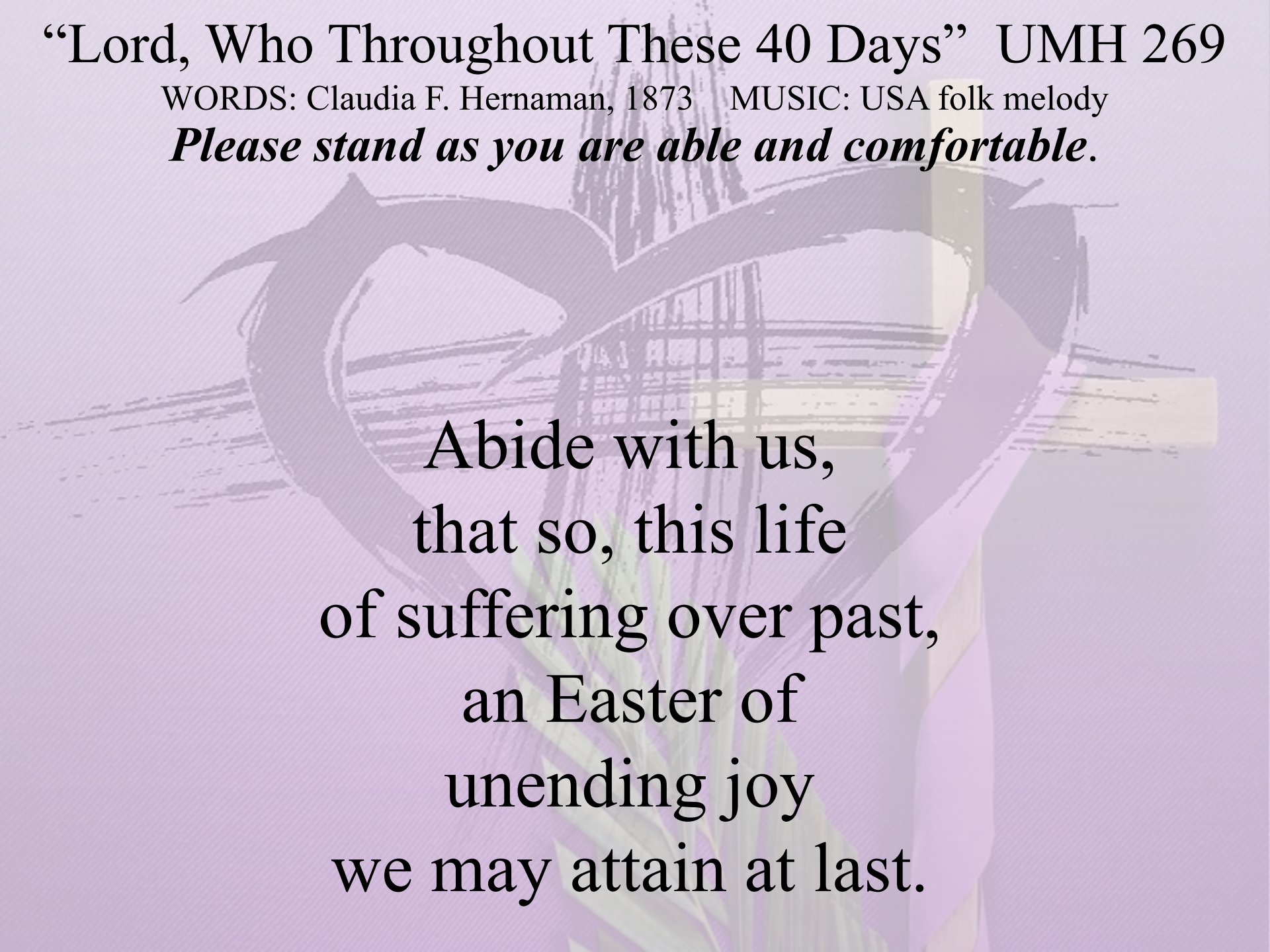
And through these  
days of penitence,  
and through thy passiontide,  
yea, evermore  
in life and death,  
Jesus, with us abide.



# “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873    MUSIC: USA folk melody

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*



Abide with us,  
that so, this life  
of suffering over past,  
an Easter of  
unending joy  
we may attain at last.

# **OPENING PRAYER**

**Almighty God, whose  
blessed Son was led by  
the Spirit to be  
tempted by Satan: Come  
quickly to help us who are  
assaulted  
by many temptations;**





# **OPENING PRAYER**

**and, as you know the**

**weaknesses of**

**each of us, let each one  
find you mighty to save;**

**through**

**Jesus Christ your Son our**

**Lord,**



# **OPENING PRAYER**

**who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for  
ever.  
Amen.**







Young Disciples' Message  
"Noah: A Rainbow of Promises"



# **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**O God, full of compassion,  
I commit and commend  
myself to you,  
In whom I am, and live,  
and know.**

**Be the goal of my  
pilgrimage, and my rest by  
the way.**





# **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Let my soul take refuge  
From the crowding turmoil of  
worldly thought  
Beneath the shadow of your  
wings.**

**Let my heart, this sea of  
restless waves,  
Find peace in you, O God.  
Amen.**



A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear sky, spanning from the left to the right side of the frame. The rainbow's colors are bright and distinct, with red at the top and violet at the bottom. Below the rainbow, a beach scene is visible, featuring waves breaking onto a sandy shore. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that illuminates the sky and the water. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

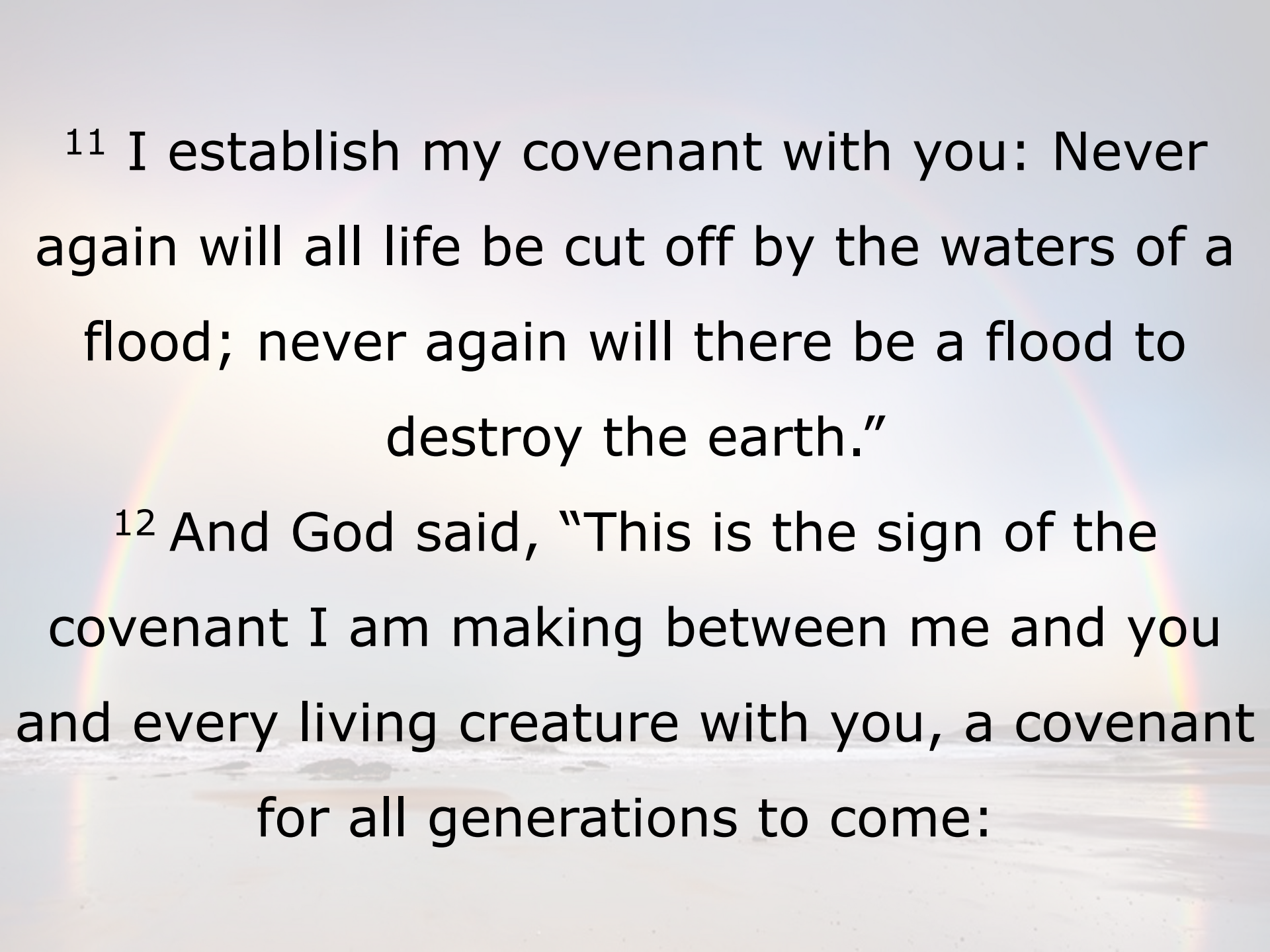
# Genesis 9: 8 -17



<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with  
him:

<sup>9</sup> “I now establish my covenant with you and  
with your descendants after you

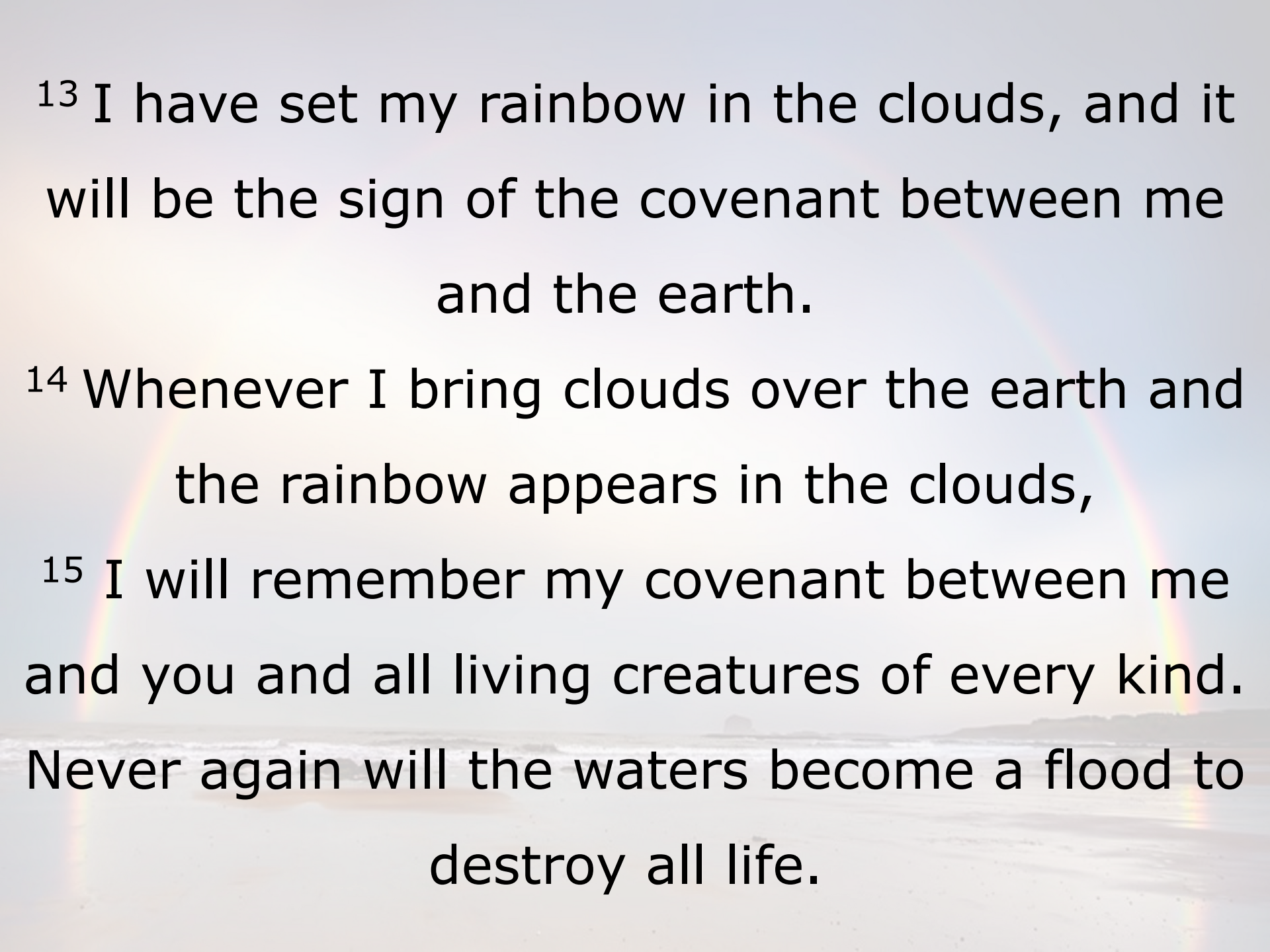
<sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that was with  
you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild  
animals, all those that came out of the ark  
with you—every living creature on earth.



<sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

<sup>12</sup> And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come:

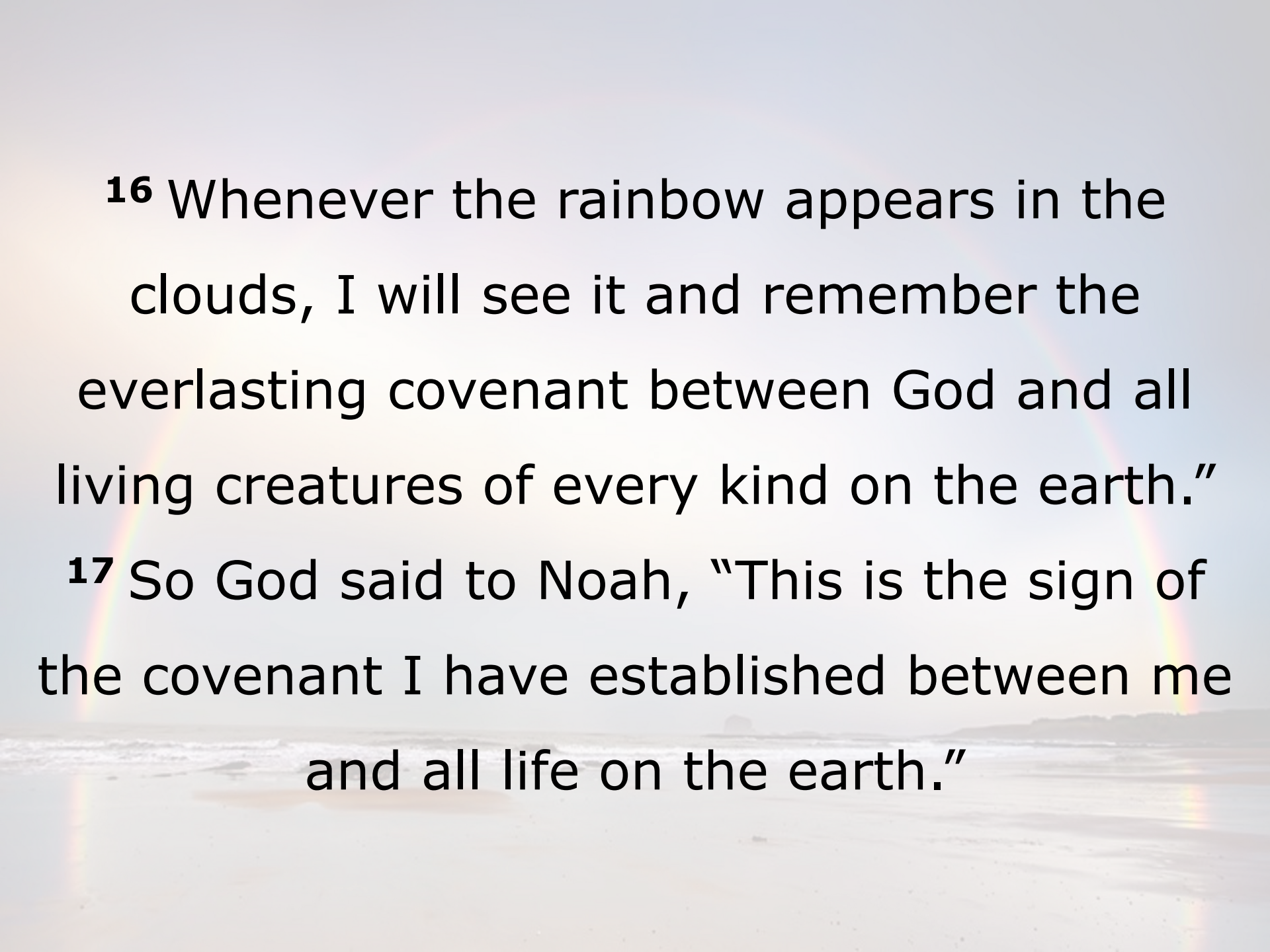




<sup>13</sup> I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

<sup>14</sup> Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds,

<sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life.



**16** Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

**17** So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."



# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10



# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>1</sup>I offer my life to you, Lord.

*People:* <sup>2</sup>**My God, I trust you. Please don't let me be put to shame! Don't let my enemies rejoice over me!**



# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>3</sup>For that matter, don't let anyone who hopes in you be put to shame...

*People:* instead, let those who are treacherous without excuse be put to shame.

# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>4</sup>Make your ways known  
to me, Lord...

*People:* **teach me your paths.**



# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth -  
teach it to me –

*People:* because you are the God  
who saves me. I put my hope in  
you all day long.

# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>6</sup>Lord, remember your compassion and faithful love - they are forever!

*People:* <sup>7</sup>**But don't remember the sins of my youth or my wrongdoing. Remember me only according to your faithful love for the sake of your goodness, Lord.**



# PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*Leader:* <sup>8</sup> The Lord is good and does the right thing; he teaches sinners which way they should go. <sup>9</sup> God guides the weak to justice, teaching them his way.

*People:* <sup>10</sup> All the Lord's paths are loving and faithful for those who keep his covenant and laws.



**Mark 1: 1-15**



<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the gospel about Jesus  
Christ, the Son of God,

<sup>2</sup> It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will  
send my messenger ahead of you, who will  
prepare your way" —

<sup>3</sup> "a voice of one calling in the desert,  
'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight  
paths for him.' "

<sup>7</sup> And this was his message: “After me will come one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

<sup>8</sup> I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.



<sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup> At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness,

<sup>13</sup> and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”



# Glory Be to the Father

70

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

**Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen. Amen.**



# TODAY'S MESSAGE

“Jesus Announces the Good News.”



# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.



# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

See that host all dressed in white,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.  
The leader looks like the Israelite,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.

# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.



# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

See that band all dressed in red,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.  
Looks like the band that Moses led,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.

# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.



# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Look over yonder, what do I see?  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.  
The Holy Ghost a coming on me,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.

# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.



# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

If you don't believe I've been redeemed,  
God's a gonna trouble the water.  
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream,  
God's a gonna trouble the water.

# *“Wade in the Water”* TFWS #2107

WORDS and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arranged by Carl Haywood, 1992.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Wade in the water,  
wade in the water, children,  
wade in the water,  
God’s a gonna trouble the water.



# AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from



# AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were  
made. For us and for our  
salvation he came down from  
heaven, was incarnate of the  
Holy Spirit and the Virgin  
Mary and became truly  
human. For our sake he was





# AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and



# AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.





# AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

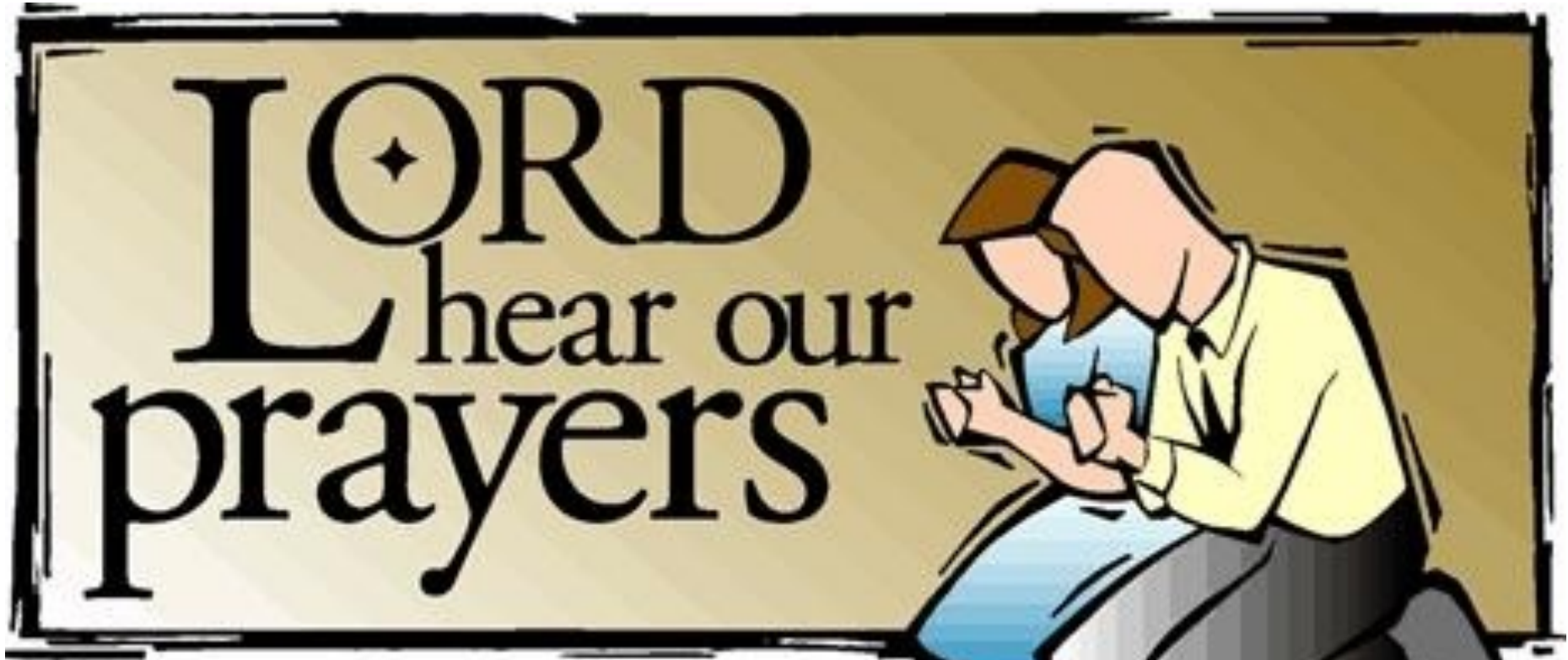
The Nicene Creed UMH 880

We believe in the one holy  
catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection  
of the dead, and the life of the  
world to come. Amen.



# PRAYERS of the PEOPLE



*as we lift up to you our  
joys and our concerns.*





Pastoral Prayer

# Tithes and Offerings

worship  
through  
giving





# “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 94

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted by Gilbert H. Viera, 1978

MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

***Please stand as you are able and comfortable.***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



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# Offertory Prayer

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A wooden cross stands against a blue sky with white clouds. The cross is made of two simple wooden beams, one vertical and one horizontal, positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image. The sky is a vibrant blue with soft, white, fluffy clouds scattered throughout. Two horizontal white lines are positioned above and below the text.



# The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

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

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



# The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**





# The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

**And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us  
from evil.**

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



# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*





# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

We are tossed and driven  
on the restless sea of time;  
somber skies and howling tempests  
oft succeed a bright sunshine;  
in that land of perfect day,  
when the mists have rolled away,  
we will understand it better by and by.

# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

By and by, when the morning comes,  
when the saints of God are gathered home,  
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,  
for we’ll understand it better by and by.



# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

We are often destitute  
of the things that life demands,  
want of food and want of shelter,  
thirsty hills and barren lands;  
we are trusting in the Lord,  
and according to God’s word,  
we will understand it better by and by.

# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

By and by, when the morning comes,  
when the saints of God are gathered home,  
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,  
for we’ll understand it better by and by.



# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

Trials dark on every hand,  
and we cannot understand  
all the ways that God would lead us  
to that blessed promised land;  
but he guides us with his eye,  
and we’ll follow till we die,  
for we’ll understand it better by and by.

# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

By and by, when the morning comes,  
when the saints of God are gathered home,  
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,  
for we’ll understand it better by and by.



# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

    Temptations, hidden snares  
        often take us unawares,  
and our hearts are made to bleed  
for a thoughtless word or deed;  
    and we wonder why the test  
    when we try to do our best,  
but we’ll understand it better by and by.

# “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH 525

WORDS and MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906

Arranged by F. A. Clark, 1906

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

By and by, when the morning comes,  
when the saints of God are gathered home,  
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,  
for we’ll understand it better by and by.





**BENEDICTION**

# “On Eagle’s Wings” UMH 143

WORDS and MUSIC: Michael Joncas, 1979; harmony by Carlton R. Young, 1988.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*

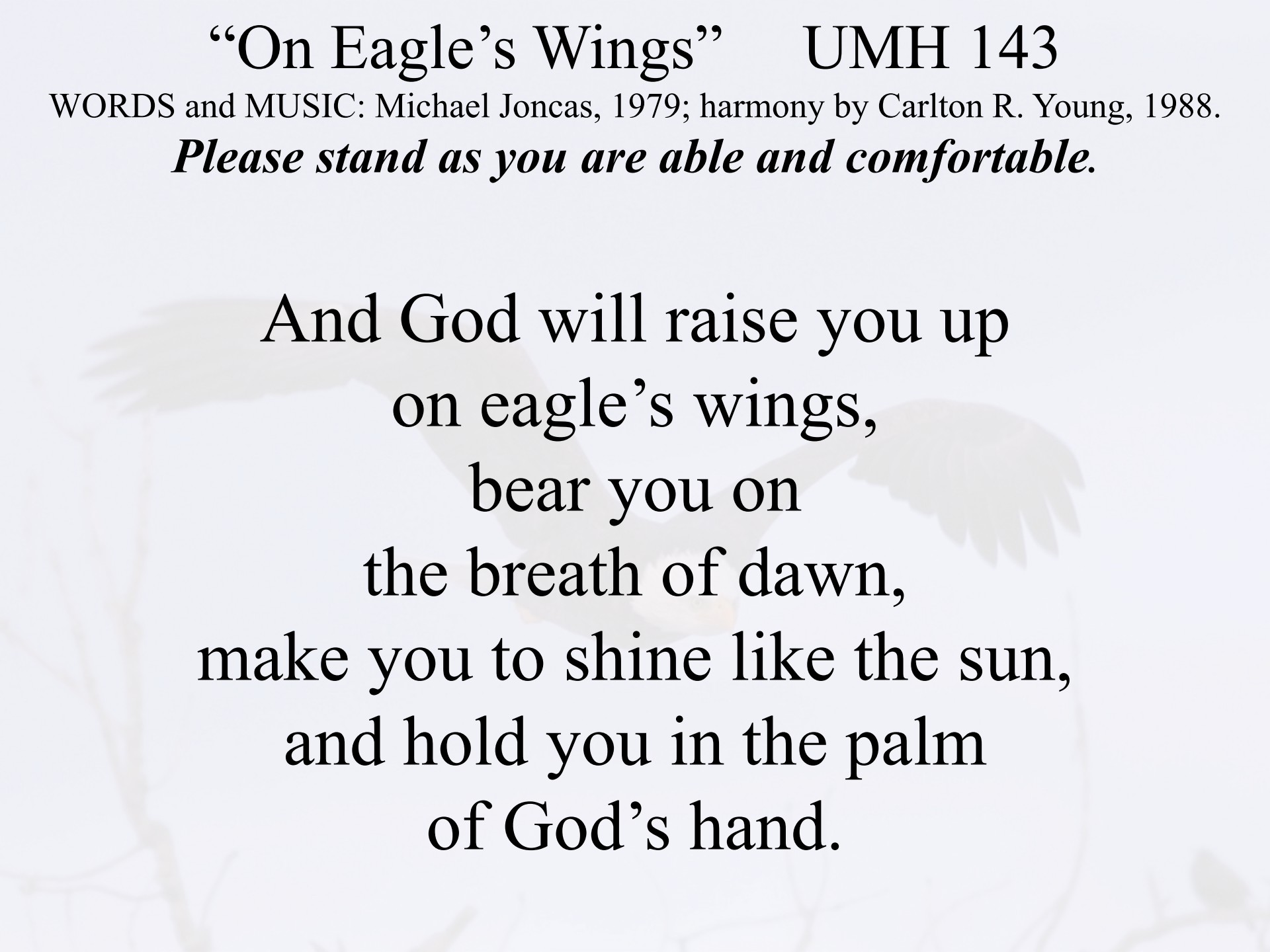




# “On Eagle’s Wings” UMH 143

WORDS and MUSIC: Michael Joncas, 1979; harmony by Carlton R. Young, 1988.

*Please stand as you are able and comfortable.*



And God will raise you up  
on eagle’s wings,  
bear you on  
the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm  
of God’s hand.

# **Questions for Reflection**

**What did you learn about Jesus  
beginning His ministry?**



# BLESSING AND BENEDICTION



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

This service has ended, and now  
your service in the world begins!

# Rectortown United Methodist Church

serving God with  
**P**rayer, **A**ction, and **L**ove  
through **S**ervice.