



PRELUDE

Pastor:

Jonathan Lamb

*Fifth Sunday after
the Epiphany*

February 4th , 2024

CCLI License:

3430384-01-1829



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

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

CALL to WORSHIP



CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?

People: **How long will you hide your face from me?**

Leader: How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all the day?

People: **How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: Consider and answer me, O Lord my God;

People: **Lighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;**

Leader: Lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed over him”;

People: **Lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: But I trusted in your steadfast love;

People: **My heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

Leader: I will sing to the Lord,

People: **For the Lord has dealt bountifully with me.**

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin sick soul.

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain.

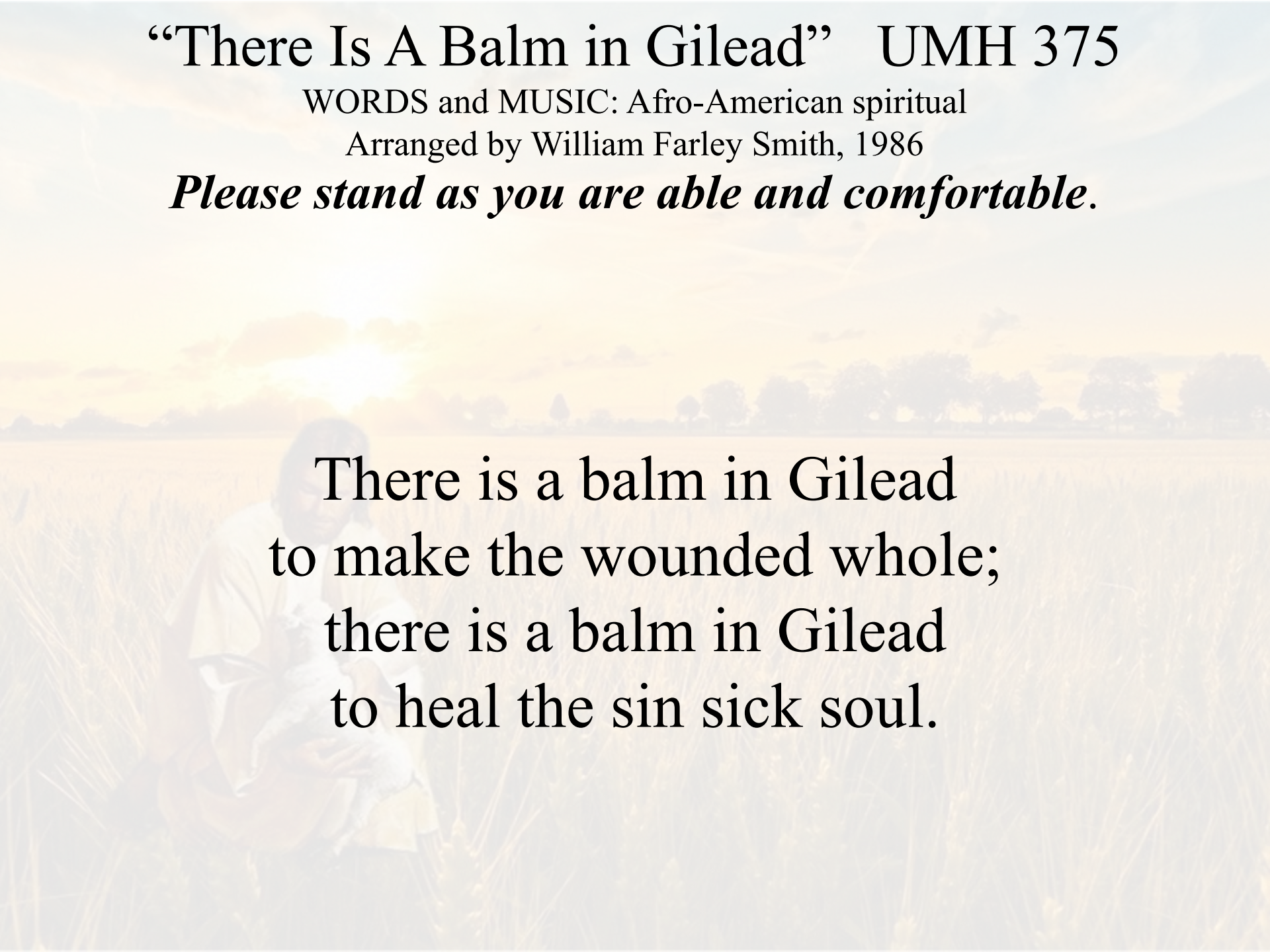
But then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin sick soul.

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
and if you look for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend.

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

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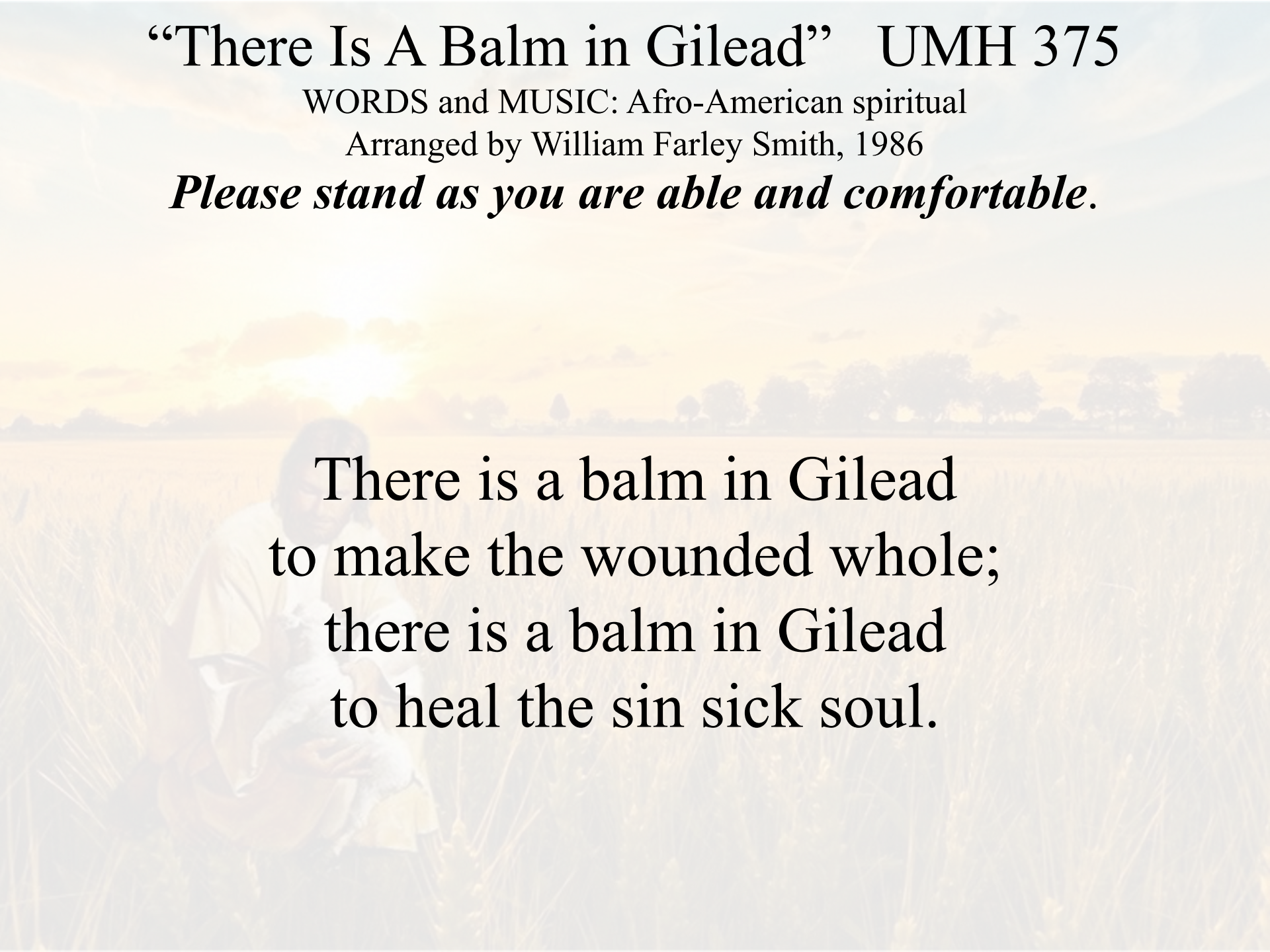
If you can't preach like Peter,
if you can't pray like Paul,
just tell the love of Jesus,
and say he died for all.

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” UMH 375

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

Arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986

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There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin sick soul.

OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty and everlasting
God,
The comfort of the sad,
The strength of those who
suffer,
Let the prayers of your
children who cry out
Of any tribulation come to
you.
To every soul that is
distressed,
Grant mercy, grant relief,
grant refreshment;
Through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.**





Young Disciples' Message – “We Pray to God”




RECOGNITION OF DISABILITY AWARENESS SUNDAY

PRAYER FOR

ILLUMINATION

**Lord, you have given us
your Word for a light to
shine upon your path;
Grant us to so meditate
on that Word, and to
follow its teaching,
that we find in it the
light that shines more
and more until the
perfect day;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord.
Amen.**



A photograph showing a person lying down with their head resting on a surface. Several hands are placed on the person's head, suggesting a prayer or healing session. The image is dimly lit and has a soft, ethereal quality. The text "James 5: 14-16" is overlaid in the center of the image.

James 5: 14-16

¹⁴ Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.

¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

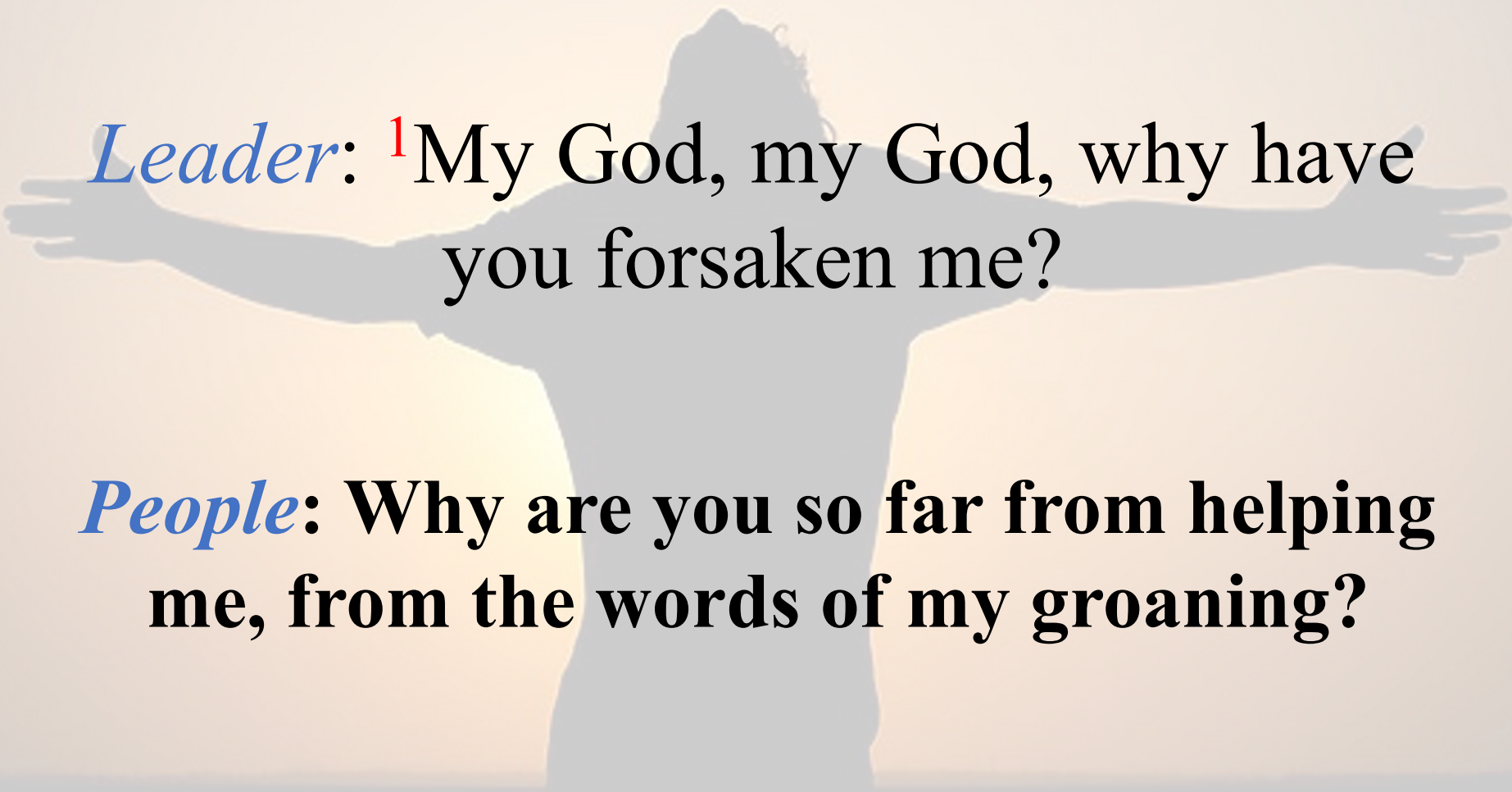
PSALM READING

Psalm 22:1-5 UMH 752



PSALM READING

Psalm 22:1-5 UMH 752

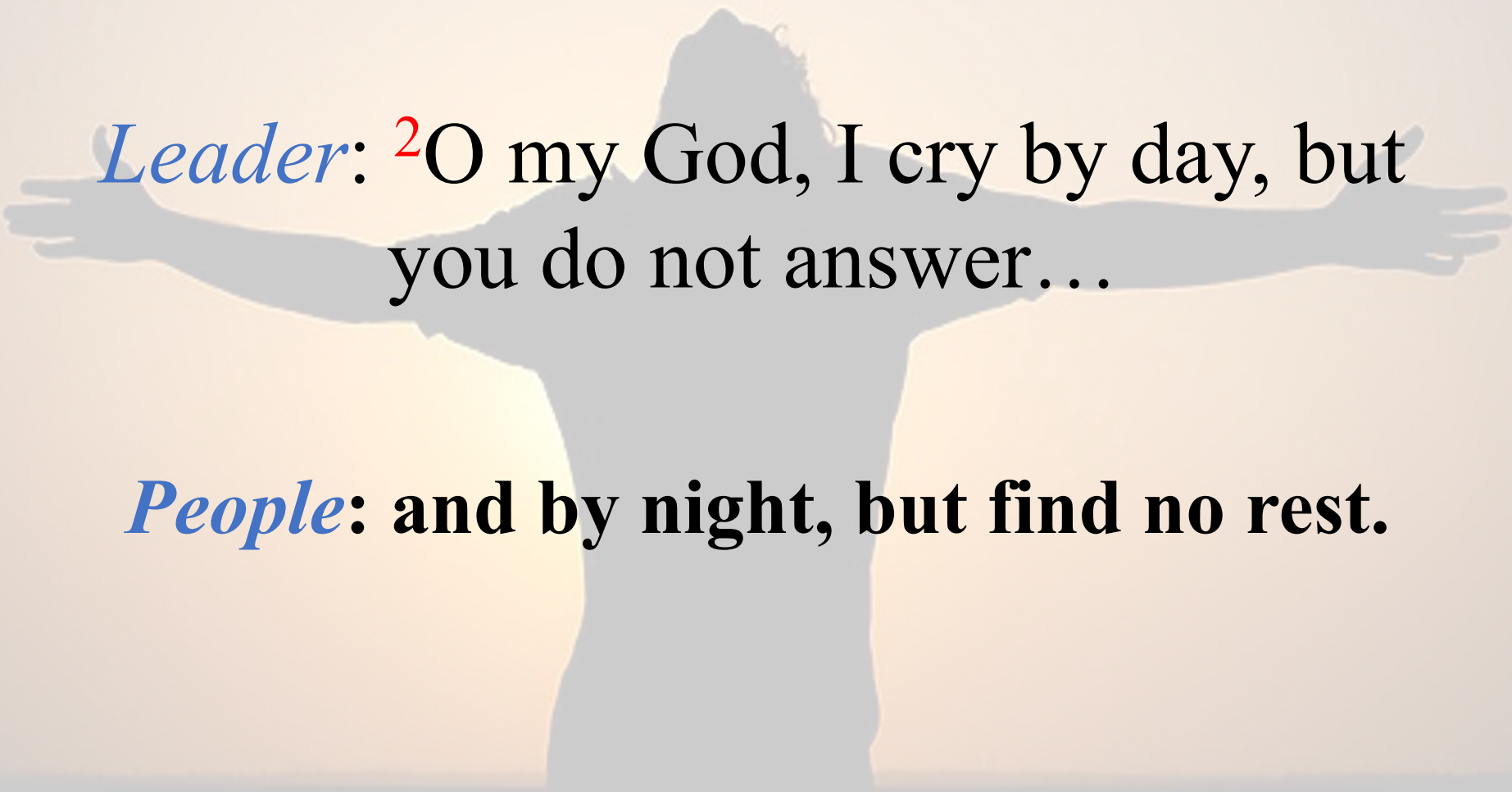


Leader: ¹My God, my God, why have
you forsaken me?

People: Why are you so far from helping
me, from the words of my groaning?

PSALM READING

Psalm 22:1-5 UMH 752

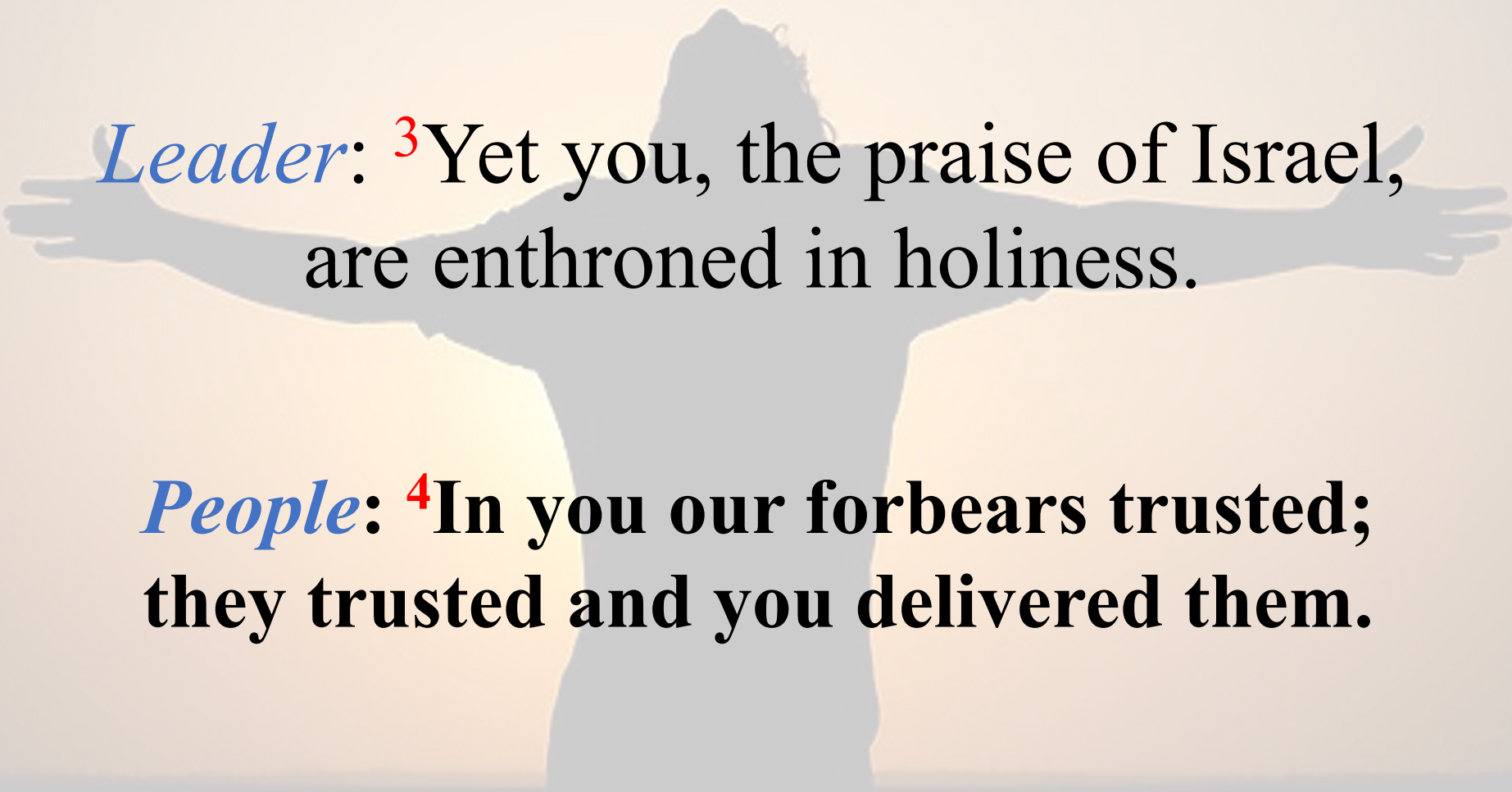


Leader: ²O my God, I cry by day, but
you do not answer...

People: and by night, but find no rest.

PSALM READING

Psalm 22:1-5 UMH 752

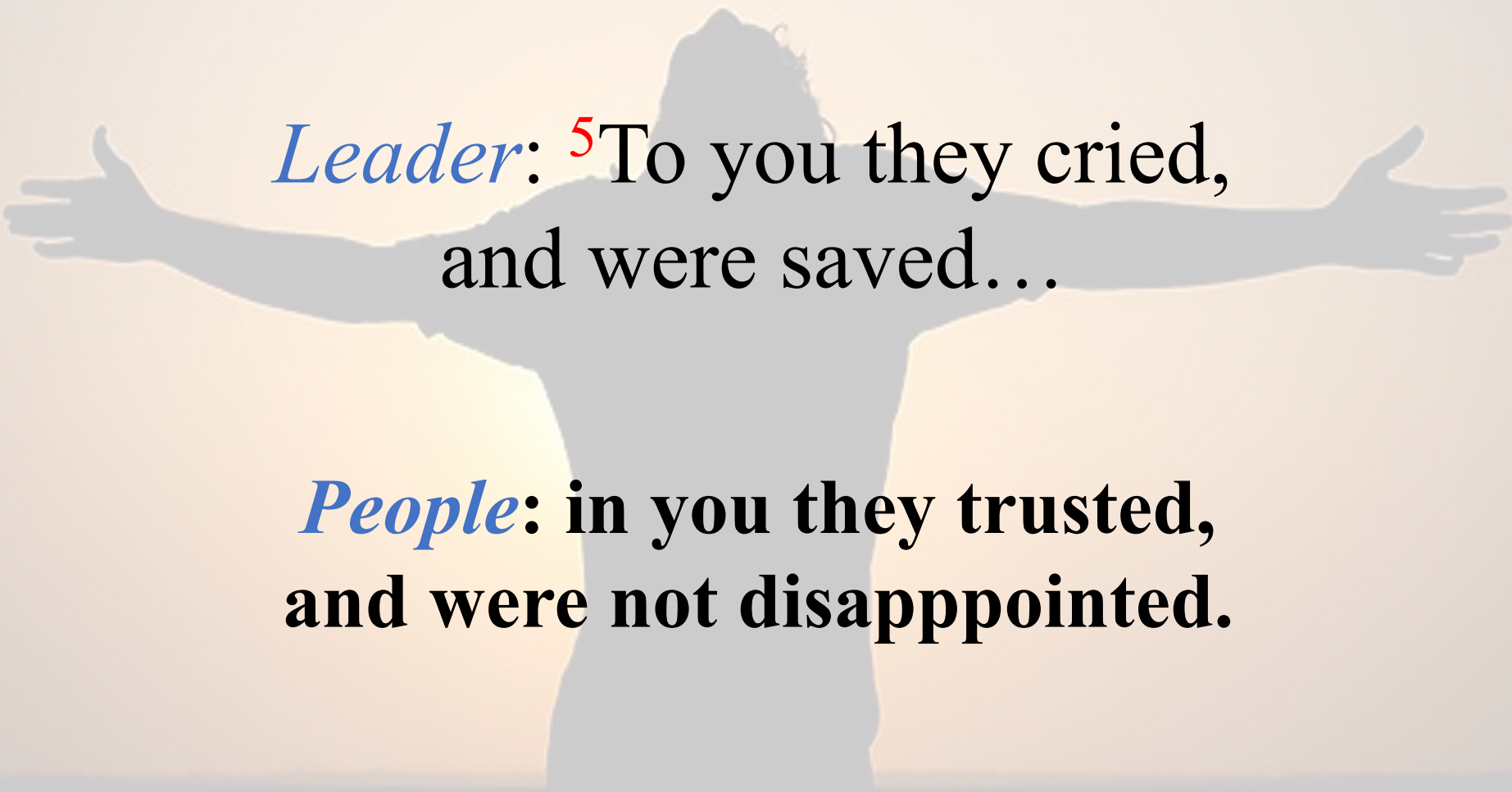


Leader: ³ Yet you, the praise of Israel,
are enthroned in holiness.

People: ⁴ In you our forbears trusted;
they trusted and you delivered them.


PSALM READING

Psalm 22:1-5 UMH 752

A faint, light-colored silhouette of a person with their arms outstretched horizontally, centered in the background. The person appears to be standing with their head slightly tilted back, and their hands are open and facing forward. The background is a soft, light gradient, possibly representing a sunrise or sunset.

Leader: ⁵To you they cried,
and were saved...

People: in you they trusted,
and were not disappointed.

A landscape photograph featuring a gnarled, leafless tree in the foreground and a bird in flight against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The ground is covered with low-lying green and brown vegetation. A semi-transparent blue box is overlaid on the image, containing the text "Matthew 21: 21-22".

Matthew 21: 21-22


²¹ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done.

²² If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

Glory Be to the Father

70

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

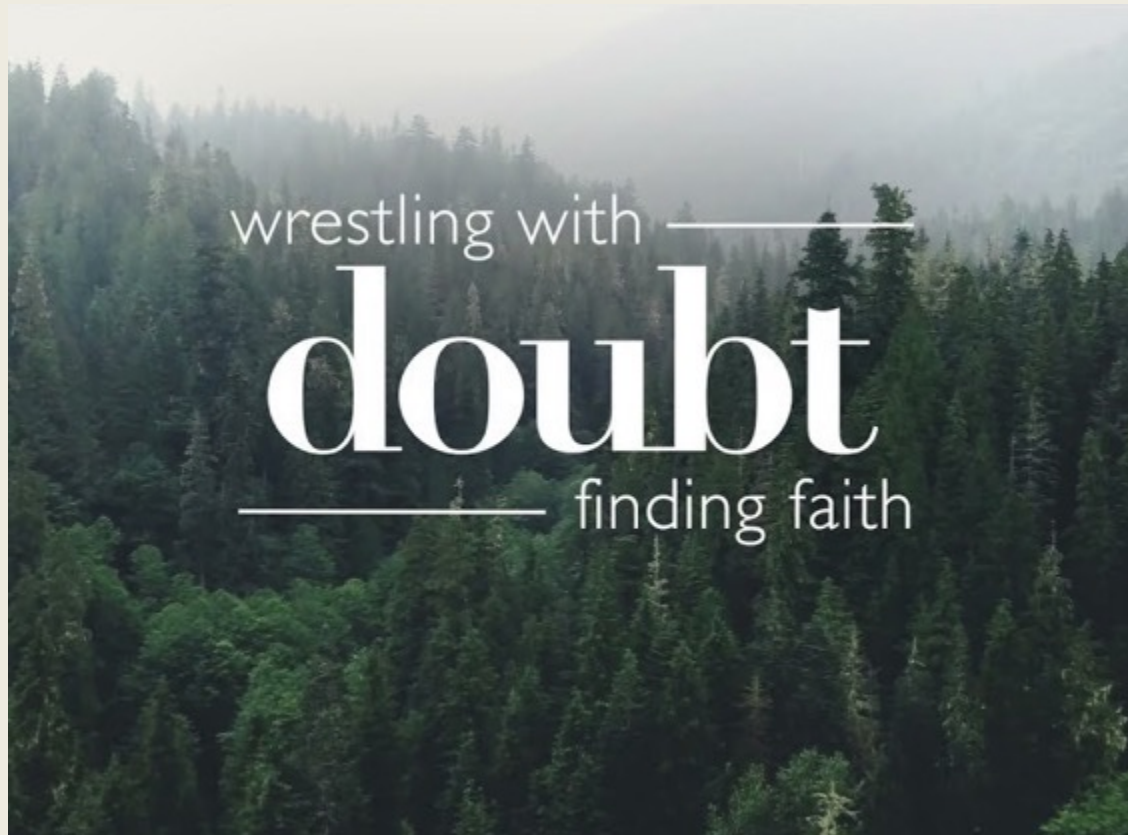


**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;**

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

TODAY'S MESSAGE

“Wrestling with Doubt – When Prayers Go Unanswered”



“Take Time to Be Holy” UMH 395

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Take Time to Be Holy” UMH 395

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Take time to be holy,
speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always,
and feed on his word.

Make friends of God’s children,
help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing
his blessing to seek.

“Take Time to Be Holy” UMH 395

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Take time to be holy,
the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret
with Jesus alone.

By looking to Jesus,
like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct
his likeness shall see.

“Take Time to Be Holy” UMH 395

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Take time to be holy,
let him be thy guide,
and run not before him,
whatever betide.

In joy or in sorrow,
still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus,
still trust in his word.

“Take Time to Be Holy” UMH 395

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

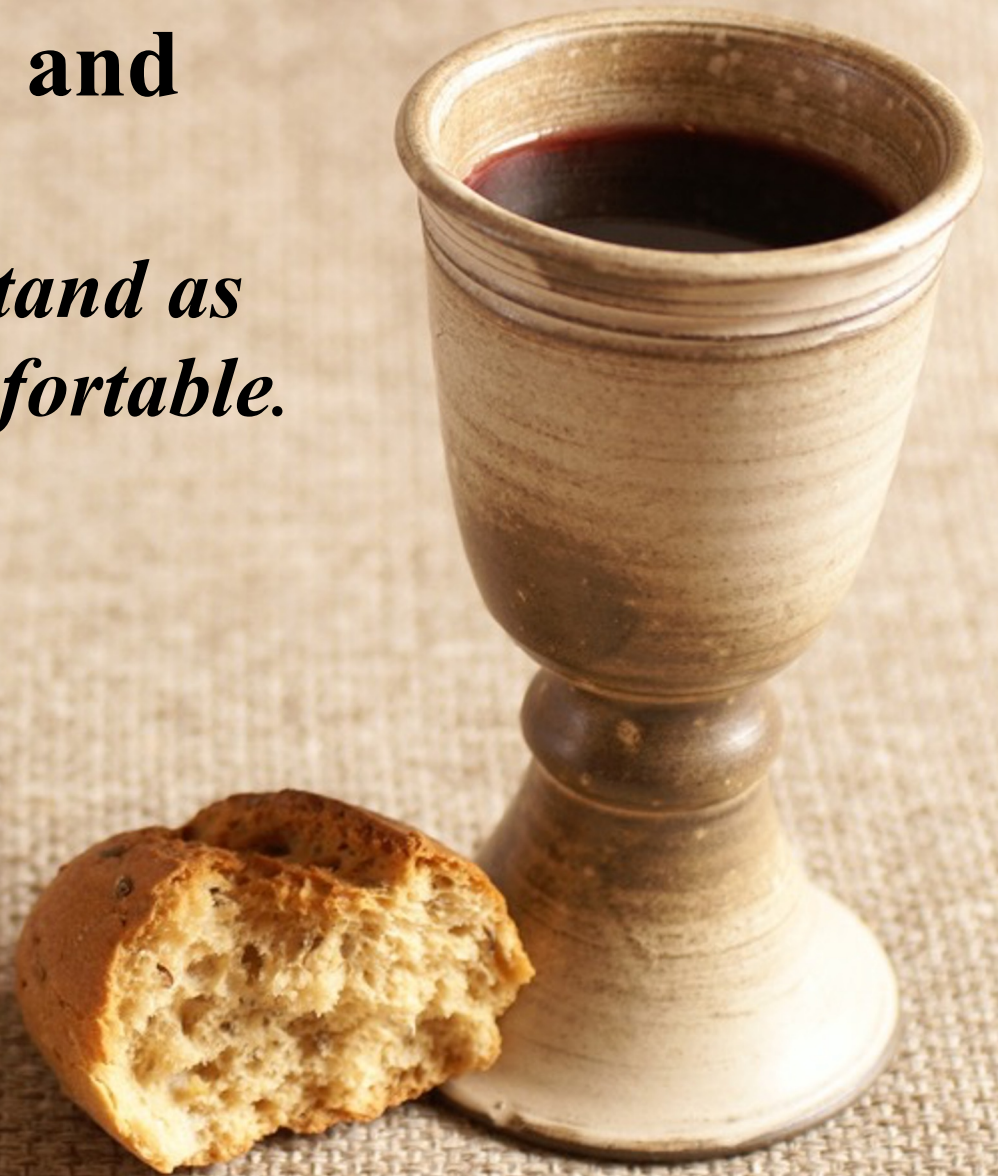
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Take time to be holy,
be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive
beneath his control.

Thus led by his spirit
to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted
for service above.

**INVITATION,
CONFESSION, and
PARDON**

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

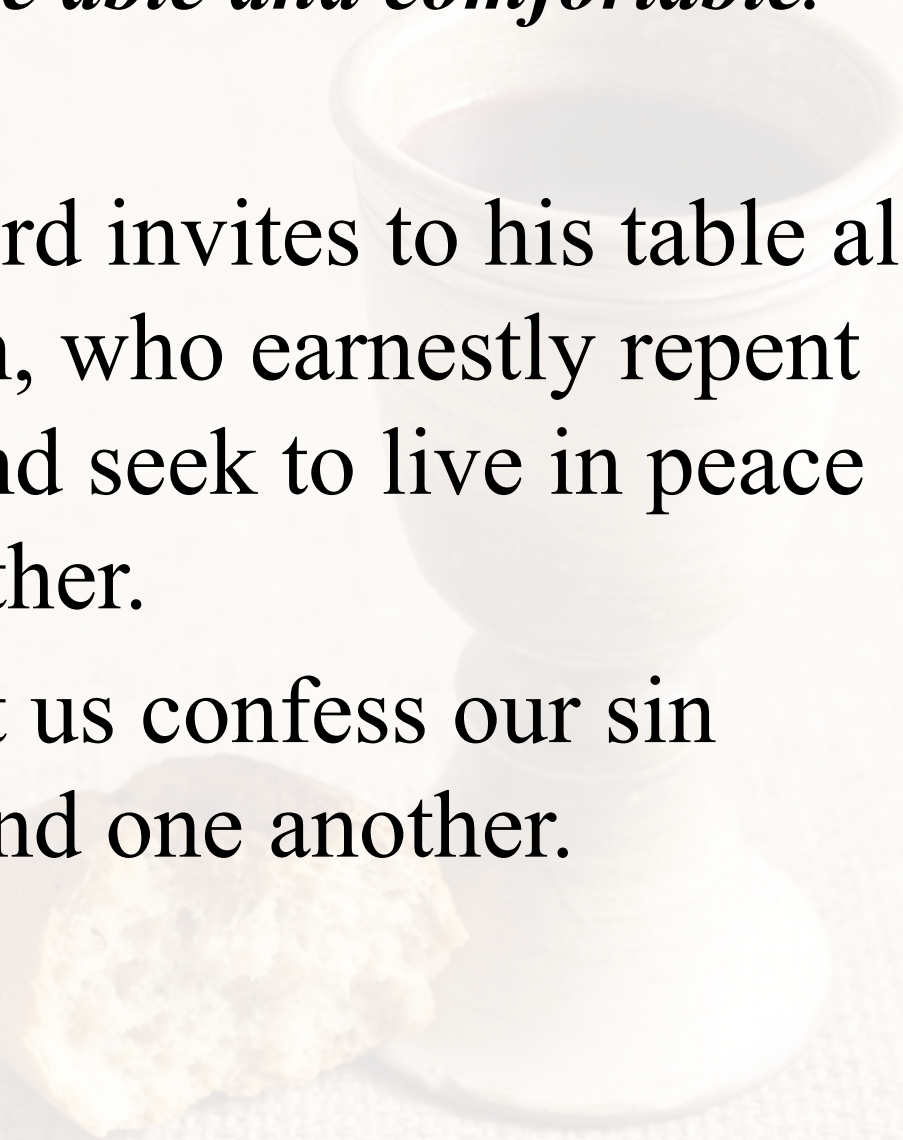


INVITATION, CONFESSION, and PARDON

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.



INVITATION, CONFESSION, and PARDON

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

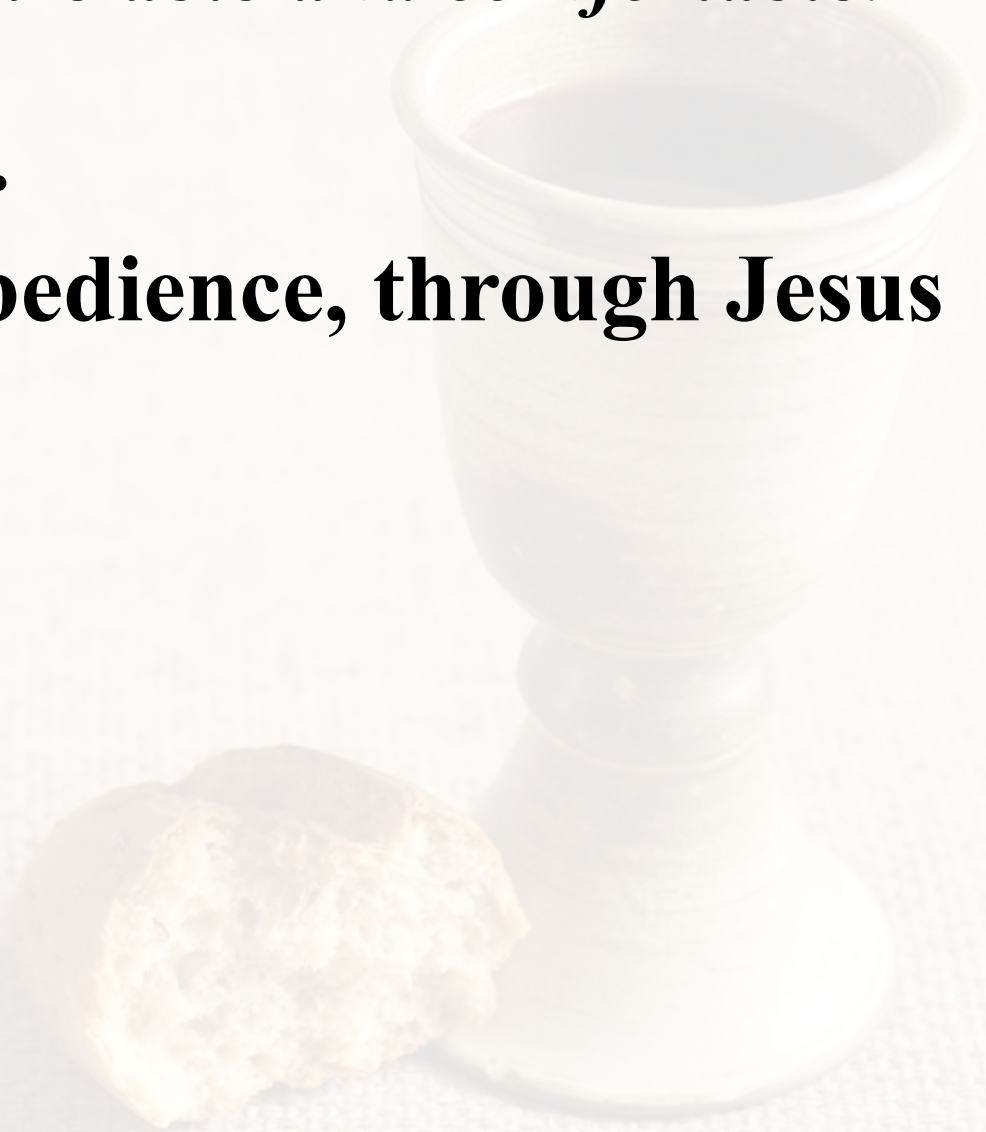
INVITATION, CONFESSION, and PARDON

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Forgive us, we pray.

**Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.**

Amen.



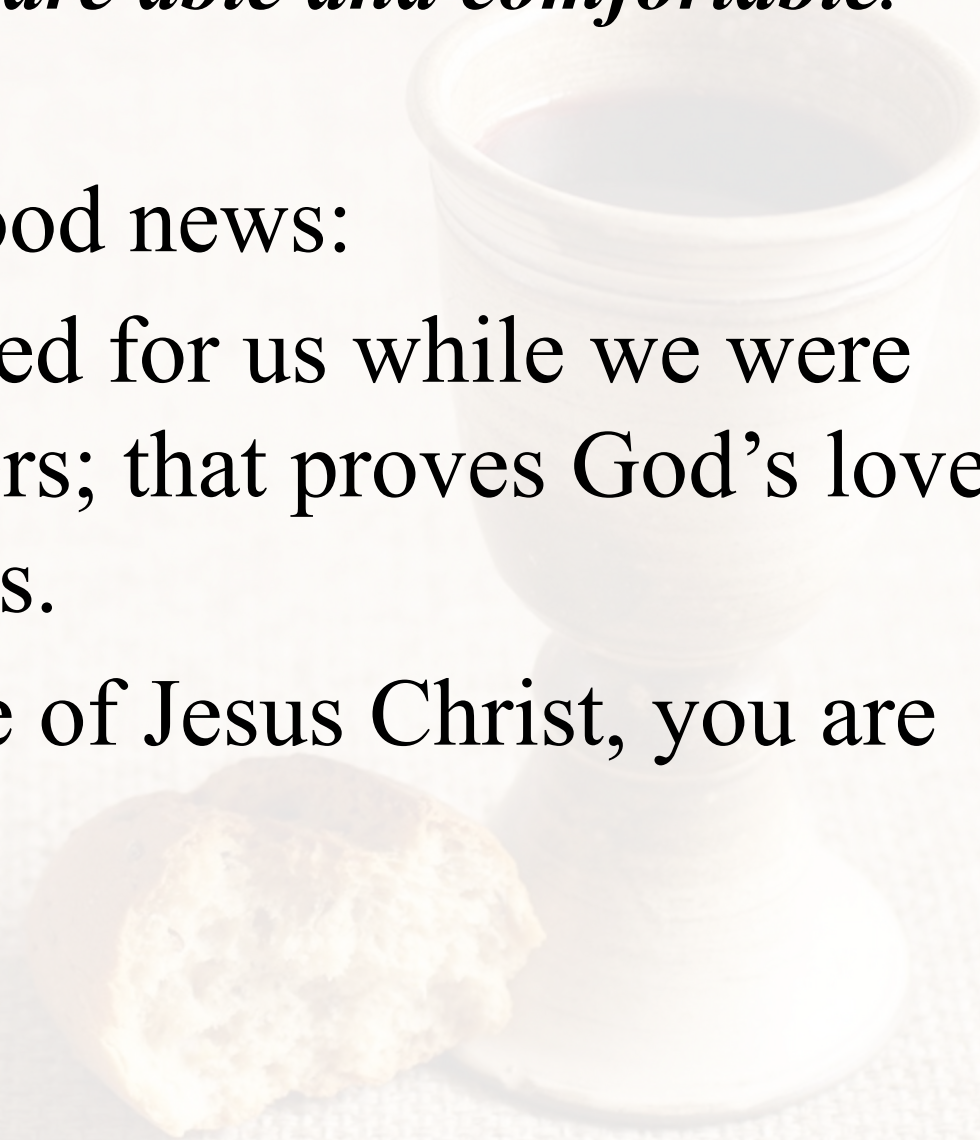
INVITATION, CONFESSION, and PARDON

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

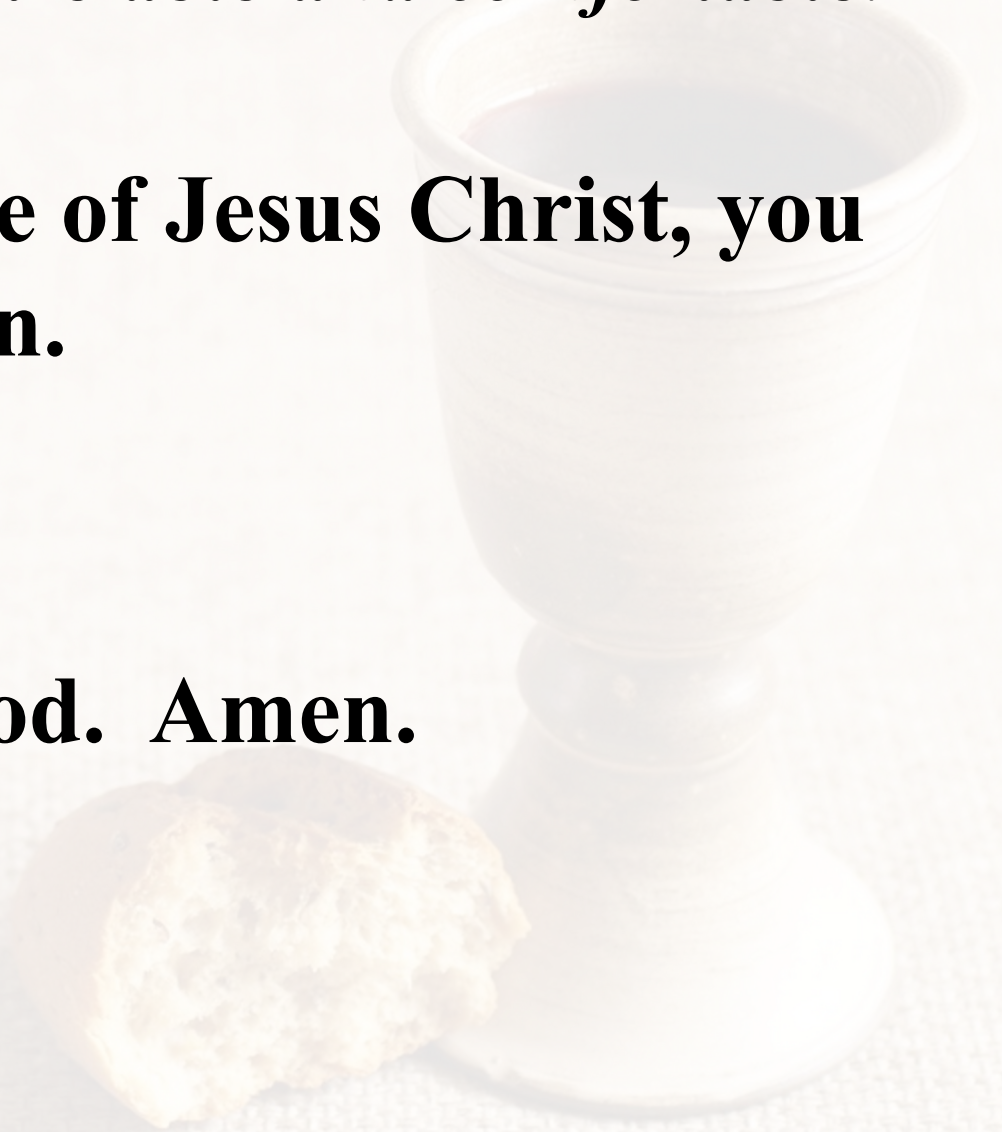


INVITATION, CONFESSION, and PARDON

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**





Passing of the Peace

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

LORD hear our
prayers



*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!

Offertory Prayer

A wooden cross stands in the lower right corner of the image, set against a vibrant blue sky filled with soft, white, fluffy clouds. The cross is made of two simple wooden beams. The overall scene is peaceful and spiritual.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH p. 13

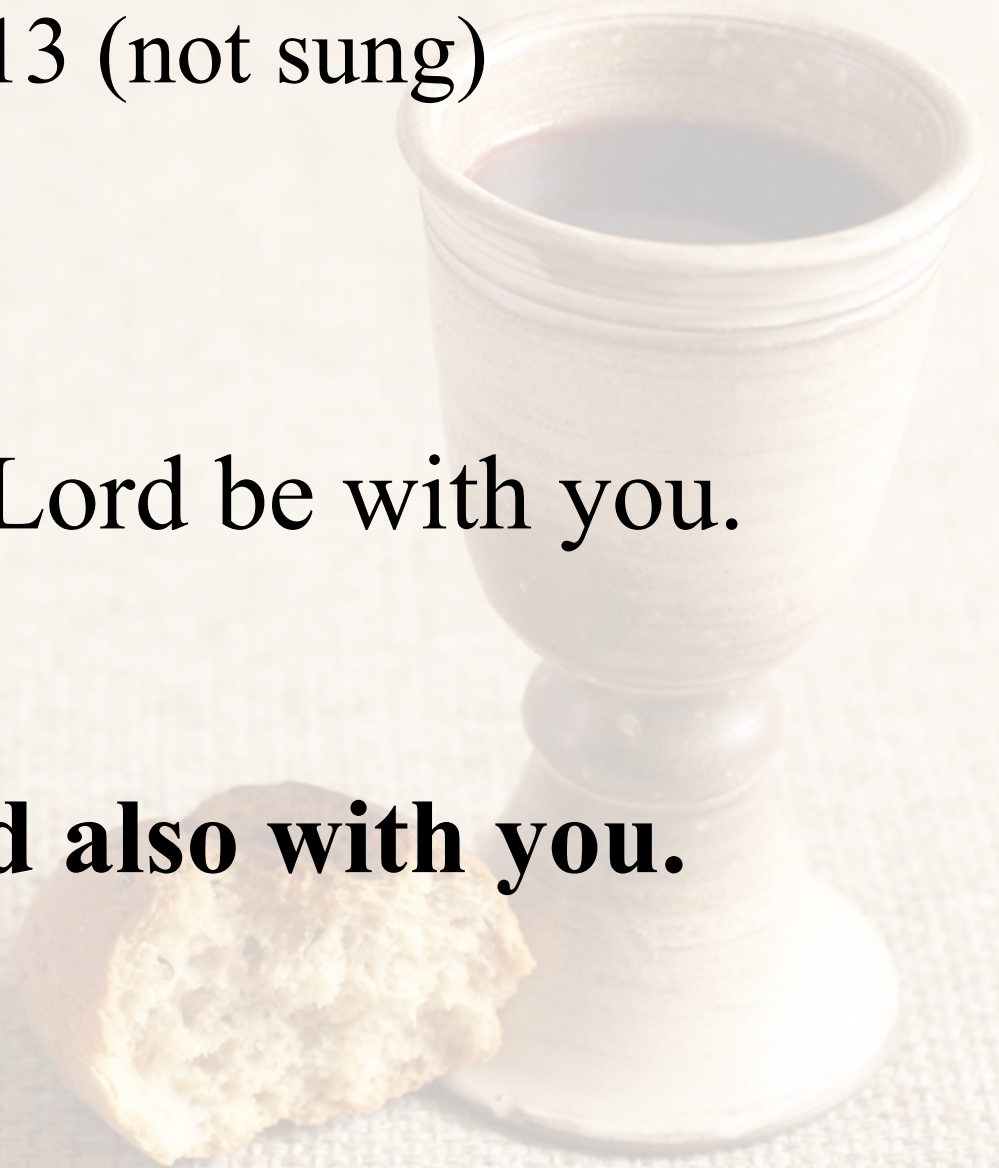


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13 (not sung)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

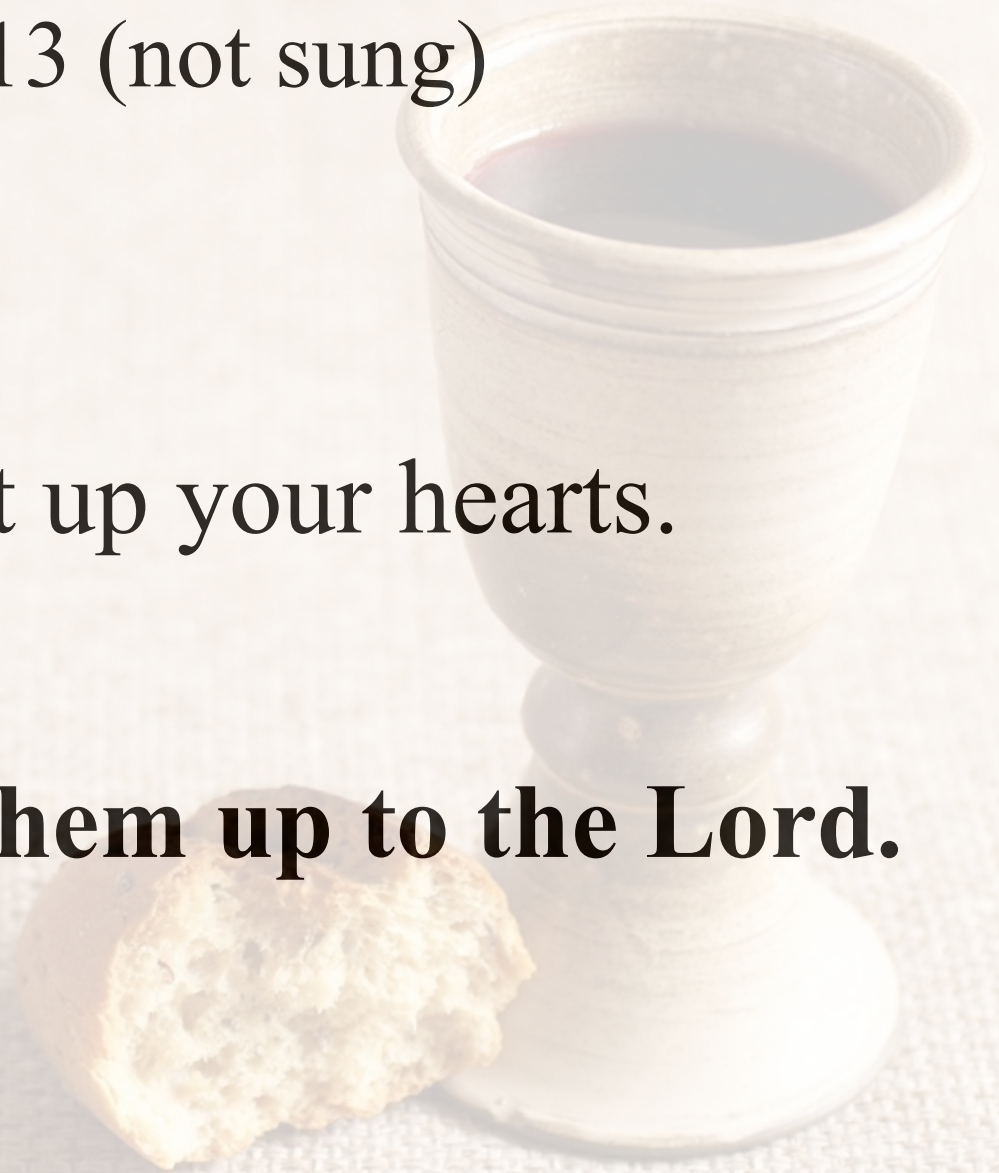


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13 (not sung)

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

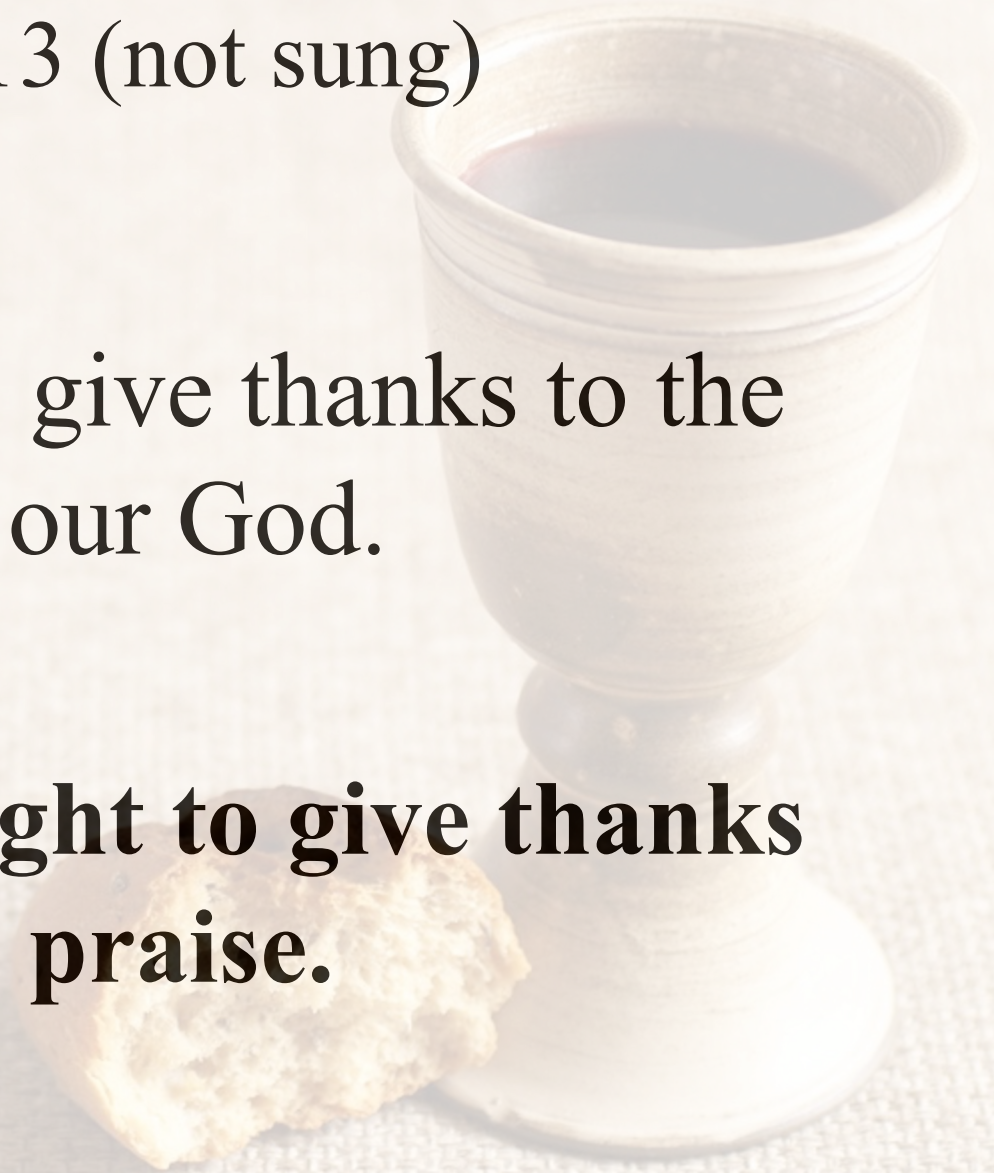


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13 (not sung)

Leader: Let us give thanks to the
Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks
and praise.

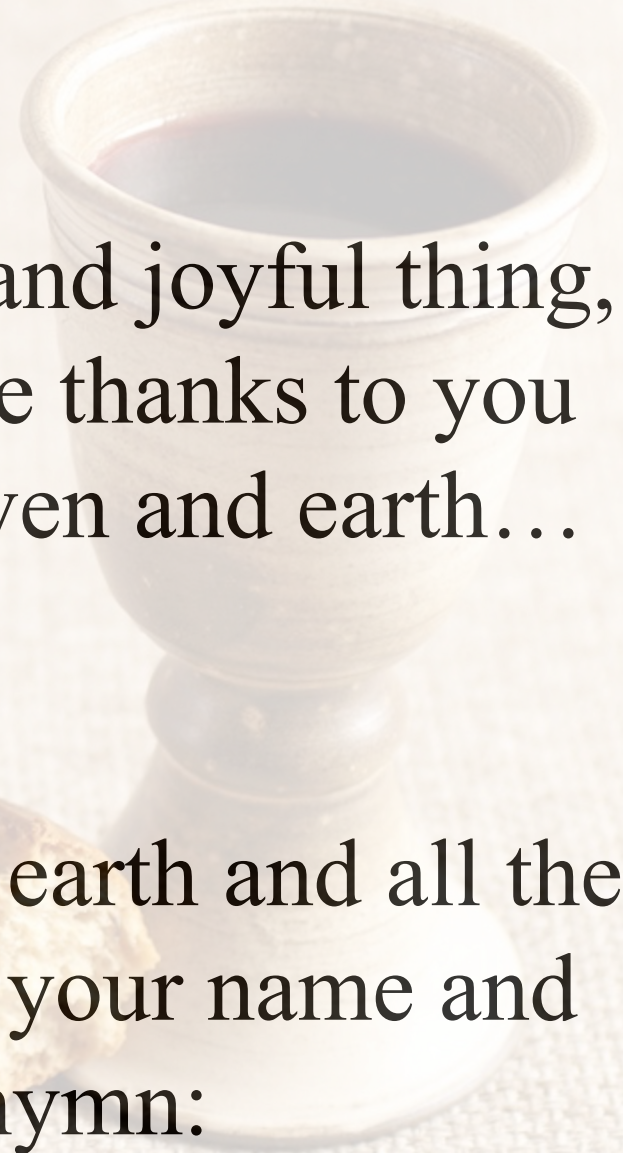


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

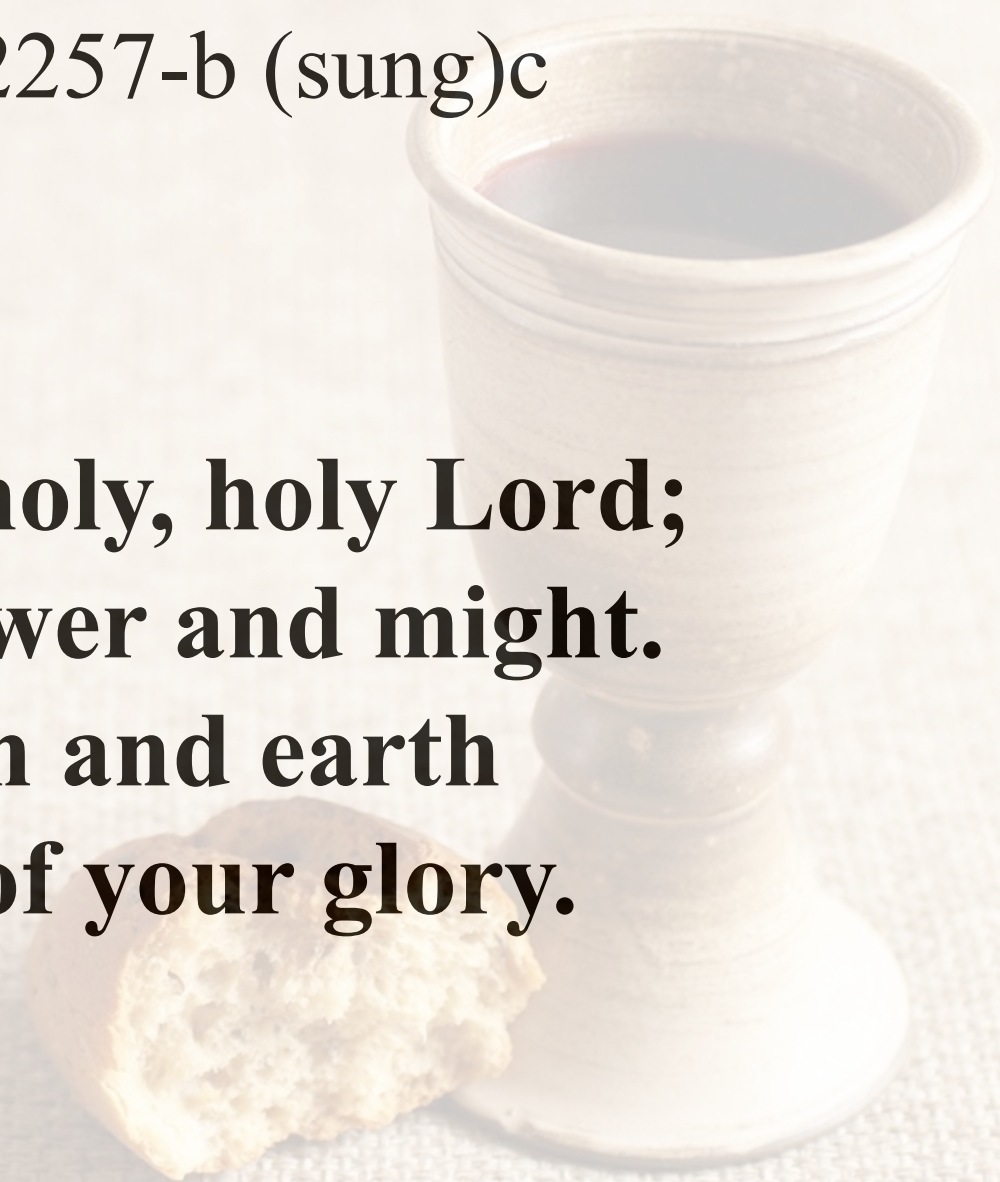
... and so, with your people on earth and all the
company of heaven we praise your name and
join their unending hymn:



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

TFWS #2257-b (sung)c

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord;
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth
are full of your glory.

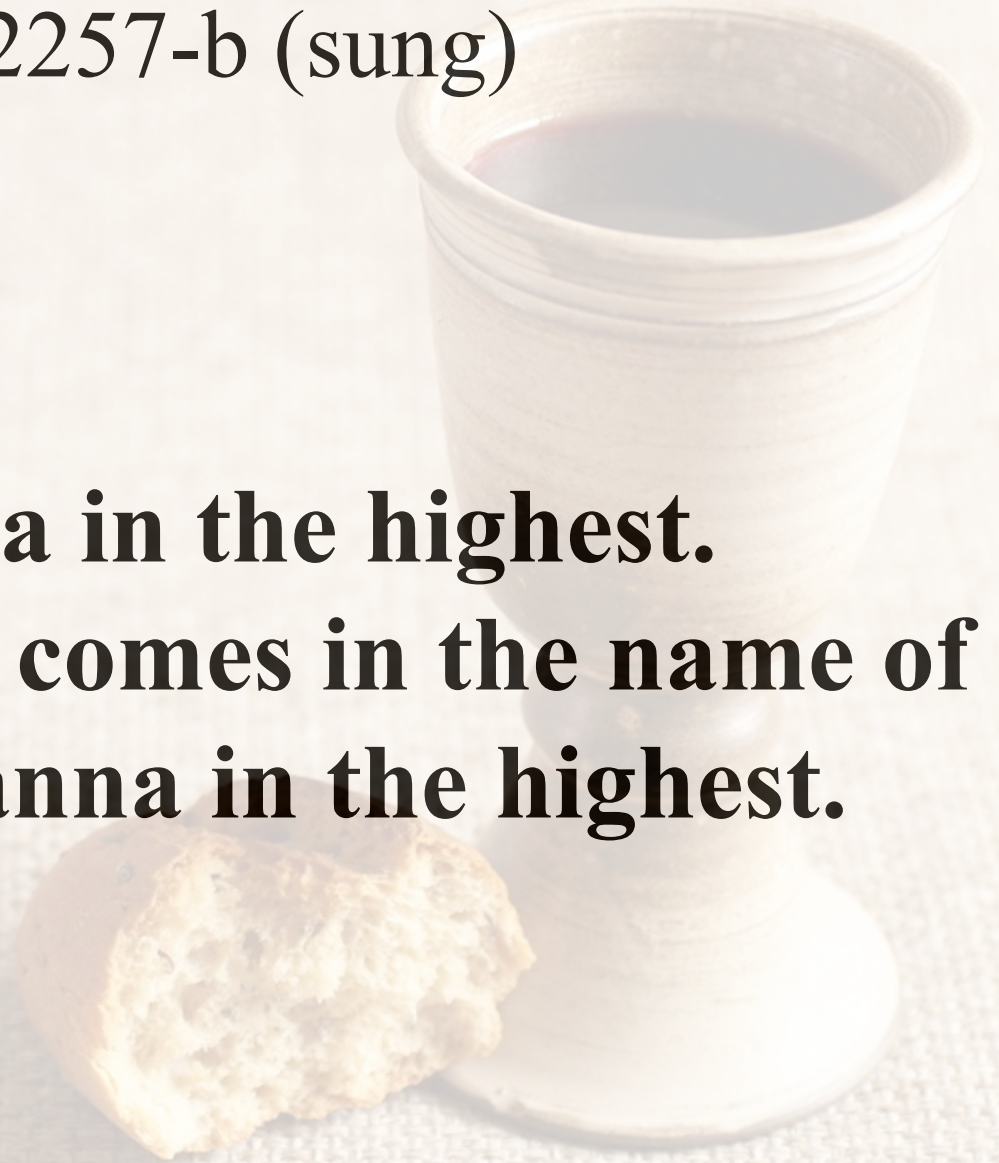


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

TFWS #2257-b (sung)

All: Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

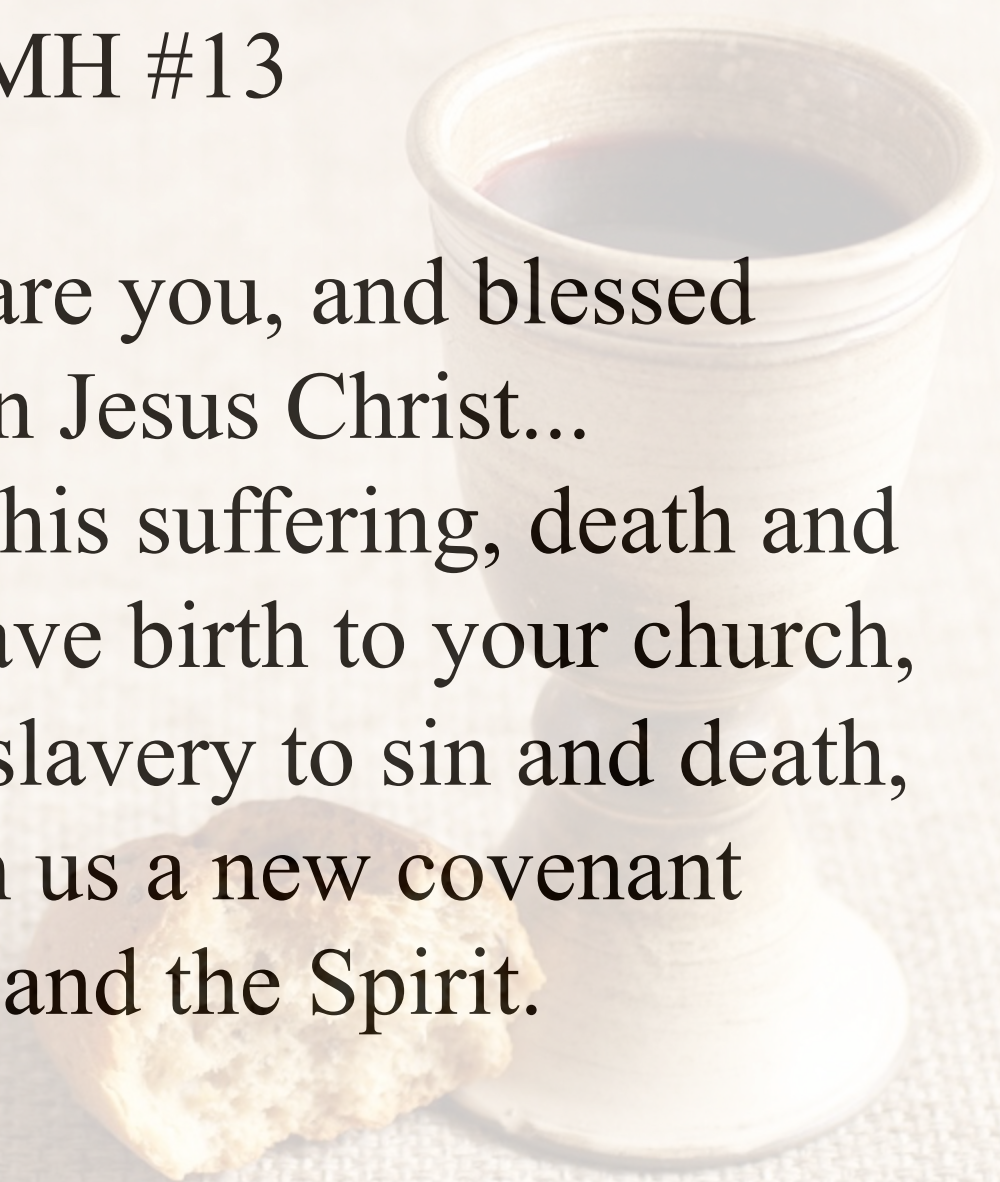


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed
is your Son Jesus Christ...

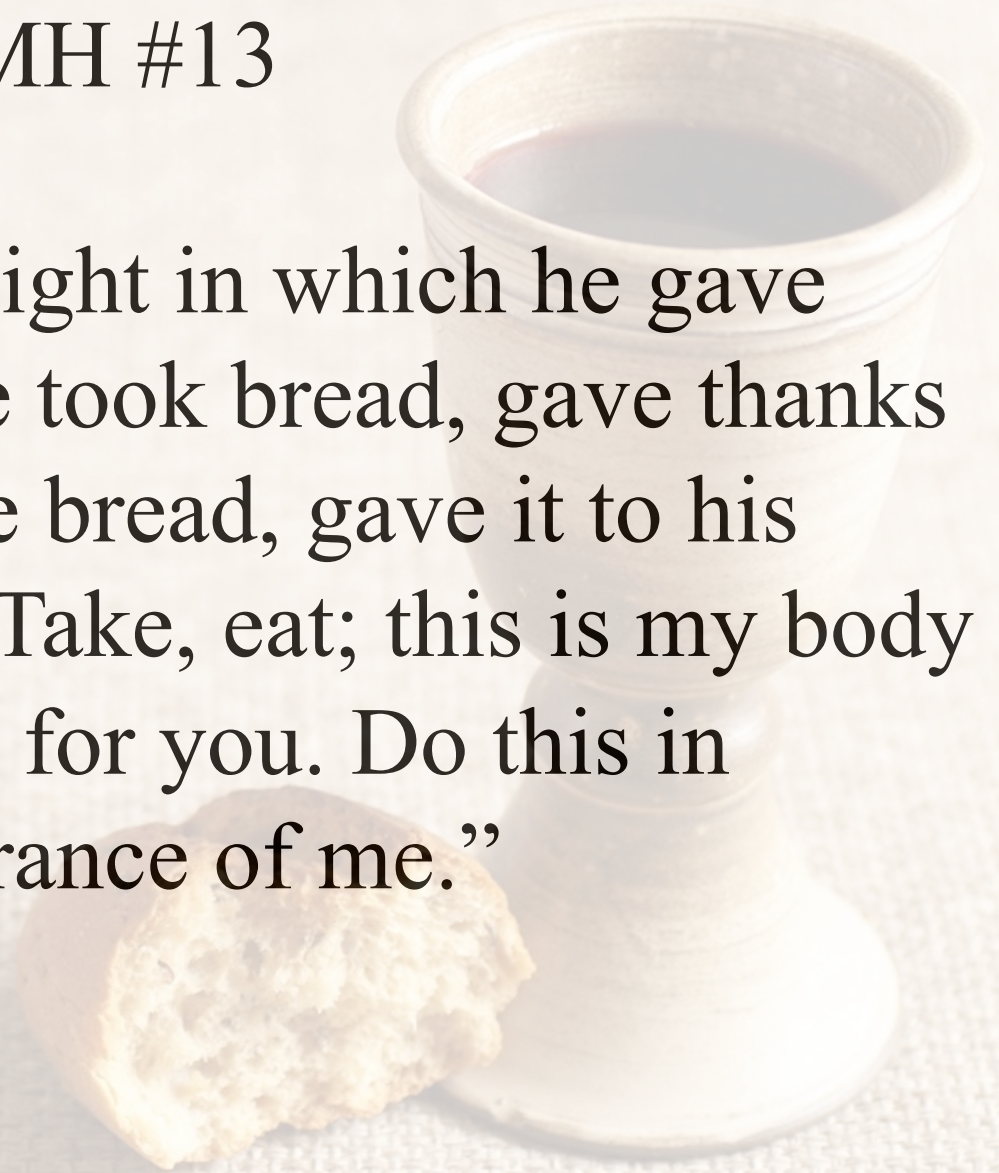
By the baptism of his suffering, death and
resurrection you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

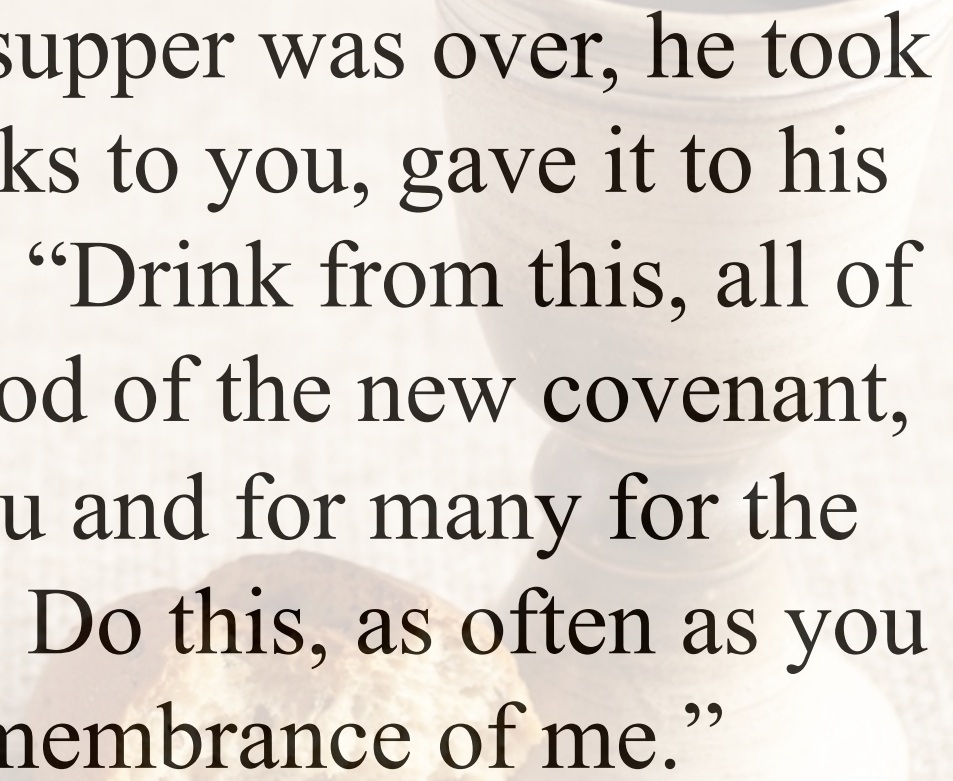
Leader: On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

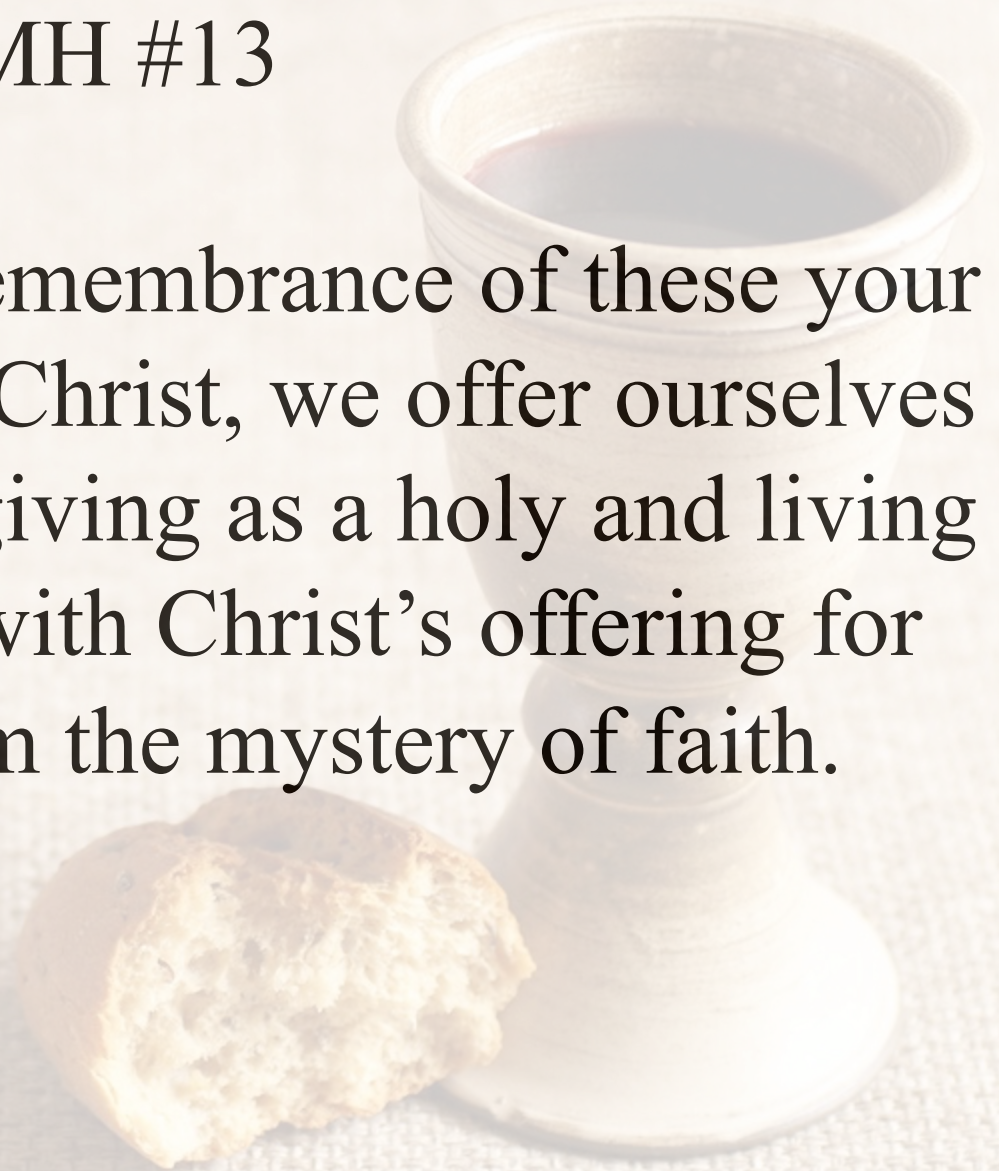
Leader: When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

Leader: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

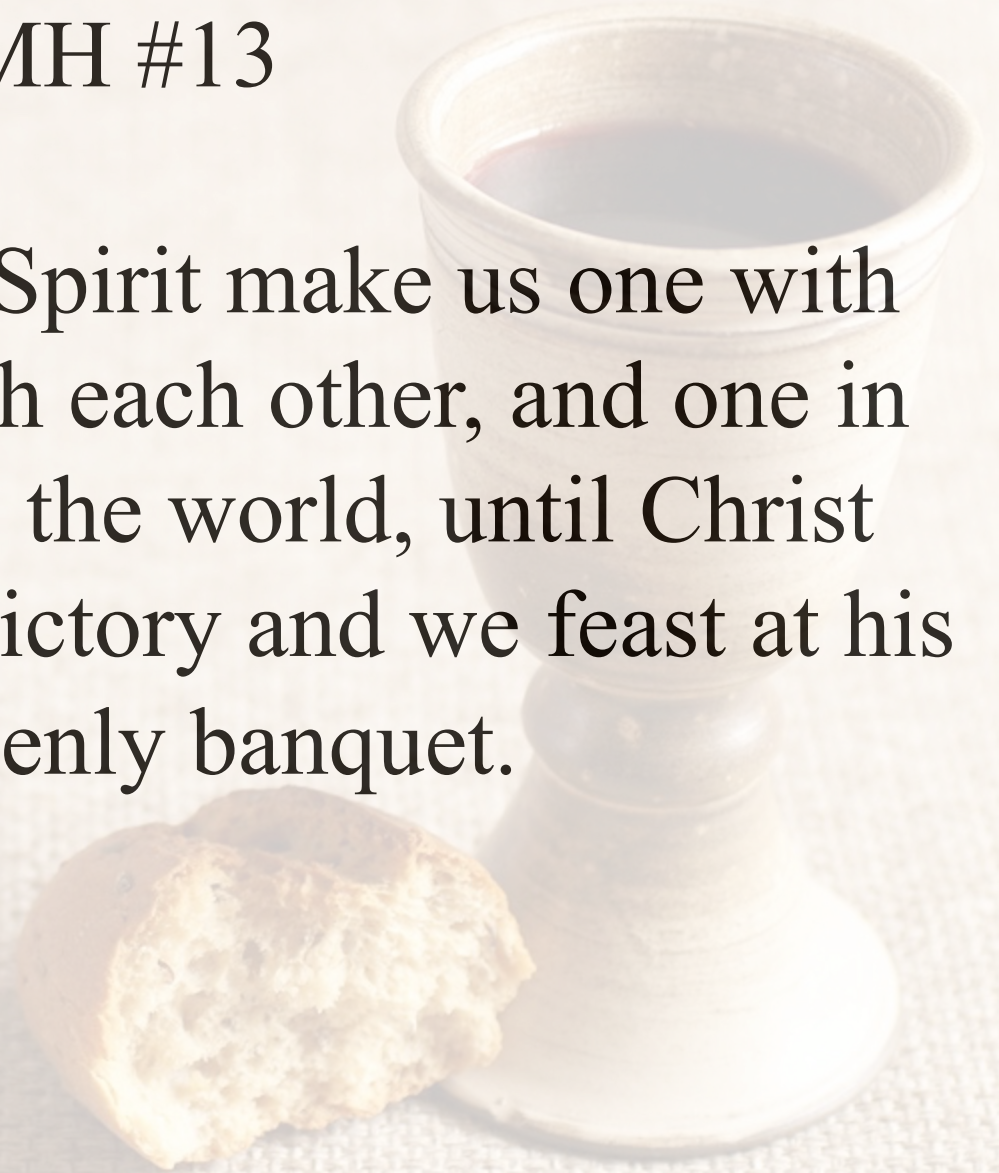
All: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

Leader: By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

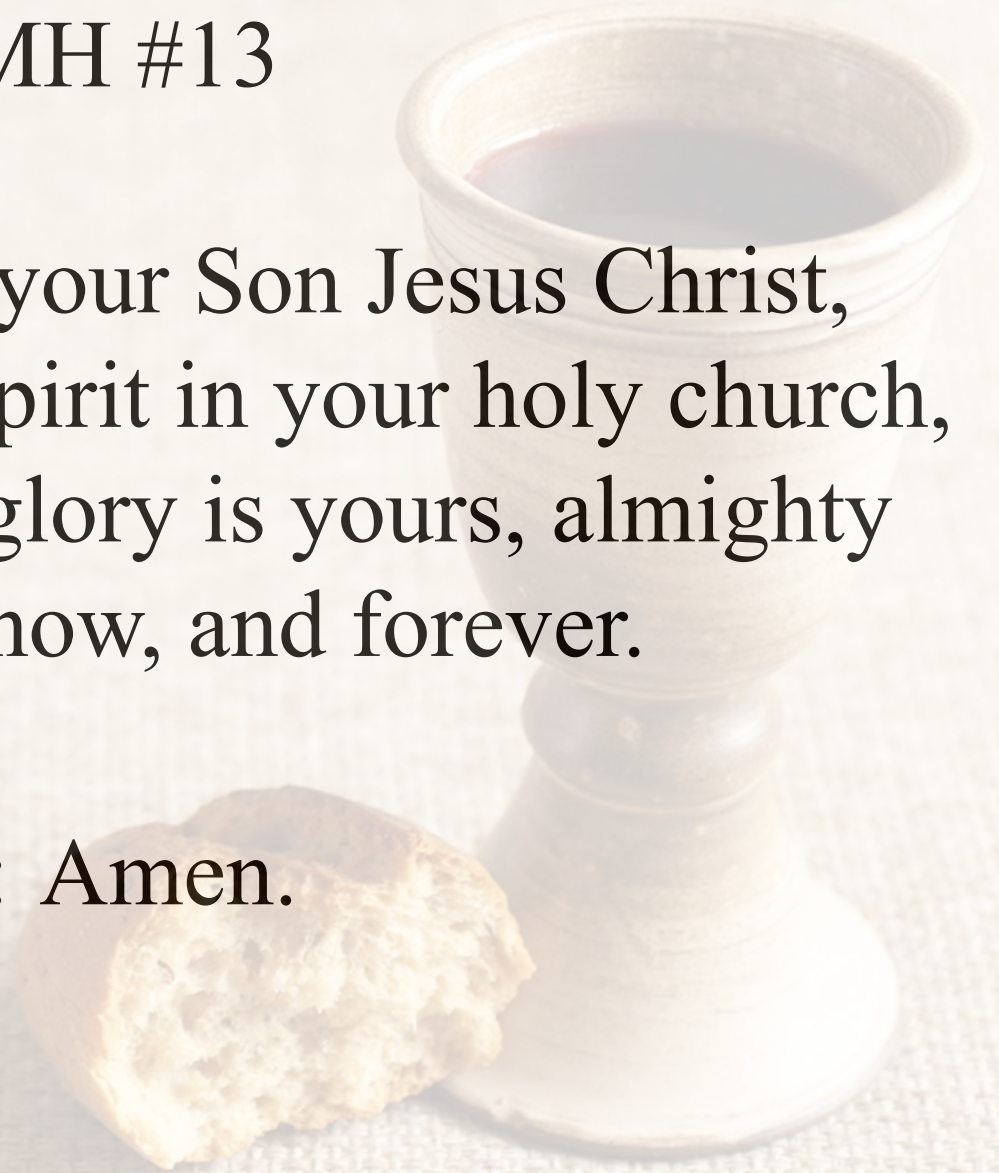


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH #13

Leader: Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty
Father, now, and forever.

All: Amen.



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.**



“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I heard an old, old story,
how a Savior came from glory,
how he gave his life on Calvary
to save a wretch like me;
I heard about his groaning,
of his precious blood's atoning,
then I repented of my sins
and won the victory.

“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!

He sought me and bought me

with his redeeming blood;

he loved me ere I knew him,

and all my love is due him;

he plunged me to victory

beneath the cleansing flood.

“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I heard about his healing,
of his cleansing power revealing,
how he made the lame to walk again
and caused the blind to see;
and then I cried, “Dear Jesus,
come and heal my broken spirit,”
and somehow Jesus came and brought
to me the victory.

“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

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Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!

He sought me and bought me

with his redeeming blood;

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“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I heard about a mansion
he has built for me in glory,
and I heard about the streets of gold
beyond the crystal sea;
about the angels singing
and the old redemption story,
and some sweet day I'll sing up there
the song of victory.

“Victory in Jesus” UMH 370

WORDS and MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!

He sought me and bought me

with his redeeming blood;

he loved me ere I knew him,

and all my love is due him;

he plunged me to victory

beneath the cleansing flood.



BENEDICTION

“On Eagle’s Wings” UMH 143

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

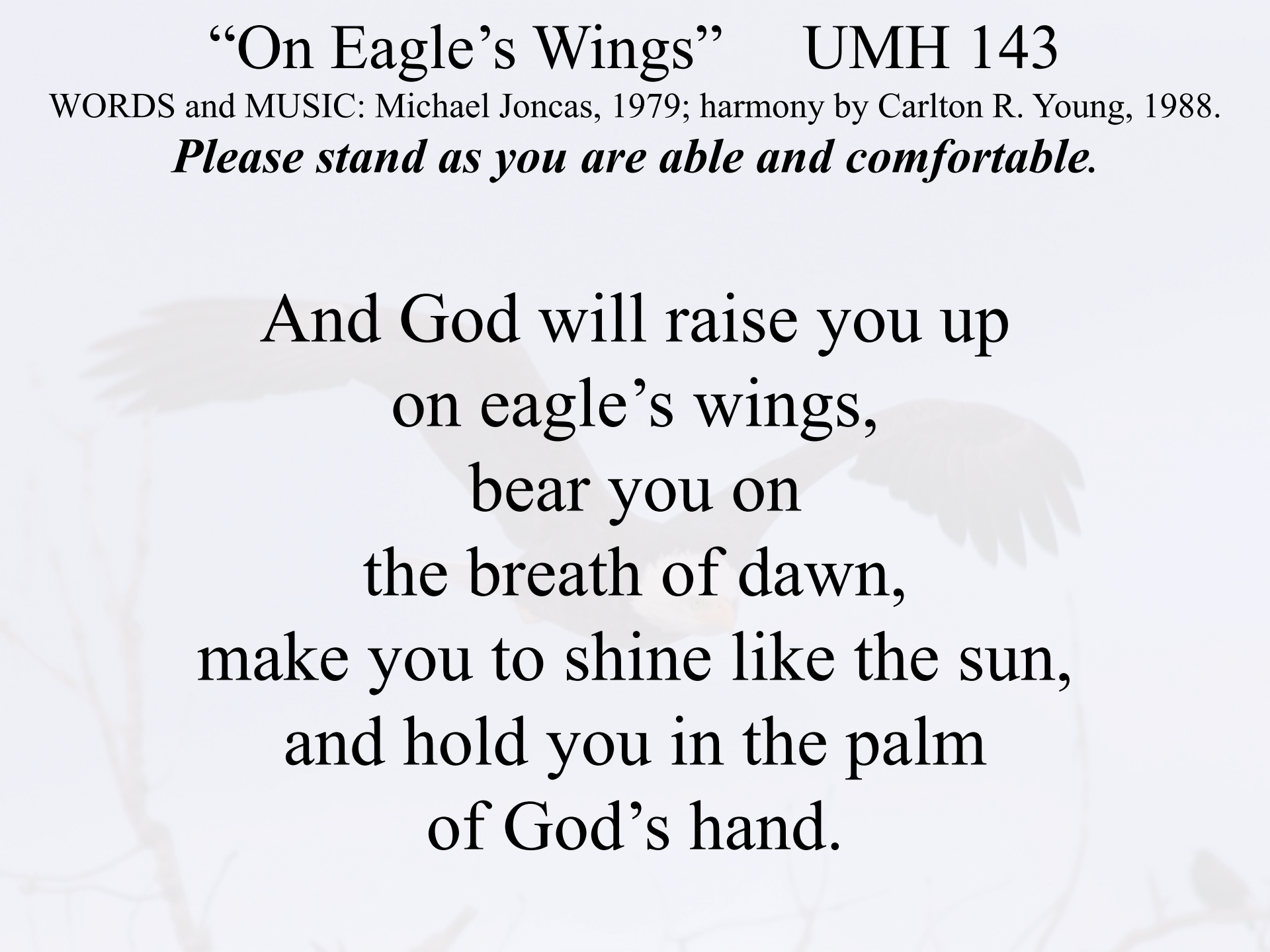
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“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 prayer today?

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
Prayer, **A**ction, and **L**ove
through **S**ervice.