

Pastor Jonathan Lamb



February 14th, 2024

Ash Wednesday

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3430384-01-1829

GREETING

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all
our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

OPENING PRAYER

**O God,
Maker of every thing and
judge of all that you have
made,
From dust of the earth
you have formed us
And from the dust of
death you would raise us
up.**



OPENING PRAYER

**By the redemptive power
of the cross,**

Create in us clean hearts

**And put within us a new
spirit,**

**That we may repent of our
sins**



OPENING PRAYER

**And lead lives worthy of
your calling;
Through Jesus Christ our
Lord.
Amen**



“Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

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

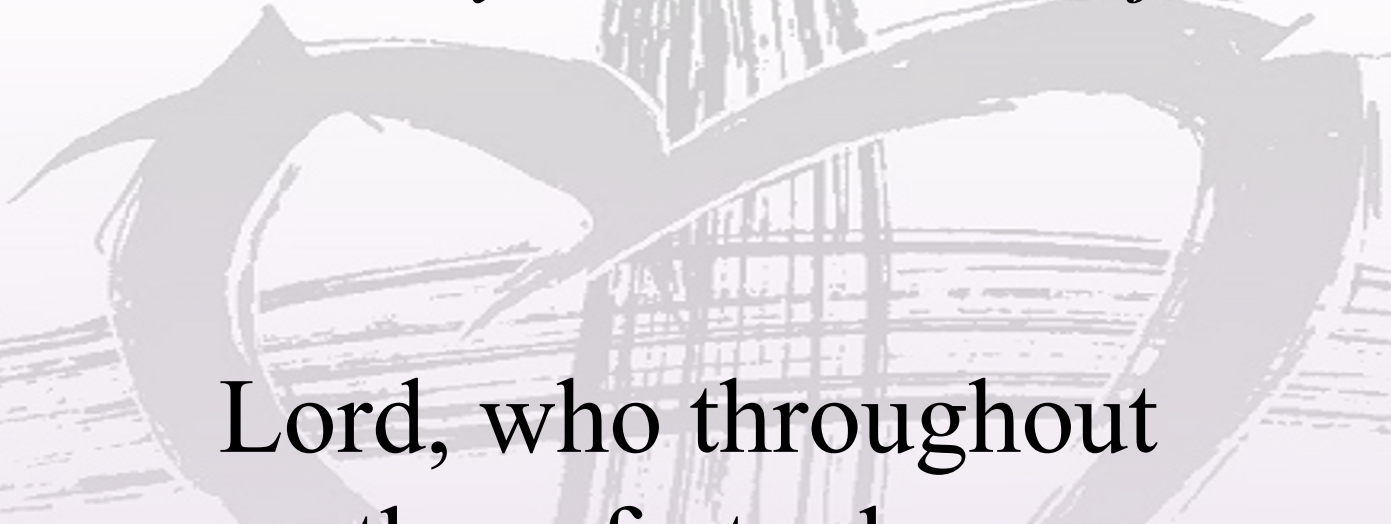
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

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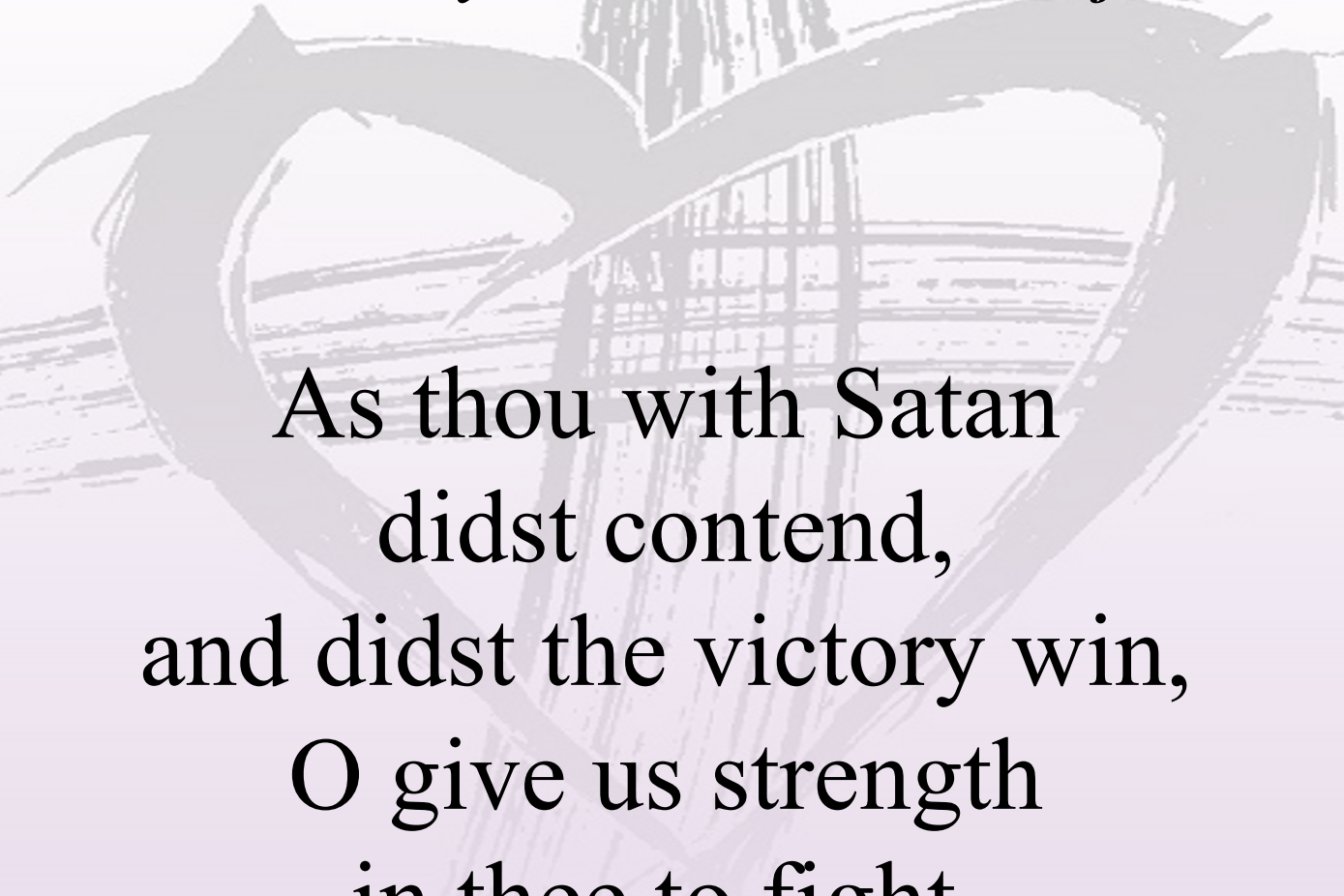


Lord, who throughout
these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee
to mourn our sins
and close by thee to stay.

“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.

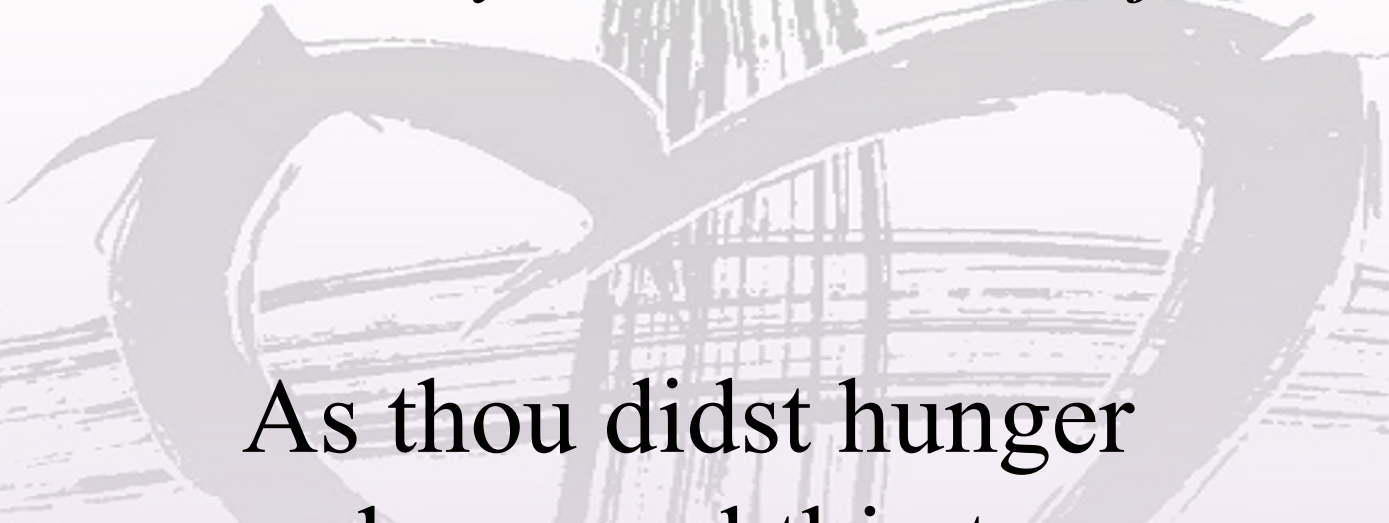


As thou with Satan
didst contend,
and didst the victory win,
O give us strength
in thee to fight,
in thee to conquer sin.

“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.

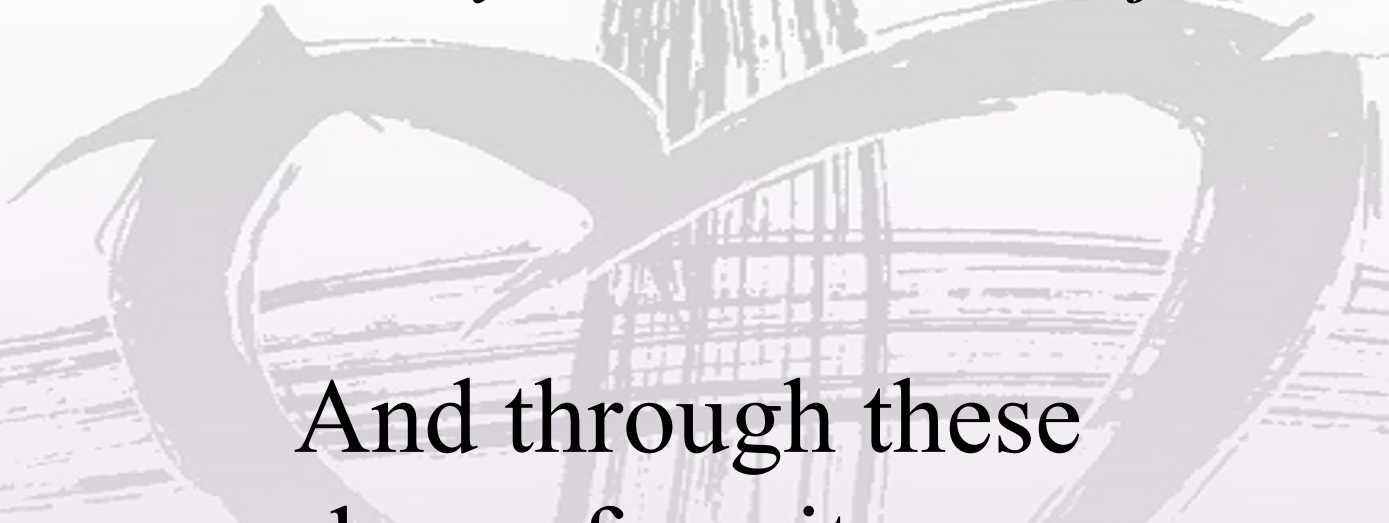


As thou didst hunger
bear, and thirst,
so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self,
and chiefly live
by thy most holy word.

“Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

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

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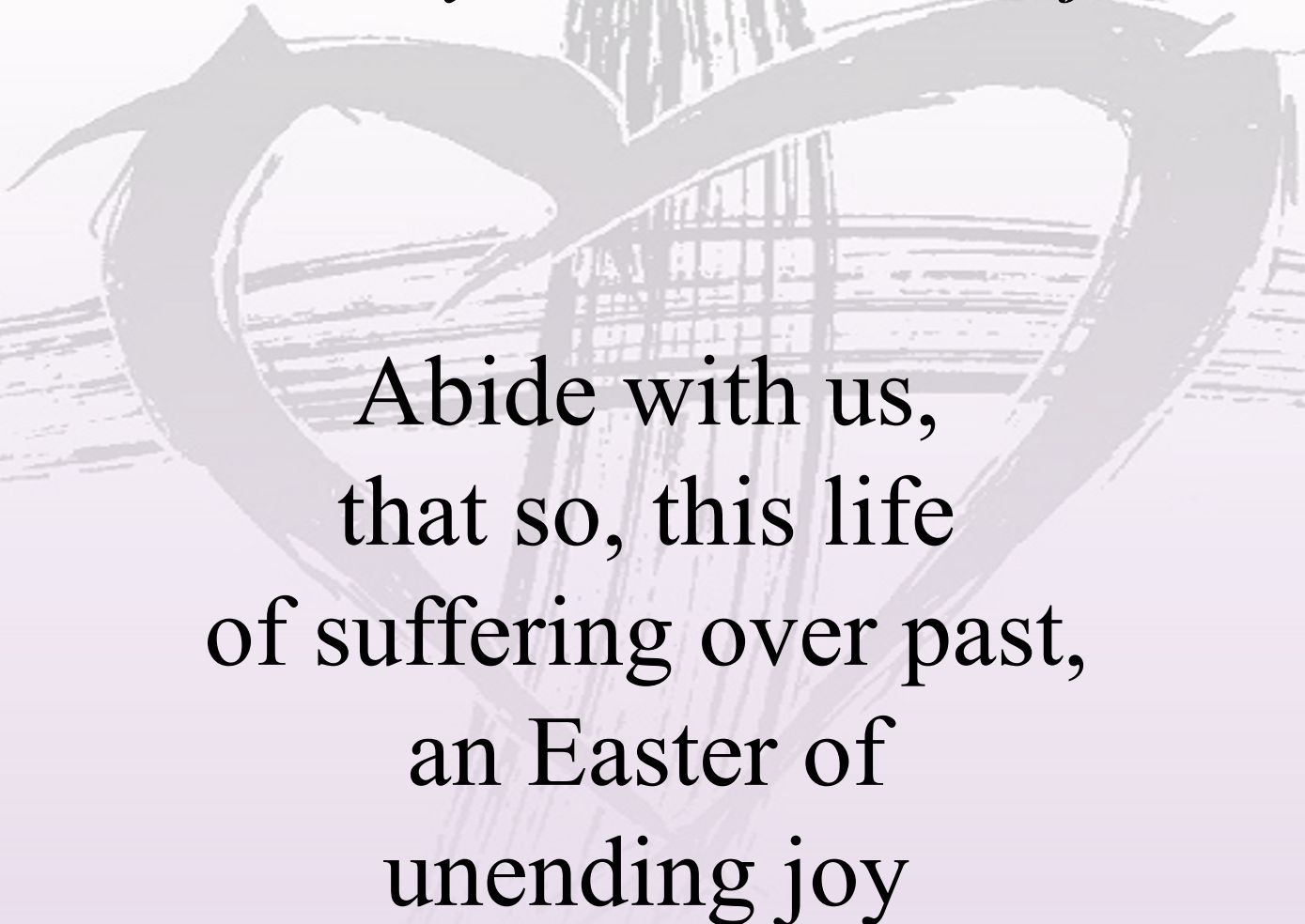


And through these
days of penitence,
and through thy passiontide,
yea, evermore
in life and death,
Jesus, with us abide.

“Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days” UMH 269

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

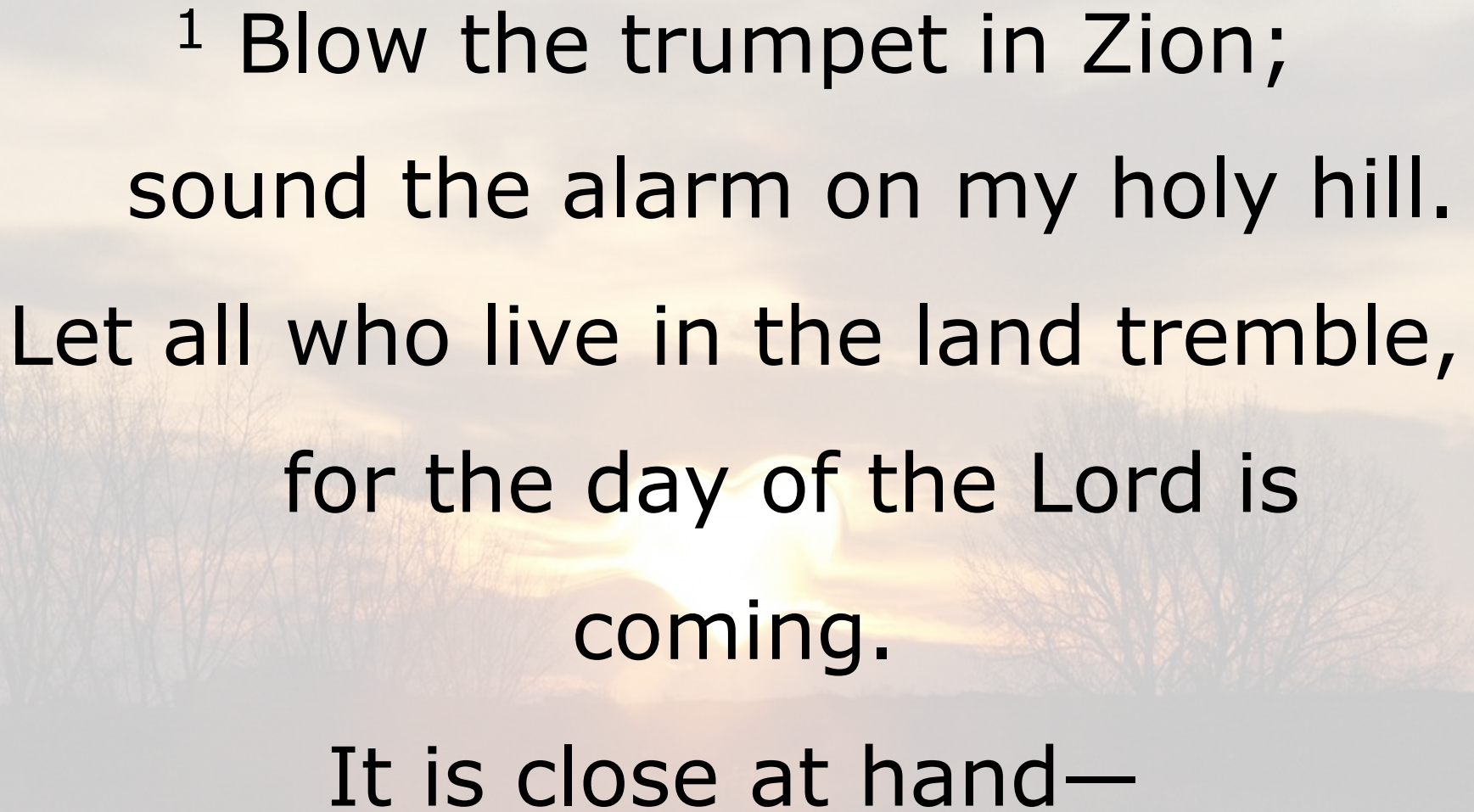
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



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



Joel 2: 1 -2, 12 -17



¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy hill.
Let all who live in the land tremble,
for the day of the Lord is
coming.
It is close at hand—

² a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness.

Like dawn spreading across the
mountains

a large and mighty army comes,
such as never was of old

nor ever will be in ages to come.

12 “Even now,” declares the Lord,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and
mourning.”

13 Rend your heart and not your garments.
Return to the LORD your God, for he is
gracious and compassionate, slow to
anger and abounding in love, and he
relents from sending calamity.

14 Who knows? He may turn and relent
and leave behind a blessing—
grain offerings and drink offerings
for the LORD your God.

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion,
declare a holy fast,
call a sacred assembly.

¹⁶ Gather the people,
consecrate the assembly;
bring together the elders,
gather the children,
those nursing at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her chamber.

17 Let the priests, who minister before
the LORD,
weep between the temple porch and the
altar.

Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD.
Do not make your inheritance an object of
scorn, a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786



PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;

People: according to your abundant
mercy, blot out my transgressions.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 -786

Leader: ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

People: ³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done that what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment.

People: ⁵ Behold, I was born into iniquity, and I have been sinful since my mother conceived me.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ⁶Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

People: ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow;

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ⁸ Make me hear with joy and gladness; let the bones which you have broken rejoice.

People: ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

People: ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy spirit from me.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

People: ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

Leader: ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

People: ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise.

PSALM READING

Psalm 51:1 thru 17 UMH 785 - 786

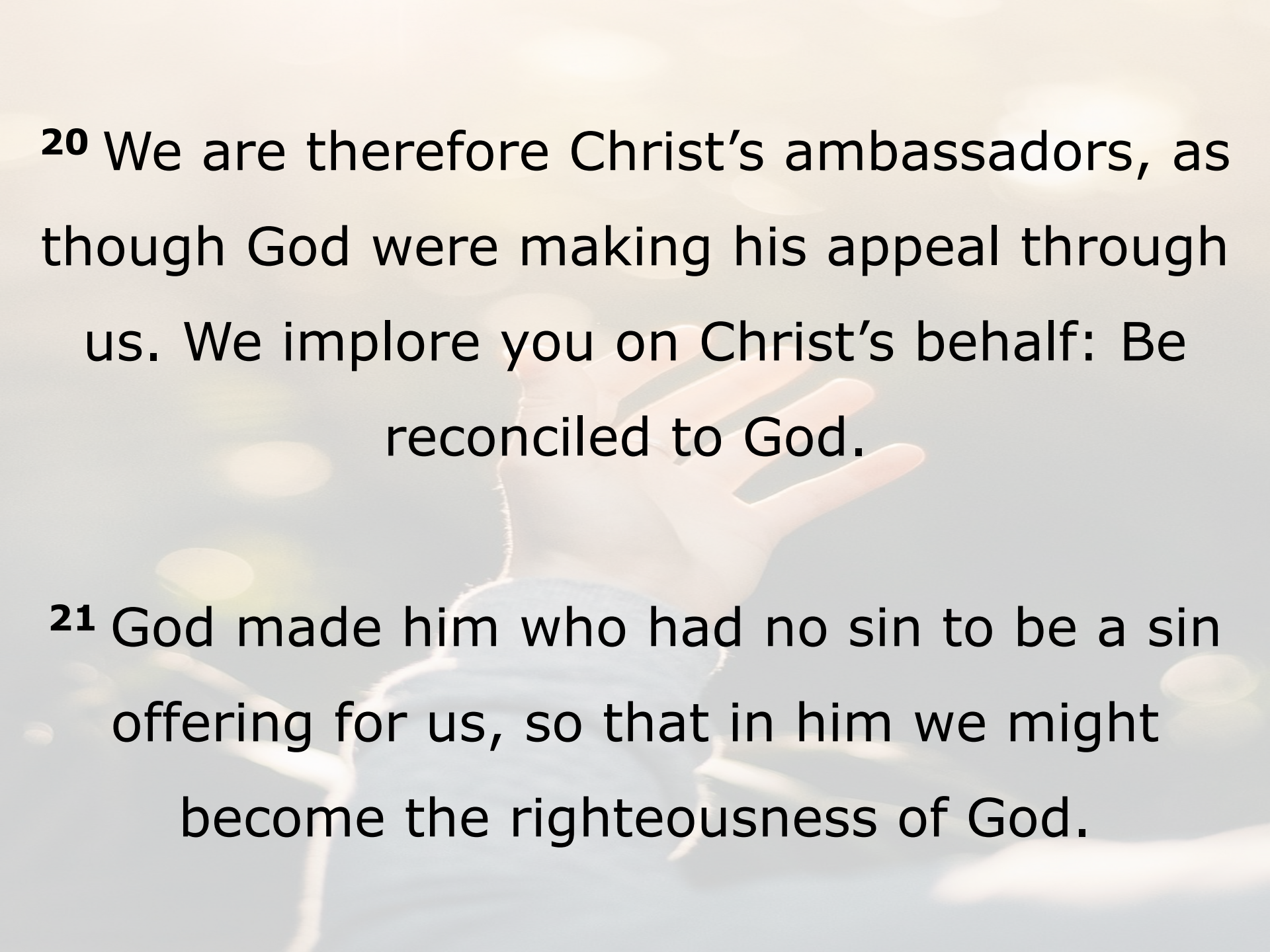
Leader: ¹⁶ For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

People: ¹⁷ **The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

2 Corinthians

5:20b – 6:10





20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

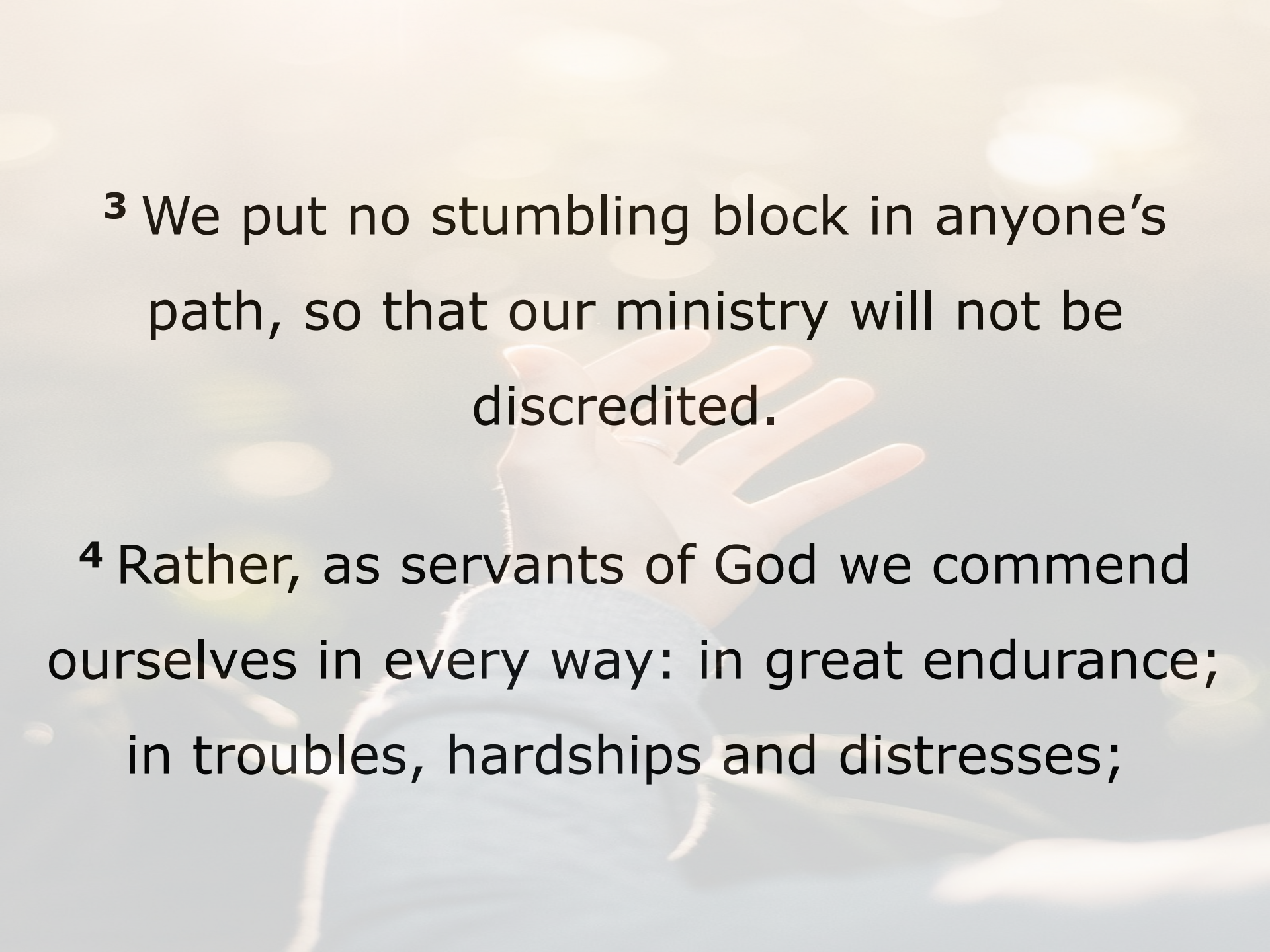
21 God made him who had no sin to be a sin offering for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

6 As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain.

² For he says,

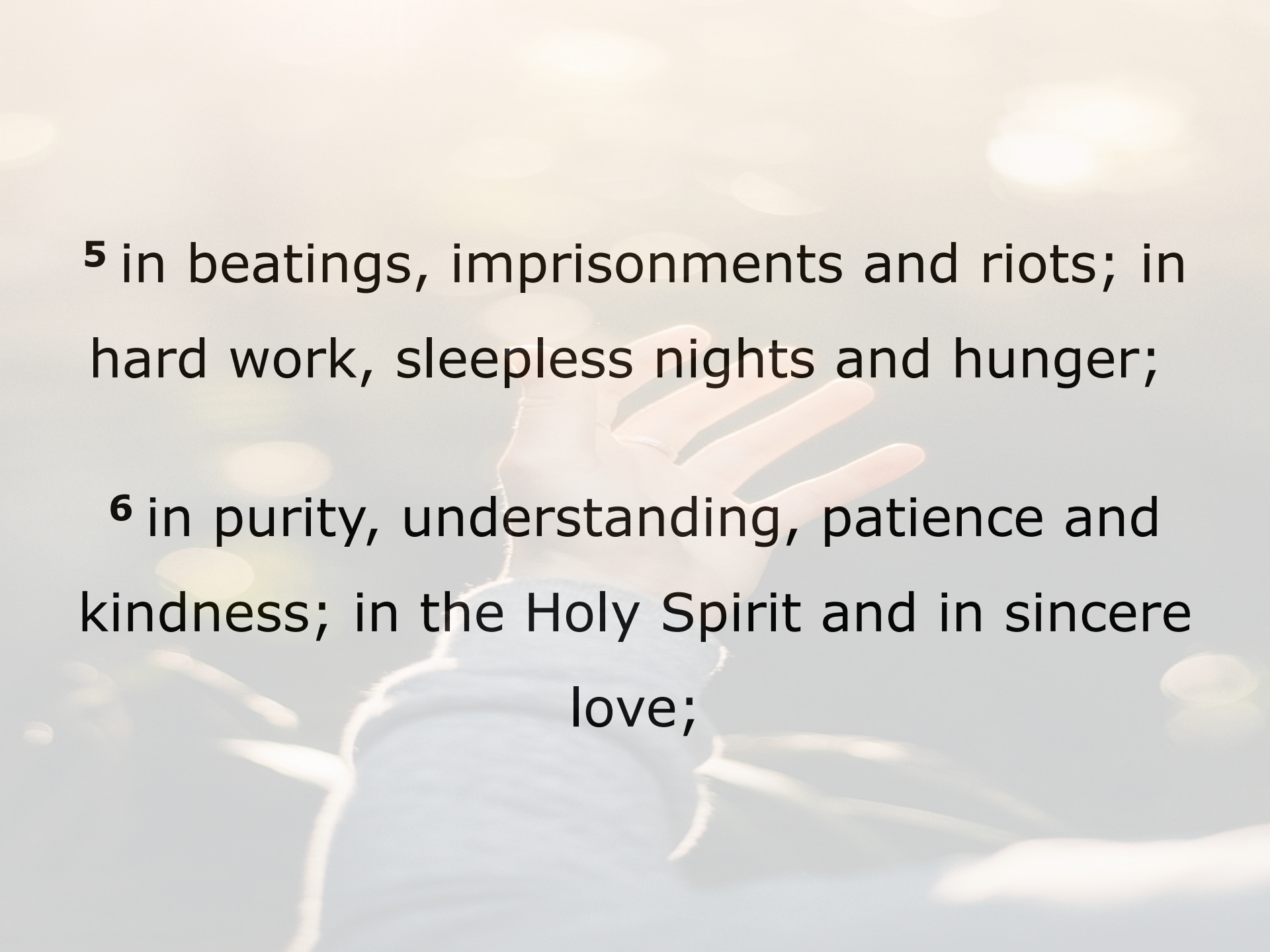
"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor,
now is the day of salvation.

A hand is shown reaching upwards against a bright, sunlit sky. The hand is positioned in the center of the frame, with fingers slightly spread. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sky with warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is one of hope and aspiration.

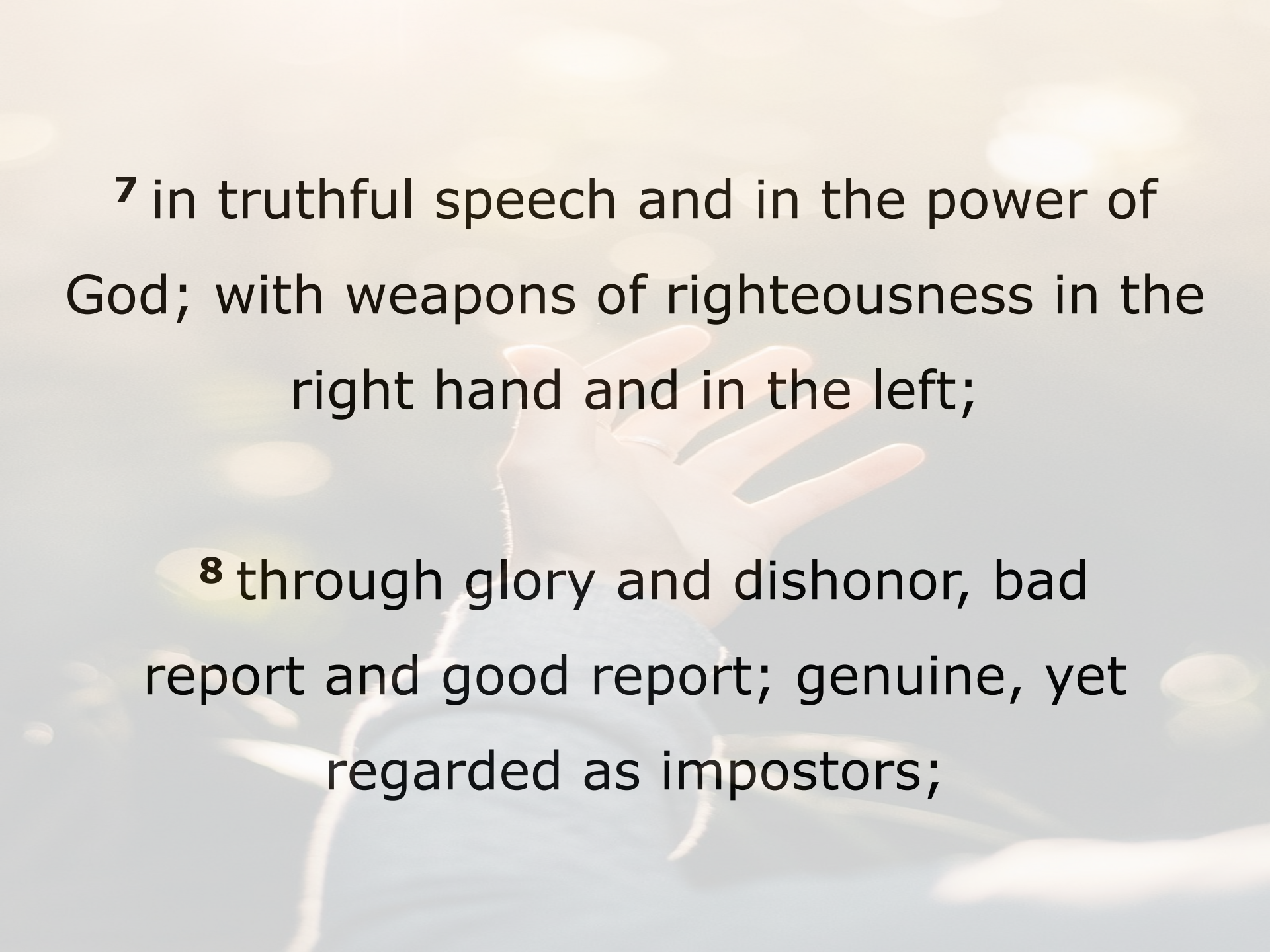
³ We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited.

⁴ Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses;

A hand with a blue sleeve is reaching out towards the viewer. The background is a bright, out-of-focus bokeh of light spots, creating a soft and ethereal atmosphere. The hand is positioned in the center-left of the frame, with fingers slightly spread.

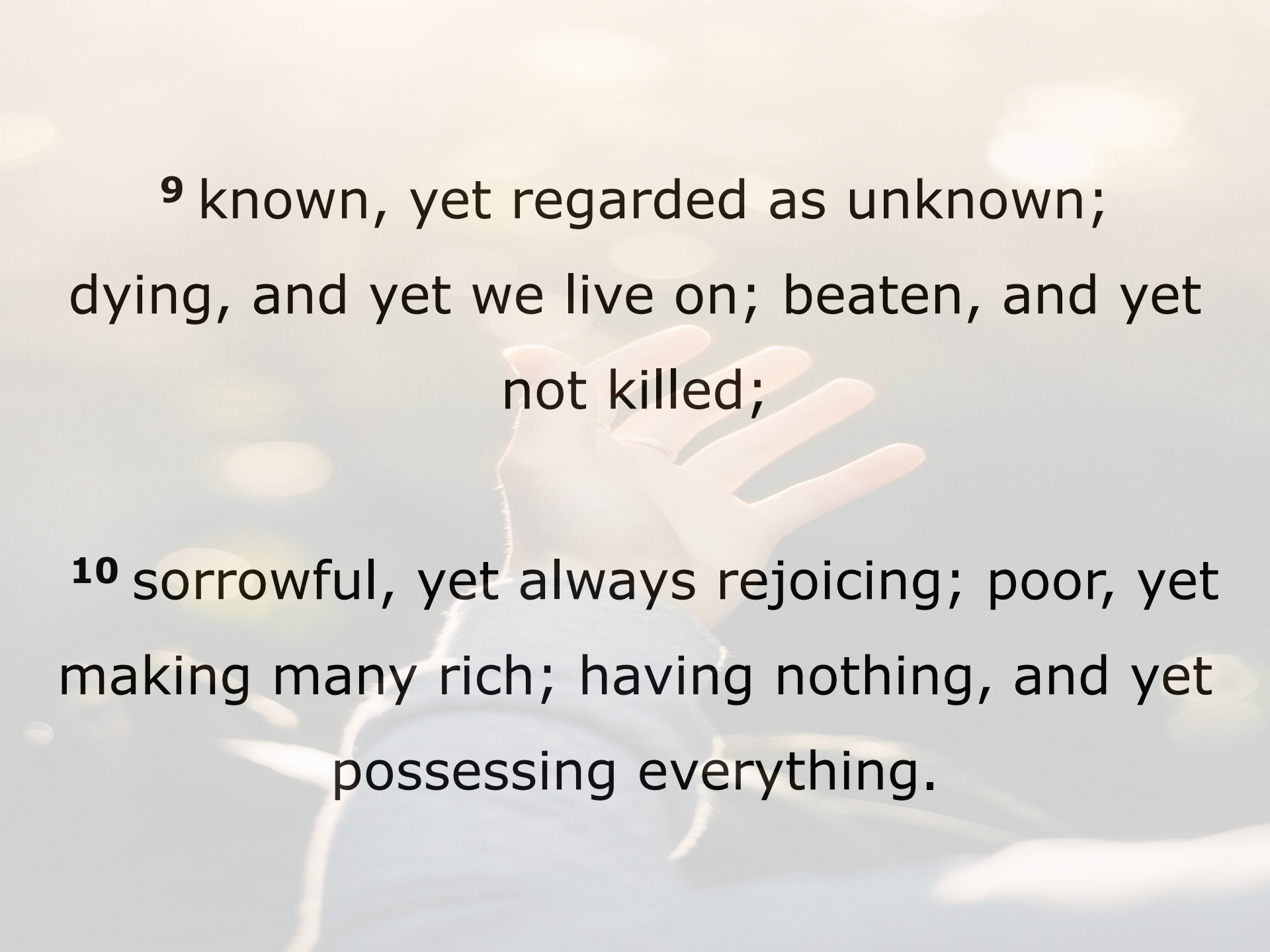
⁵ in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in
hard work, sleepless nights and hunger;

⁶ in purity, understanding, patience and
kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere
love;



7 in truthful speech and in the power of
God; with weapons of righteousness in the
right hand and in the left;

8 through glory and dishonor, bad
report and good report; genuine, yet
regarded as impostors;



9 known, yet regarded as unknown;
dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet
not killed;

10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet
making many rich; having nothing, and yet
possessing everything.

“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

All to Jesus I surrender;
all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him,
in his presence daily live.

I surrender all,
I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

All to Jesus I surrender;
humbly at his feet I bow,
worldly pleasures all forsaken;
take me, Jesus, take me now.

I surrender all,
I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

All to Jesus I surrender;
make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel the Holy Spirit,
truly know that thou art mine.

I surrender all,
I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power;
let thy blessing fall on me.

I surrender all,
I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

“I Surrender All” UMH 354

WORDS: J. W. Van Deventer, 1896 MUSIC: W. S. Weeden, 1896

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

All to Jesus I surrender;
now I feel the sacred flame.

O the joy of full salvation!

Glory, glory to his name!

I surrender all,

I surrender all,

all to thee, my blessed Savior,

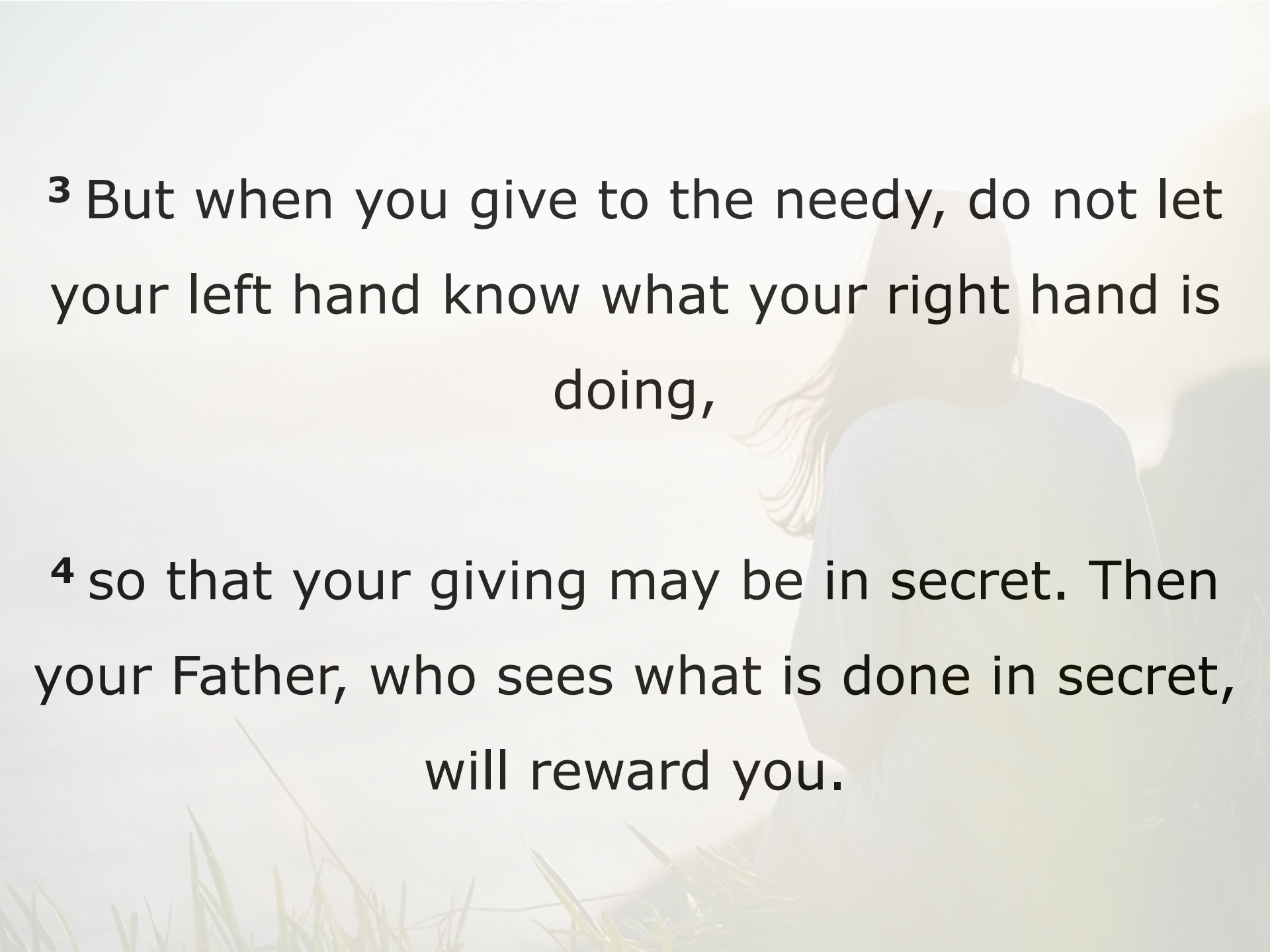
I surrender all.

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21



6 “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

2 “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

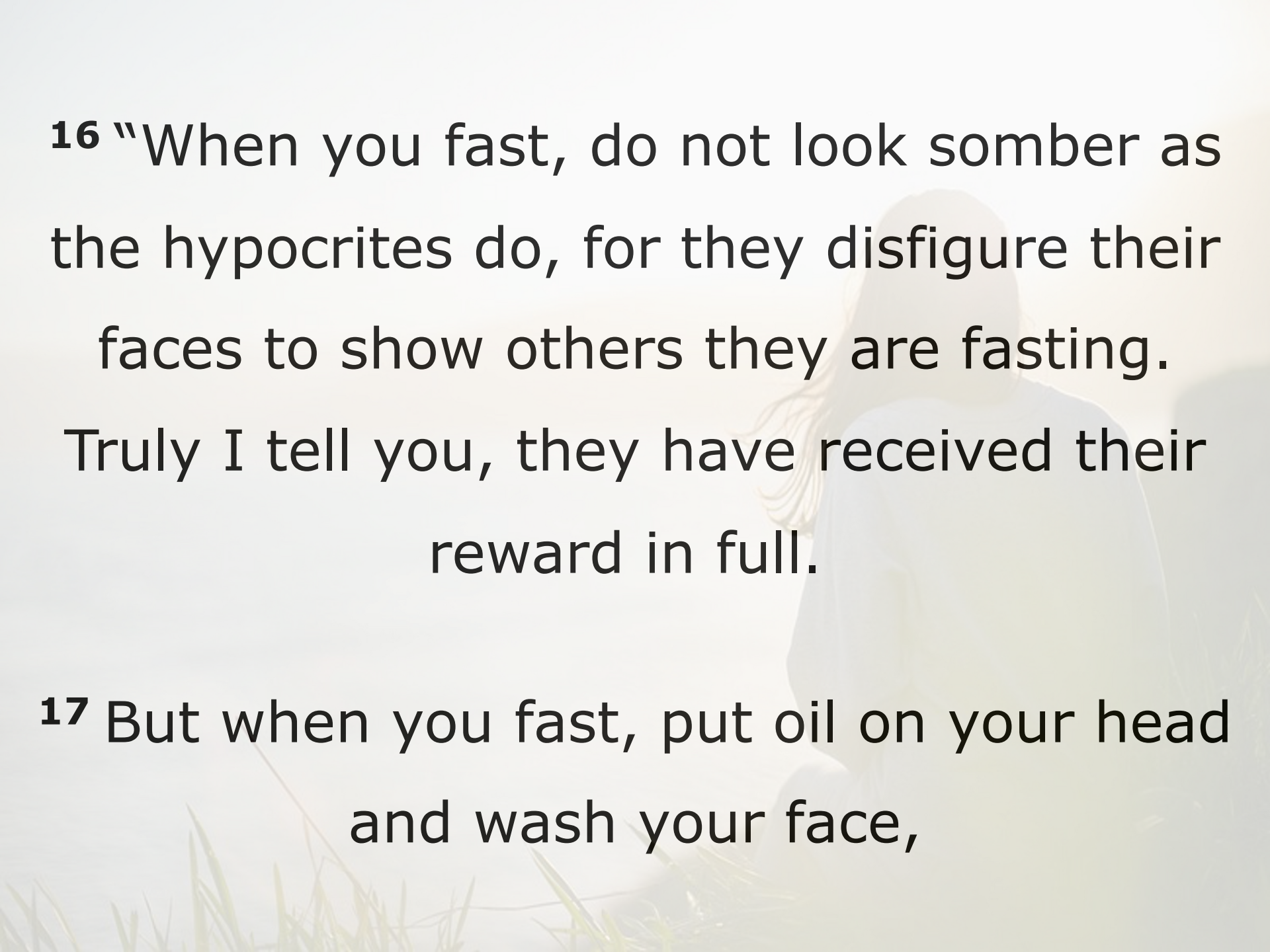


³ But when you give to the needy, do not let
your left hand know what your right hand is
doing,

⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then
your Father, who sees what is done in secret,
will reward you.

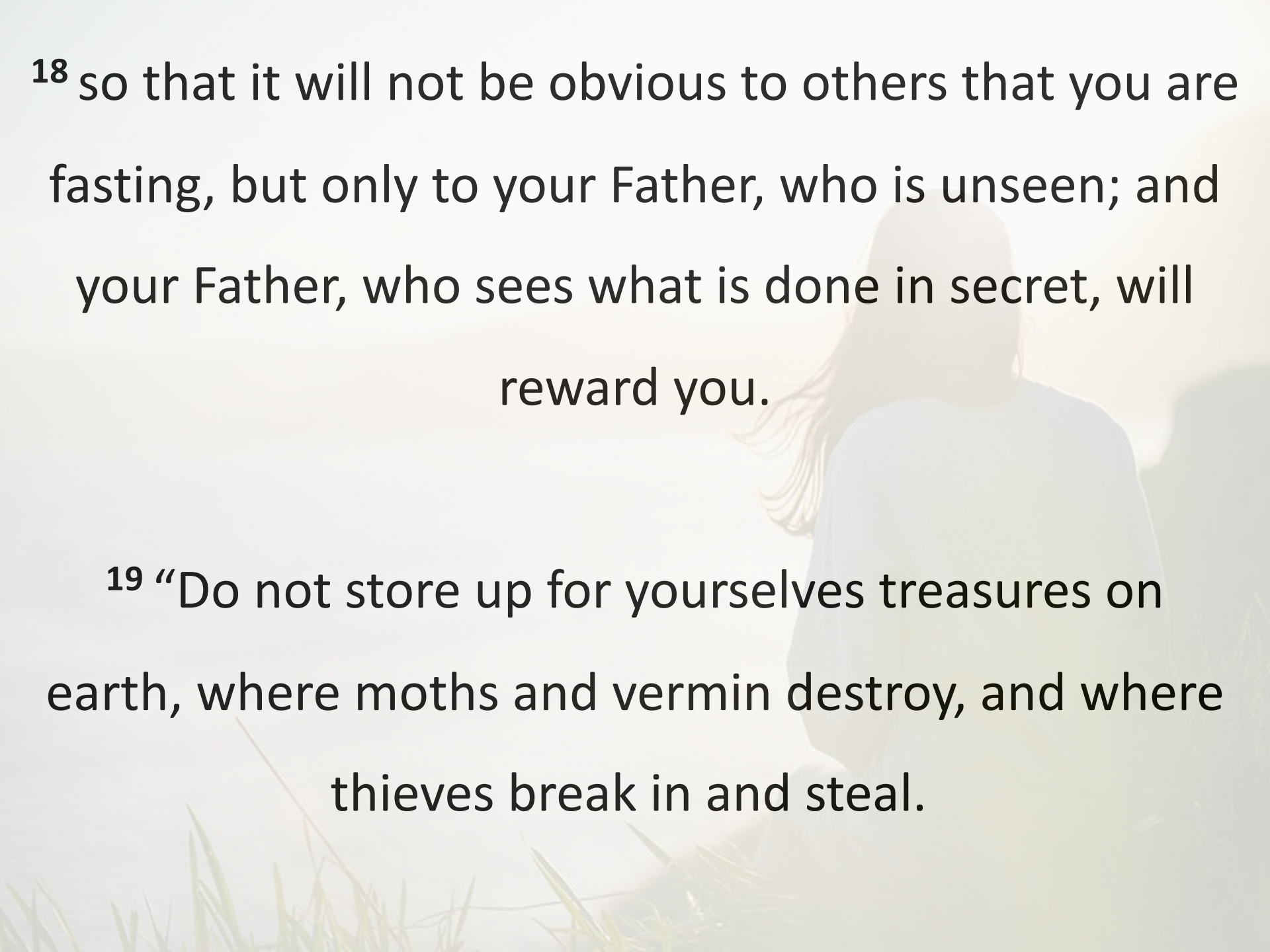
⁵ “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.



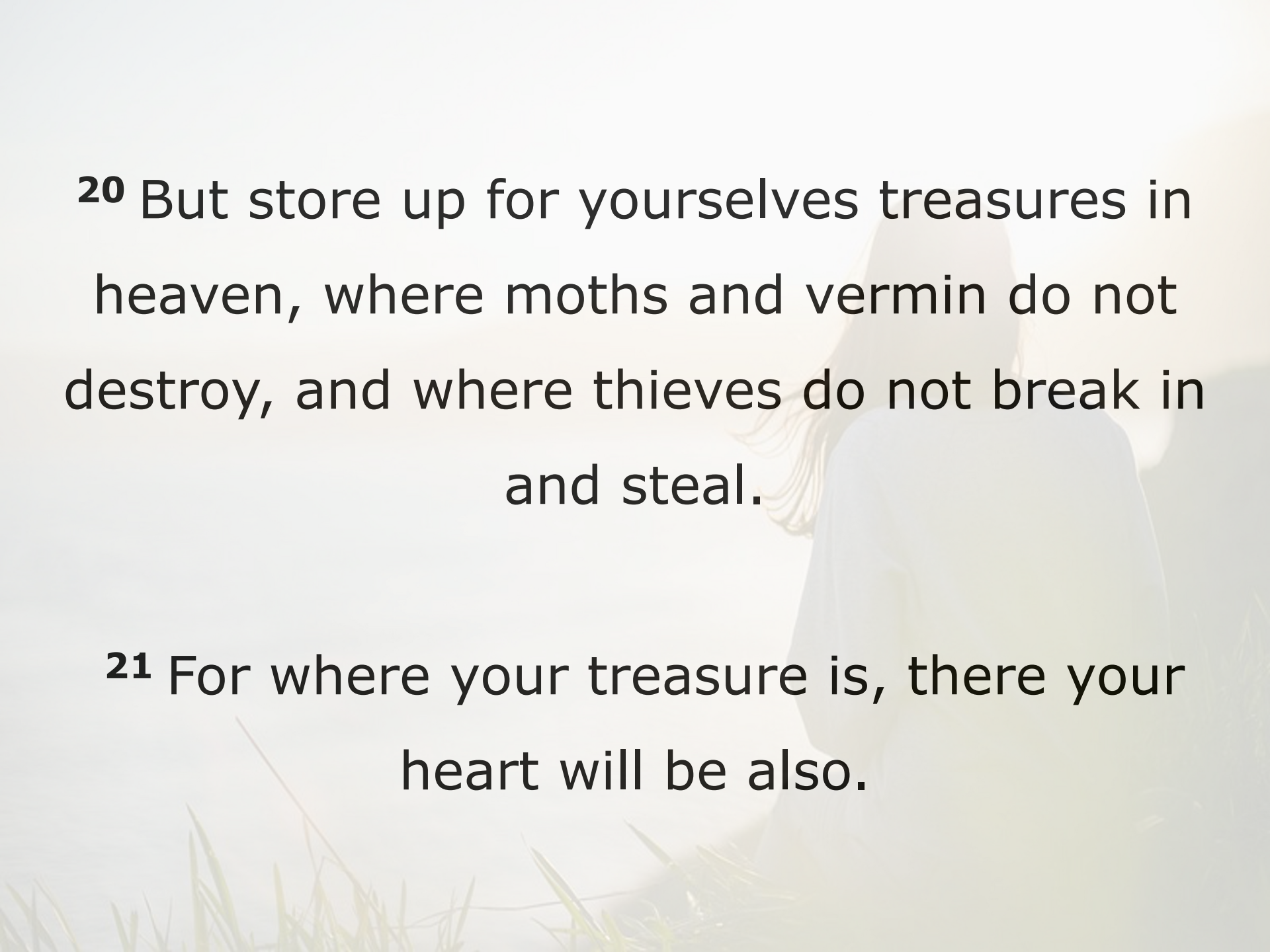
16 “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,



¹⁸ so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.



20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Sermon

“Be Reconciled to God”





INVITATION TO OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE



**THANKSGIVING
OVER THE ASHES**




IMPOSITION OF ASHES

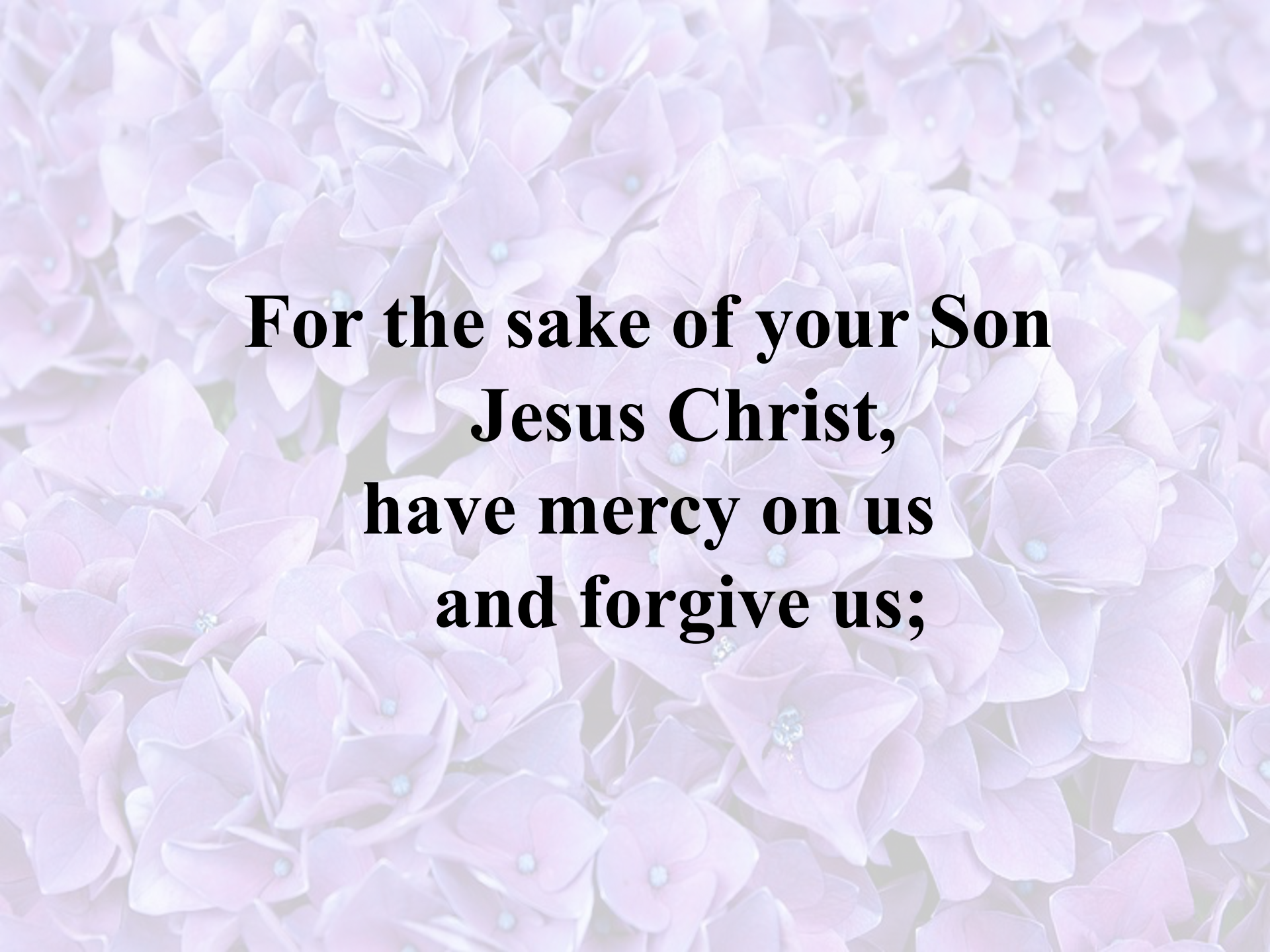
**PRAYER OF CONFESSION,
ASSURANCE, AND PARDON**

890

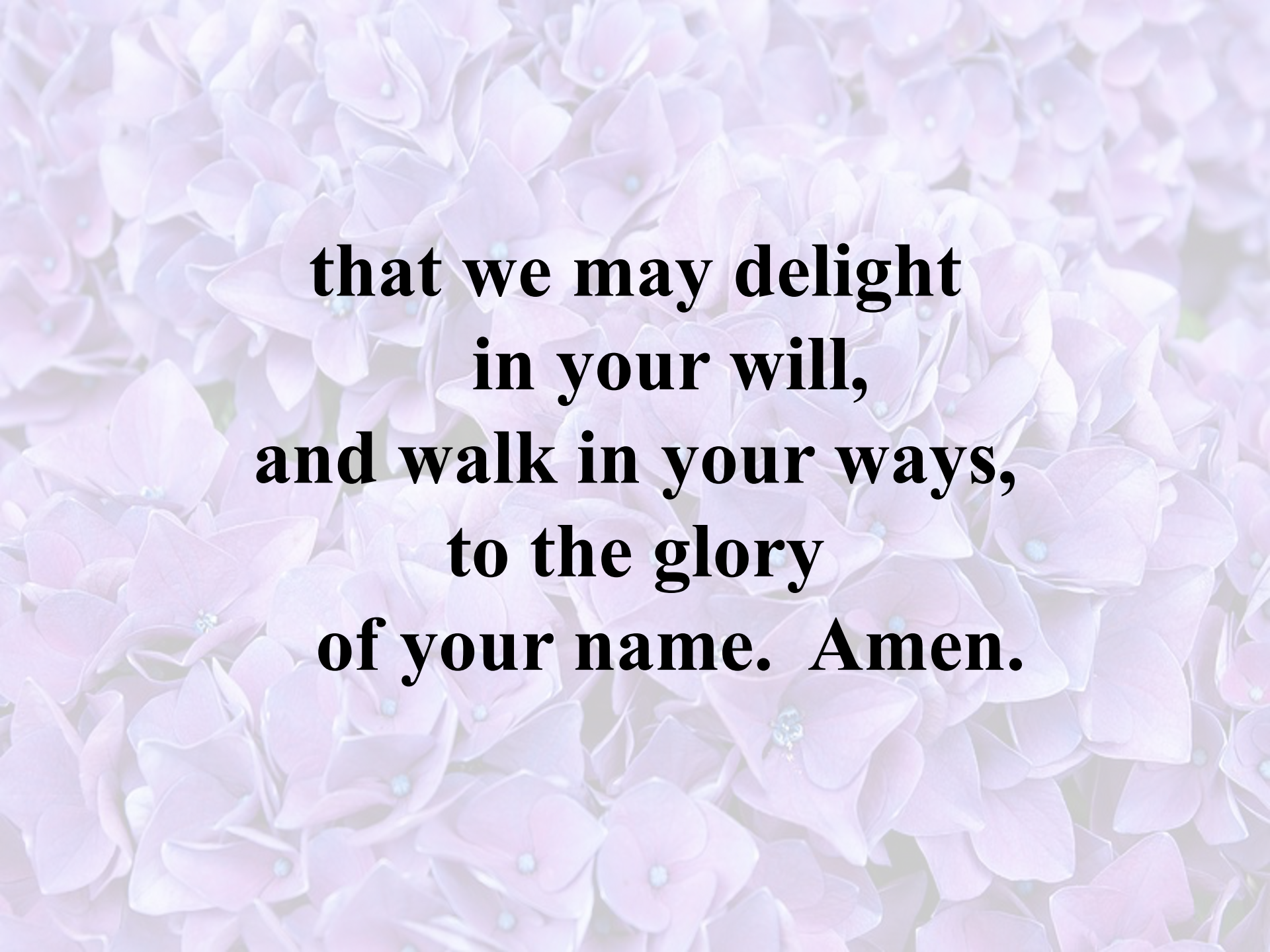
**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have
sinned against you,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have
left undone.**



**We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry
and we humbly repent.**

A dense field of light purple hydrangea flowers, filling the entire background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the characteristic clusters of small blossoms. The overall tone is soft and gentle.

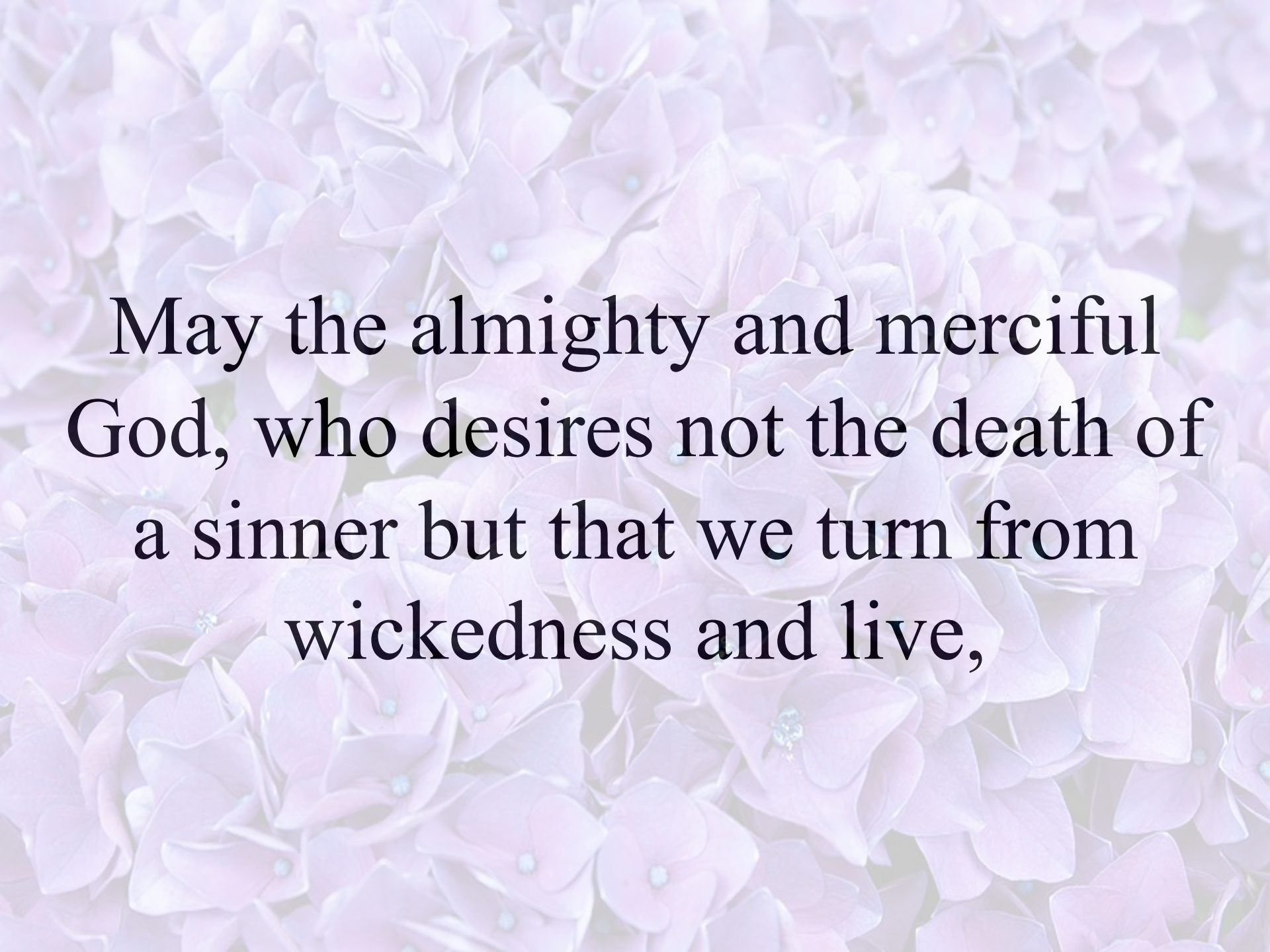
**For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us
and forgive us;**



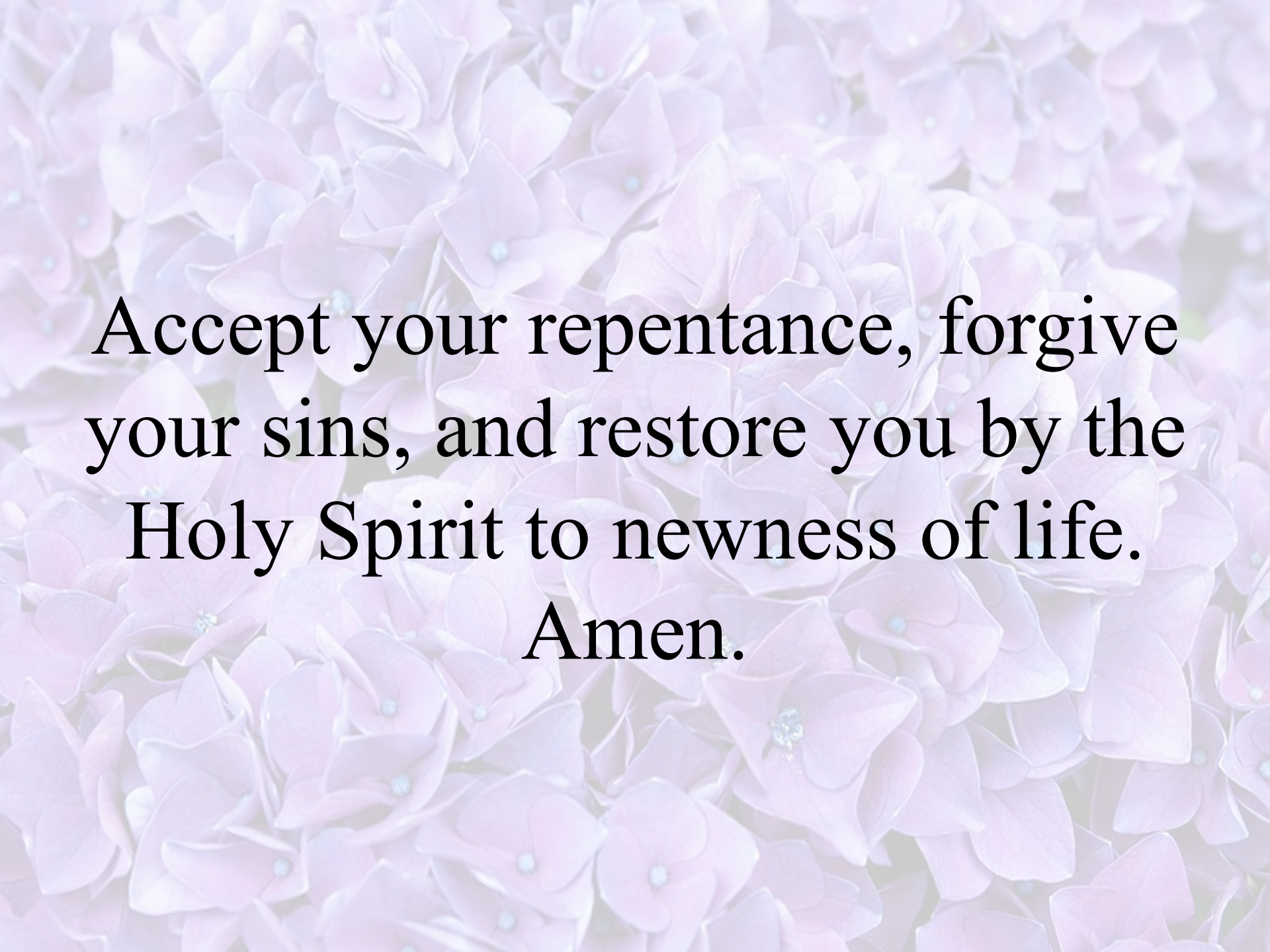
**that we may delight
in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory
of your name. Amen.**

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a large cluster of light purple hydrangea flowers. The petals are numerous and layered, creating a soft, textured appearance. The color is a pale, dusty purple. The background is out of focus, showing more of the same flowers.

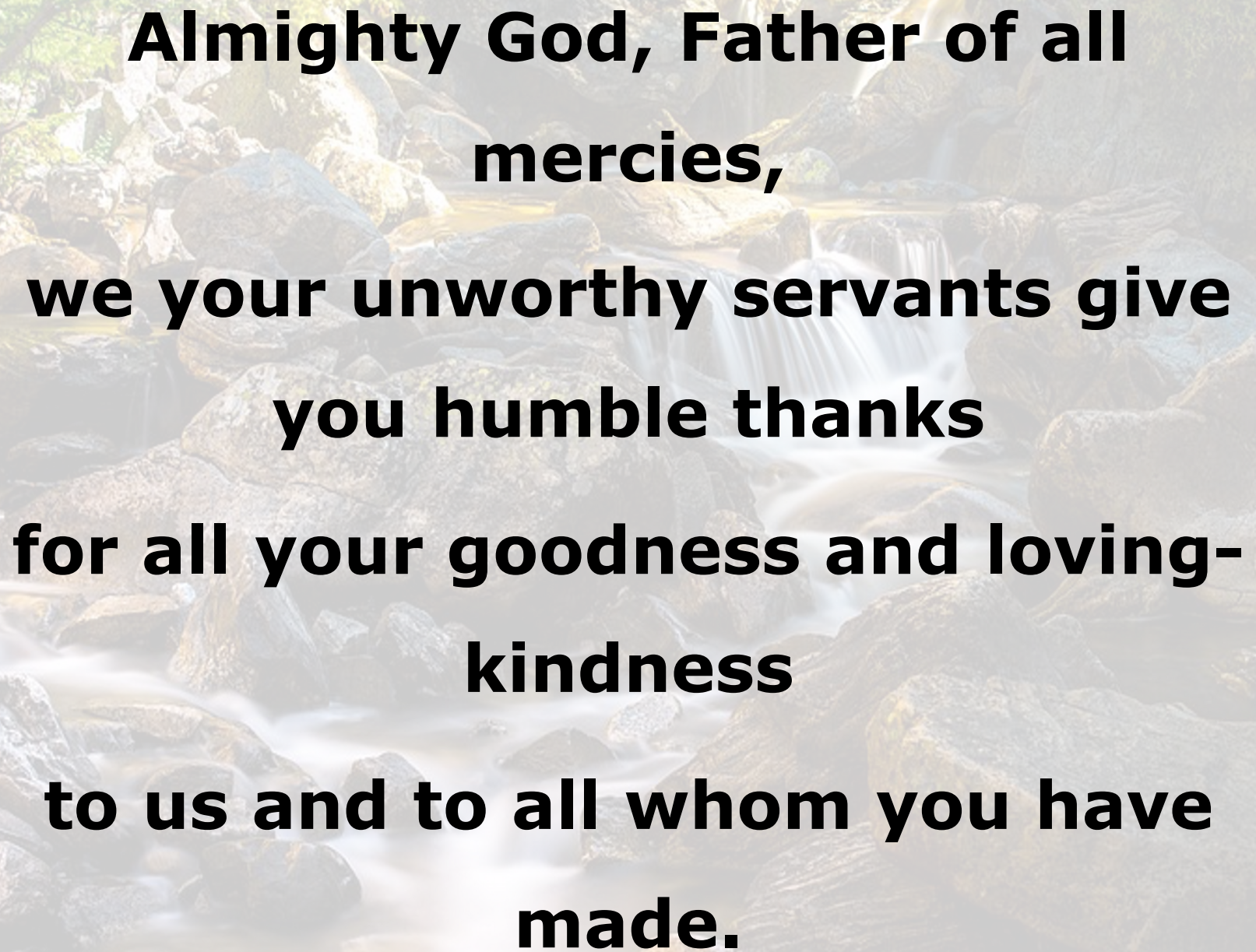
Moment of Silence



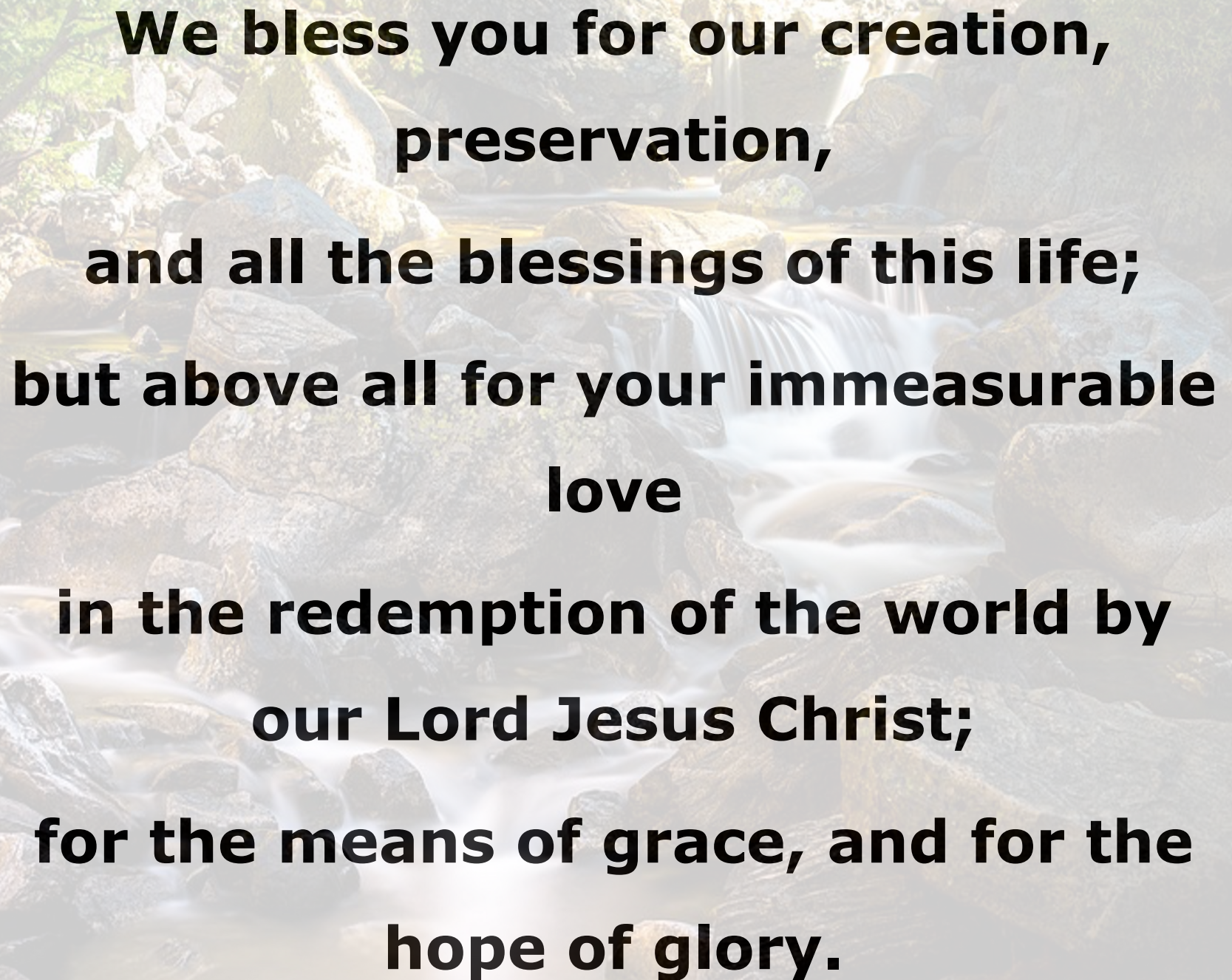
May the almighty and merciful
God, who desires not the death of
a sinner but that we turn from
wickedness and live,



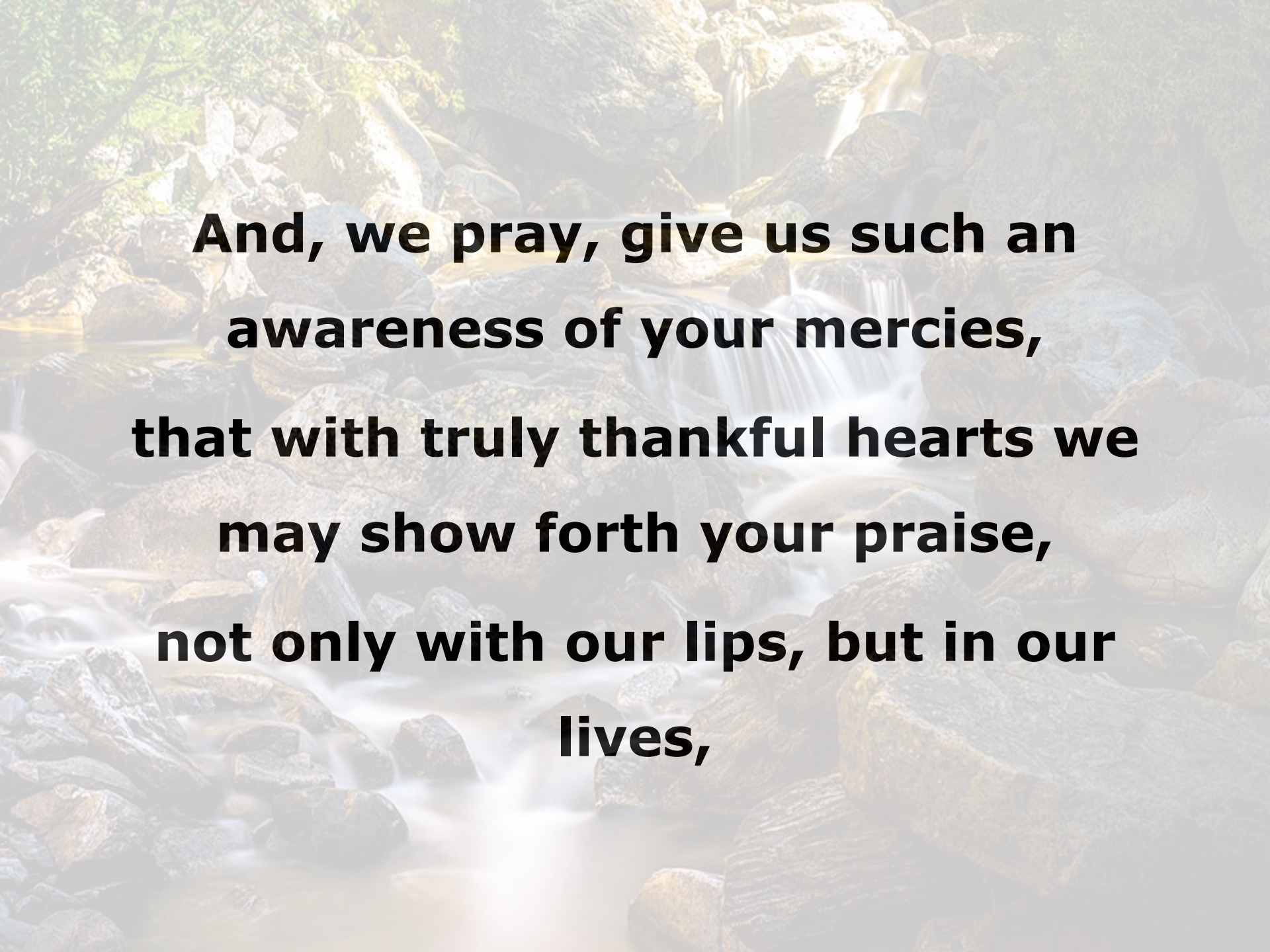
Accept your repentance, forgive
your sins, and restore you by the
Holy Spirit to newness of life.
Amen.



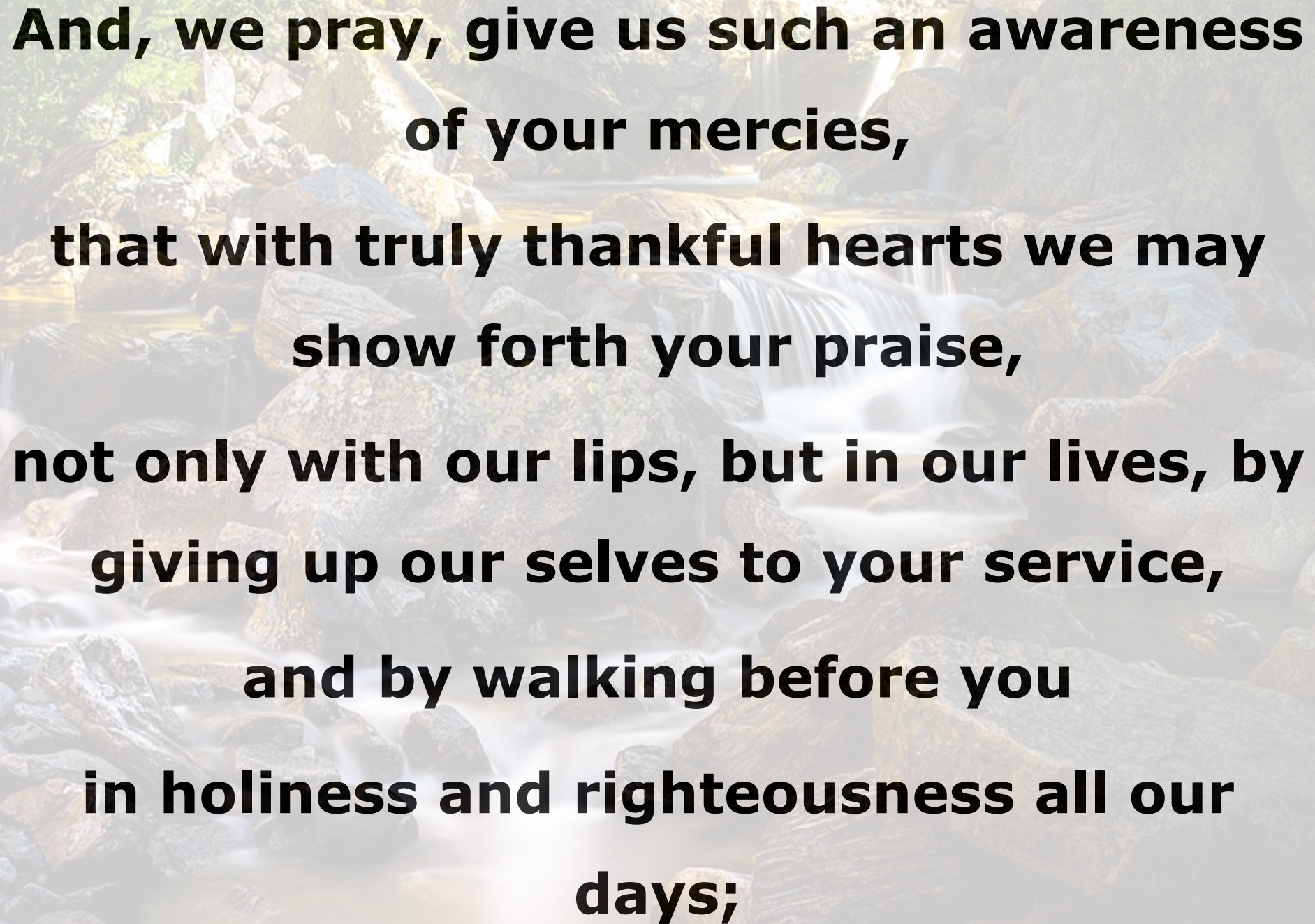
**Almighty God, Father of all
mercies,
we your unworthy servants give
you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-
kindness
to us and to all whom you have
made.**



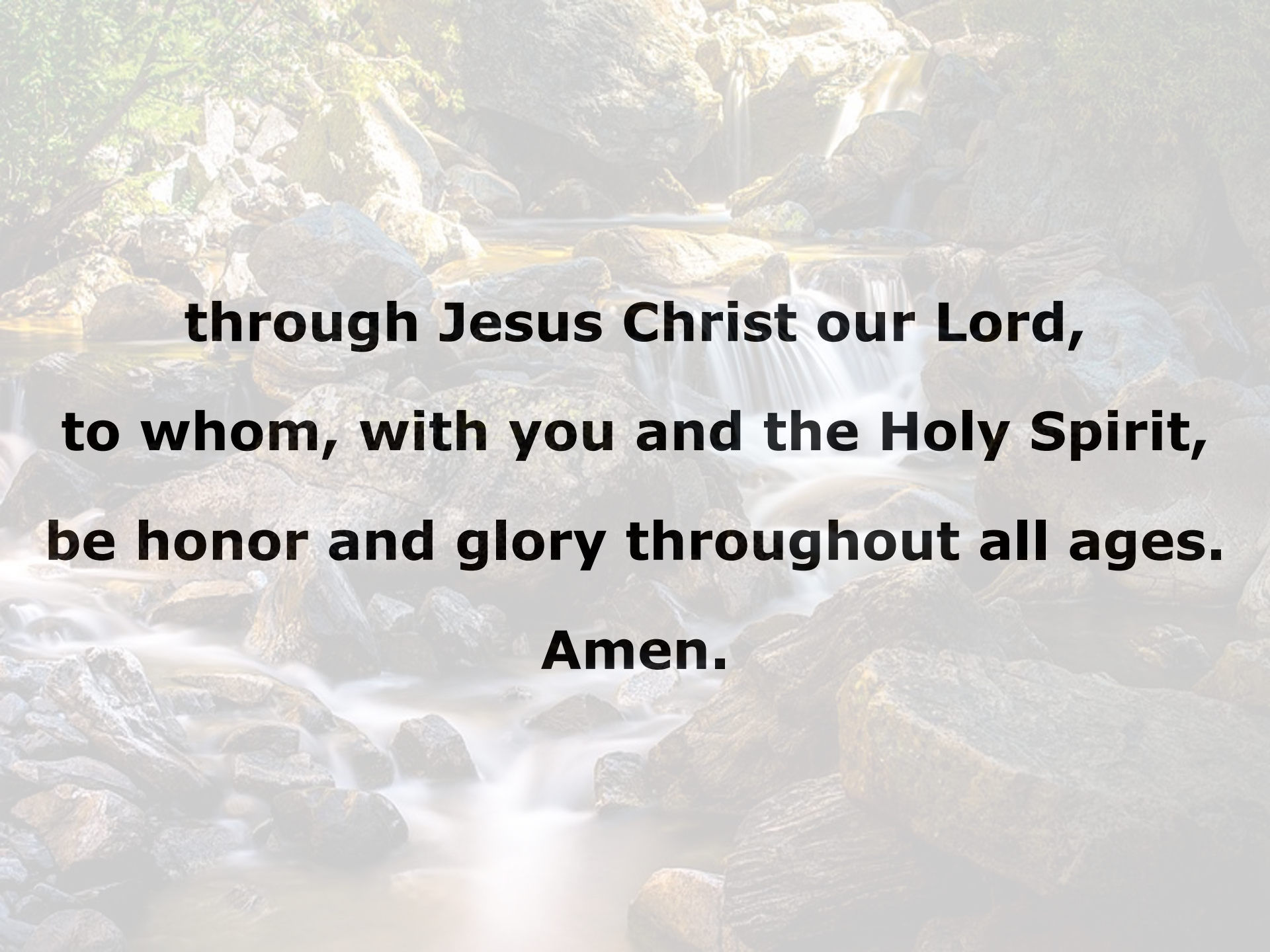
**We bless you for our creation,
preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable
love
in the redemption of the world by
our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the
hope of glory.**



**And, we pray, give us such an
awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we
may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our
lives,**



**And, we pray, give us such an awareness
of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may
show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives, by
giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our
days;**



**through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages.
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.**



“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” UMH 351

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1868

MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” UMH 351

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1868

MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Pass me not, O gentle Savior,
hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling,
do not pass me by.

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling,
do not pass me by.

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” UMH 351

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1868

MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Let me at thy throne of mercy
find a sweet relief,
kneeling there in deep contrition;
help my unbelief.

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling,
do not pass me by.

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” UMH 351

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1868

MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Trusting only in thy merit,
would I seek thy face;
heal my wounded, broken spirit,
save me by thy grace.

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling,
do not pass me by.

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” UMH 351

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1868

MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Thou the spring of all my comfort,
more than life to me,
whom have I on earth beside thee:
Whom in heaven but thee?

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling,
do not pass me by.



DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING



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.