



PRELUDE

Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

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WELCOME,
ANNOUNCEMENTS,
and
CELEBRATIONS



PRELUDE

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.

CALL to WORSHIP



CALL to WORSHIP

Is God not in Zion? Is there no ruler to lead us?

Search for the Lord, for God waits where we least expect it.

CALL to WORSHIP

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no
healer to help us?

**Cry out to the Lord, for God
hears our pleas.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Is there no hope left to be found? Is there nowhere to turn?

**Place your trust in the Lord,
whose compassion comes
speedily to meet us.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Come, worship the one who hears our pleas.

We will enter God's gates with hope and gladness.

All: Praise the Lord!

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH 103

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867

MUSIC: Welsh melody, 1839; harmonized by John Roberts

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

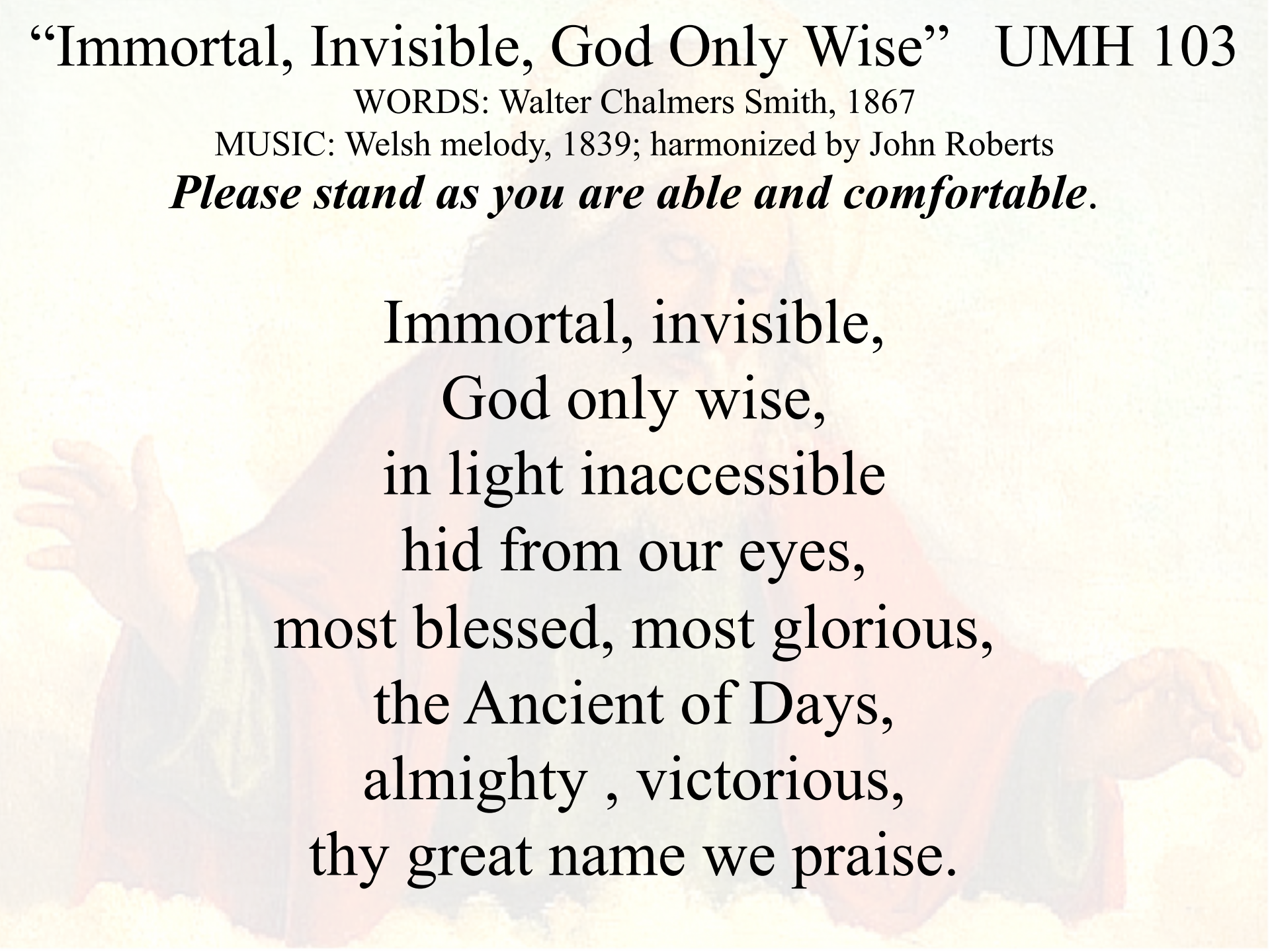


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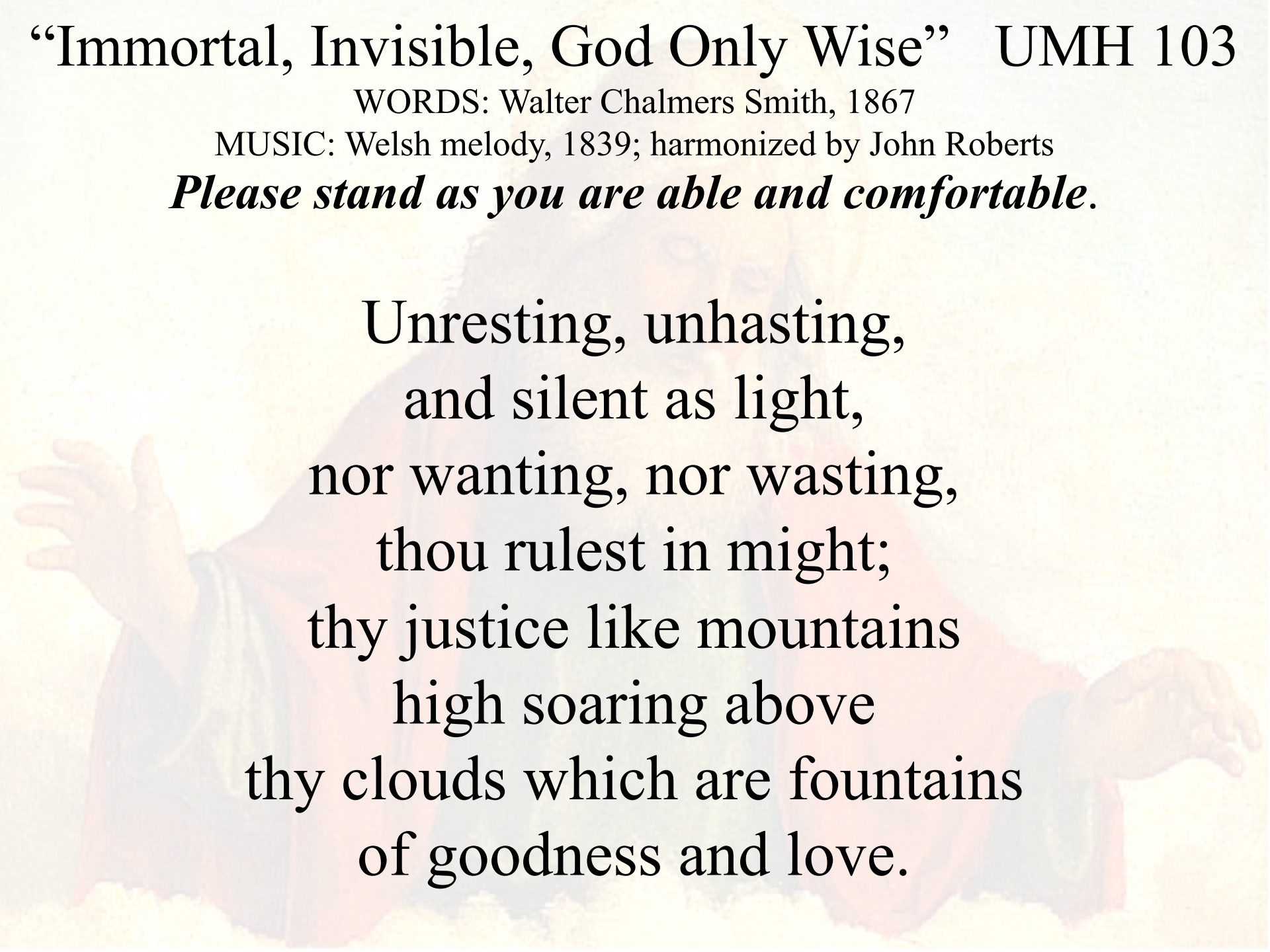
Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
in light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious,
thy great name we praise.

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH 103

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867

MUSIC: Welsh melody, 1839; harmonized by John Roberts

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



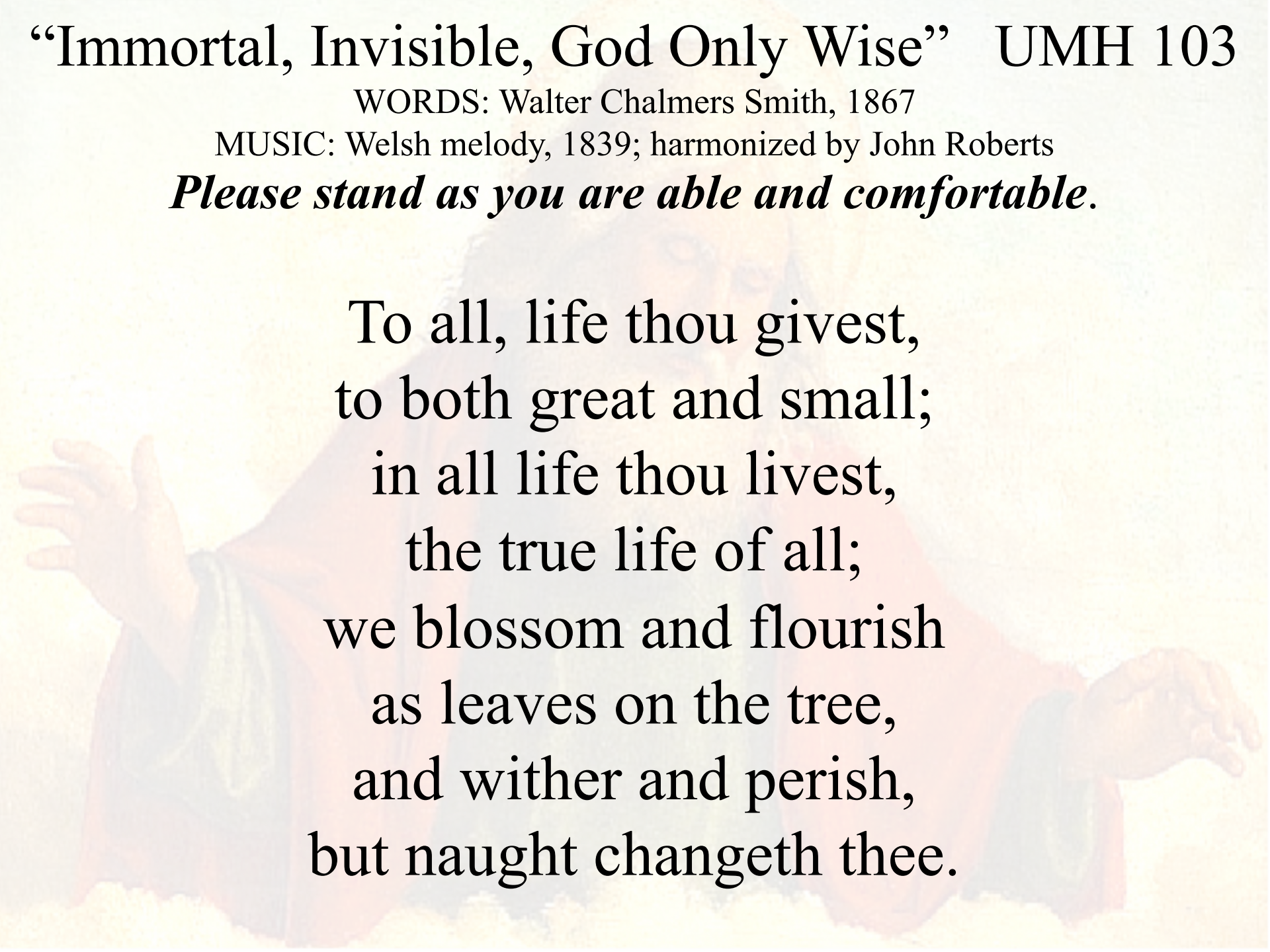
Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting,
thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH 103

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867

MUSIC: Welsh melody, 1839; harmonized by John Roberts

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



To all, life thou givest,
to both great and small;
in all life thou livest,
the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish,
but naught changeth thee.

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” UMH 103

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867

MUSIC: Welsh melody, 1839; harmonized by John Roberts

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Thou reignest in glory;
thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee,
all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render:

O help us to see
'tis only the splendor
of light hideth thee.

OPENING PRAYER



OPENING PRAYER

Elusive One, the scoffer say, “Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?” Why do you tarry when your people need you? Why do you hide your face when our need is great? Speed your compassion to our side, for our souls have become wellsprings of sorrow, and our eyes have become rivers of tears.



OPENING PRAYER

**Help us, O God of our salvation,
for in you alone do we find our
strength to revive our souls; in
you alone do we find
nourishment to meet the needs
for the journey. Come speedily
to us once more, that we may see
your glory and know where our
true help lies. Amen.**



YOUNG
DISCIPLES
MESSAGE

“The Dishonest Manager”



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold and sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace — so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses ... so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith, and trust. Amen.



FIRST SCRIPTURE READING



Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

¹⁸You who are my Comforter in sorrow, ¹⁹Listen to the cry of my people from a land far away: “Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her king no longer there?”

“Why have they aroused my anger with their images, with their worthless foreign idols?”

Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

²⁰“The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and yet we are not saved.”

²¹Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me.

²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people?

Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

¹Oh, that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Leader: This is the word of God
for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1

PSALM READING
Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

PRAY

FAITH

GOD

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ¹ Answer me when I call, O God of
my right!

People: You have given me room when I
was in distress. Be gracious to me, and
hear my prayer.

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ²How long, O people, shall my
honor suffer shame?

People: How long will you love vain
words, and seek after lies?

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ³but know that the Lord has set
apart the righteous as God's own;

People: **The Lord hears when I call.**

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ⁴Be angry, but do not sin;

People: commune with your own hearts
in your beds, and be silent.

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ⁵ Offer right sacrifices,

People: and put your trust in the Lord.

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ⁶There are many who say, “O that we might see some good!

People: Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord!”

PSALM READING

Psalm 4:1-8 UMH 741

Leader: ⁷You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

People: ⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.



Mark 1:1-15

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

¹The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way” — ³“a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” ⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 1:1-15

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

Mark 1:1-15

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” ⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

Mark 1:1-15

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

¹²At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

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

Mark 1:1-15

“Glory Be to the Father” UMH 70

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th century MUSIC: Charles Meineke, 1844

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

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

“God the Son”



“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.

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.

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

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.

AFFIRMATION OF OUR
FAITH UMH 882



AFFIRMATION OF OUR
FAITH UMH 882

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven
and earth.



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH UMH 882

I believe in Jesus
Christ, his 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.



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH UMH 882

On the third day he
rose again; he
ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right
hand of the Father,
and will come again to
judge the living and
the dead.



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH UMH 882

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 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 against a blue sky with white clouds. The cross is made of two weathered wooden beams, one vertical and one horizontal, intersecting in the center. The sky is a vibrant blue with soft, white, fluffy clouds scattered across it. The cross is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image, extending from the bottom edge towards the center. The overall scene is peaceful and spiritual.

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.



“Close to Thee” UMH 407

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1874 MUSIC: Silas J. Vail, 1874

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Close to Thee” UMH 407

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1874 MUSIC: Silas J. Vail, 1874

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Thou my everlasting portion,
more than friend or life to me,
all along my pilgrim journey,
Savior, let me walk with thee.

Close to thee, close to thee,
close to thee, close to thee,
all along my pilgrim journey,
Savior, let me walk with thee.

“Close to Thee” UMH 407

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1874 MUSIC: Silas J. Vail, 1874

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Not for ease or worldly pleasure,
nor for fame my prayer shall be;
gladly will I toil and suffer,
only let me walk with thee.

Close to thee, close to thee,
close to thee, close to thee,
gladly will I toil and suffer,
only let me walk with thee.

“Close to Thee” UMH 407

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1874 MUSIC: Silas J. Vail, 1874

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Lead me through the vale of shadows,
bear me o'er life's fitful sea;
then the gate of life eternal
may I enter, Lord, with thee.

Close to thee, close to thee,
close to thee, close to thee,
then the gate of life eternal
may I enter, Lord, with thee.

“In His Time” TFWS 2203

WORDS and MUSIC: Diane Ball, 1978

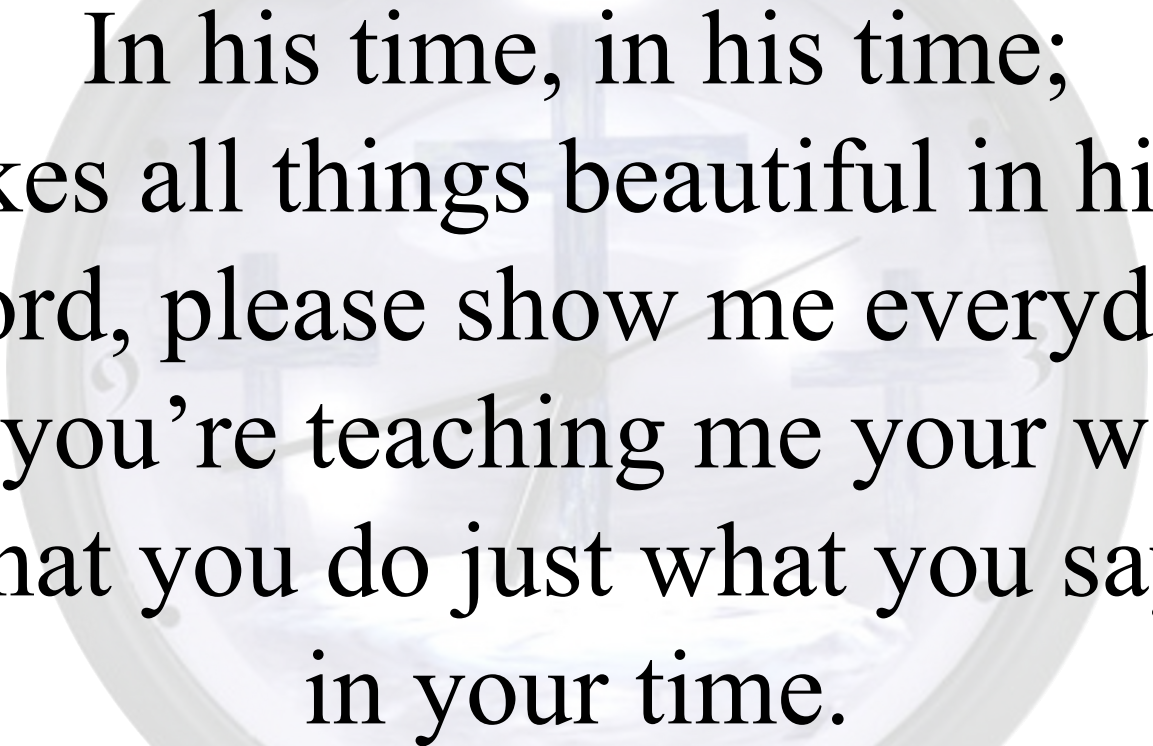
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“In His Time” TFWS 2203

WORDS and MUSIC: Diane Ball, 1978

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



In his time, in his time;
he makes all things beautiful in his time.
Lord, please show me everyday
as you're teaching me your way,
that you do just what you say
in your time.

“In His Time” TFWS 2203

WORDS and MUSIC: Diane Ball, 1978

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

In your time, in your time;
you make all things beautiful in your time.

Lord, my life to you I bring;
may each song I have to sing,
be to you a lovely thing
in your time.

Rectortown United Methodist Church

servicing God with
Prayers, **A**ction, and **L**ove
through **S**ervice.