

Prelude

Guest Pastor:
Cheryl Kowalcheck

*Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost*

June 16th, 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

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God of covenant love,

People: **We praise you for planting seeds
of your love within Abraham,
Sarah, and their descendants.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God of incarnate love,

People: **We marvel at the magnificent family tree that your divine love has created among us.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God of welcoming love,

People: **We thank you that you have made a home for us within the branches of your family tree.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God of everlasting love,

People: **We worship you, we love you,
and we honor you with all that
we are.**

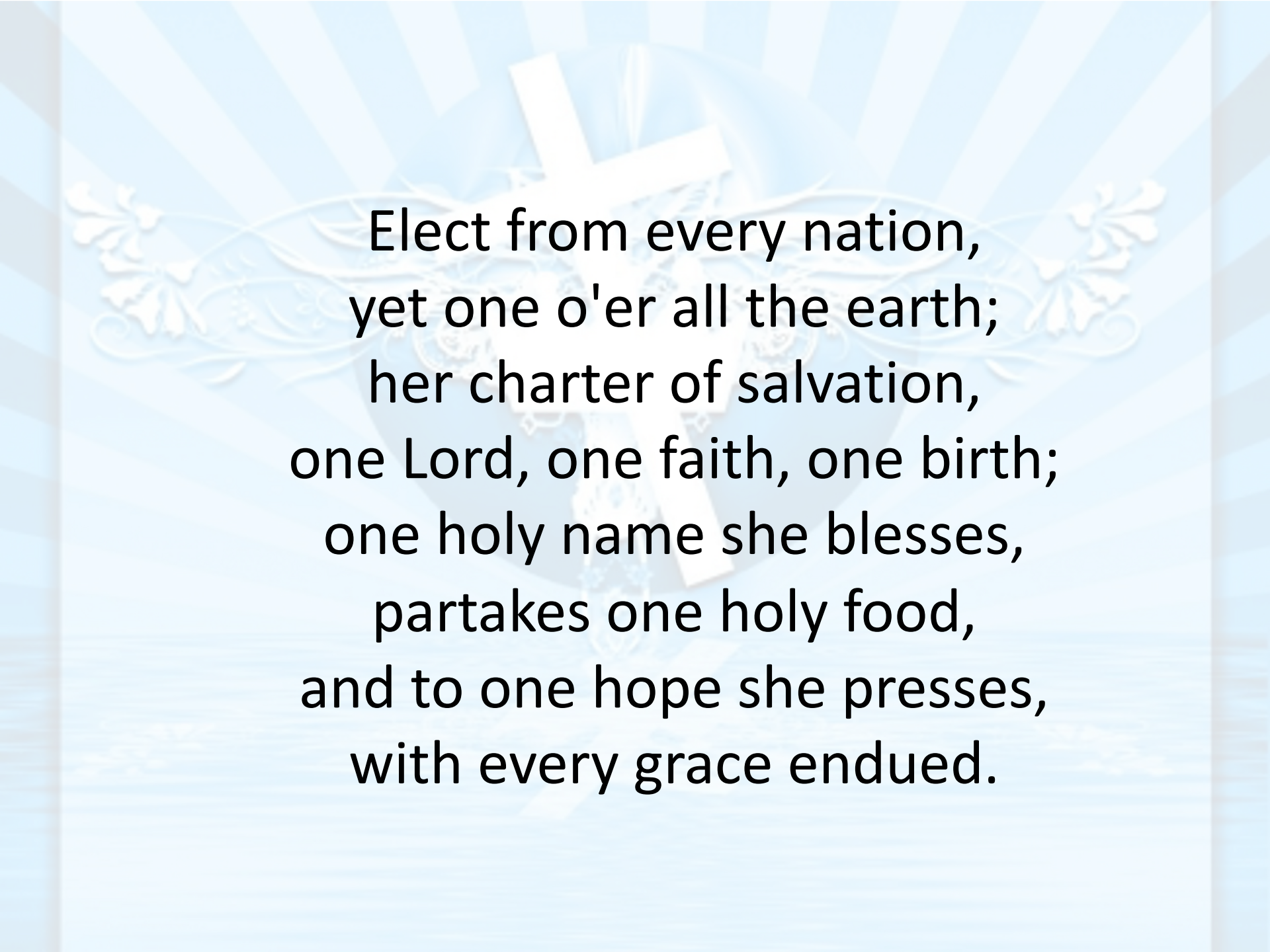
“The Church’s One Foundation” UMH 545

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866 MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

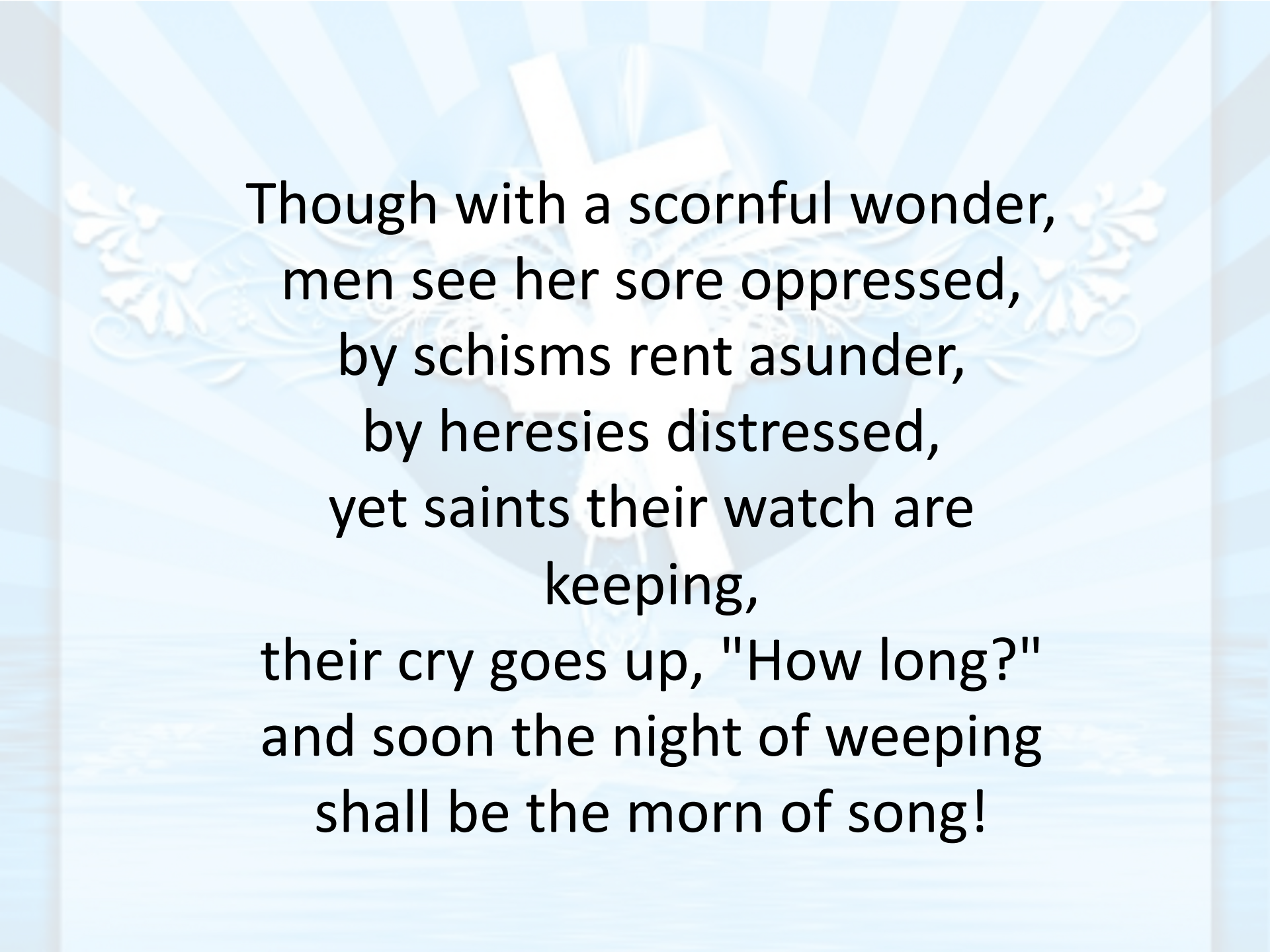
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word.

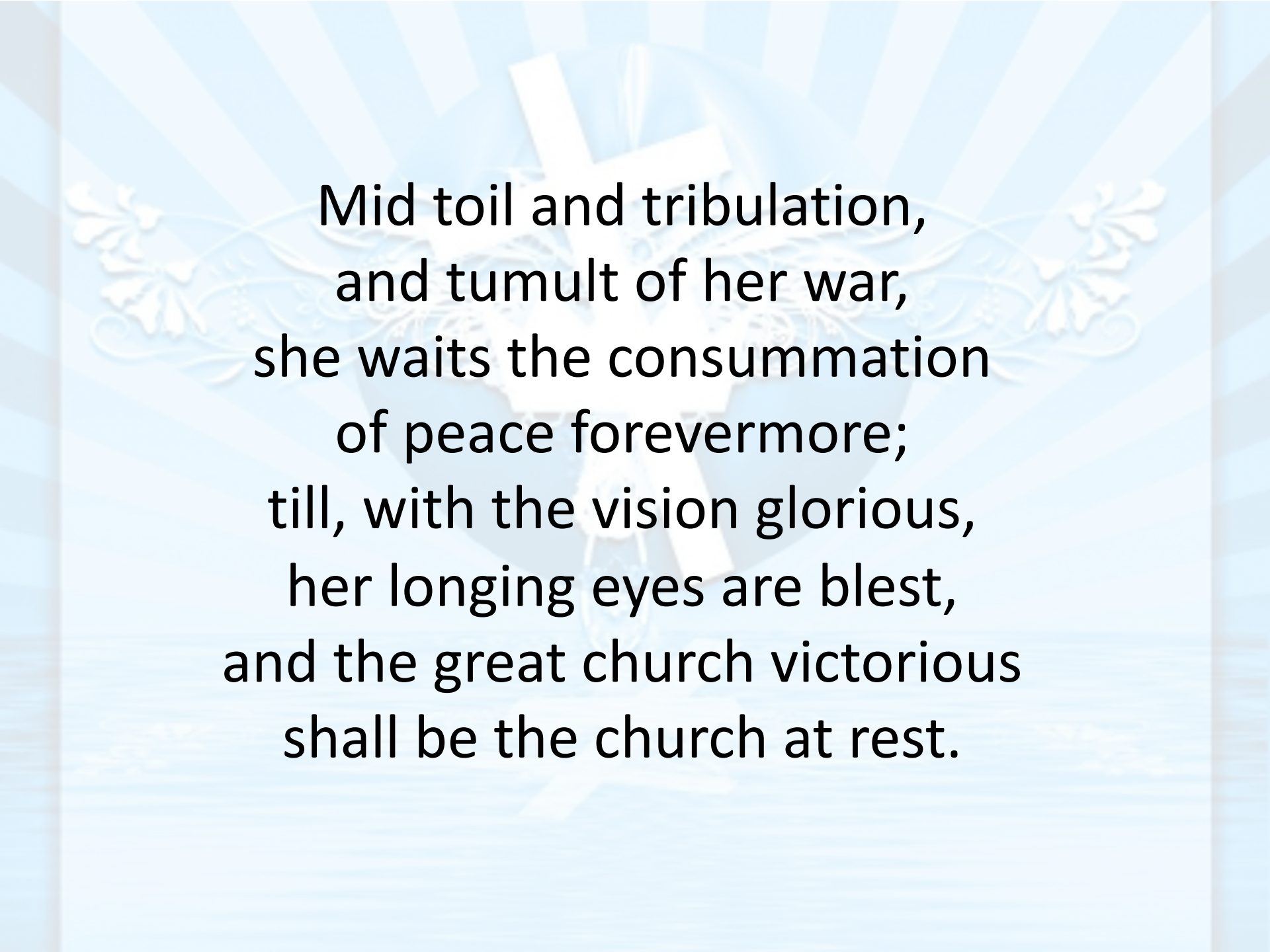
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.



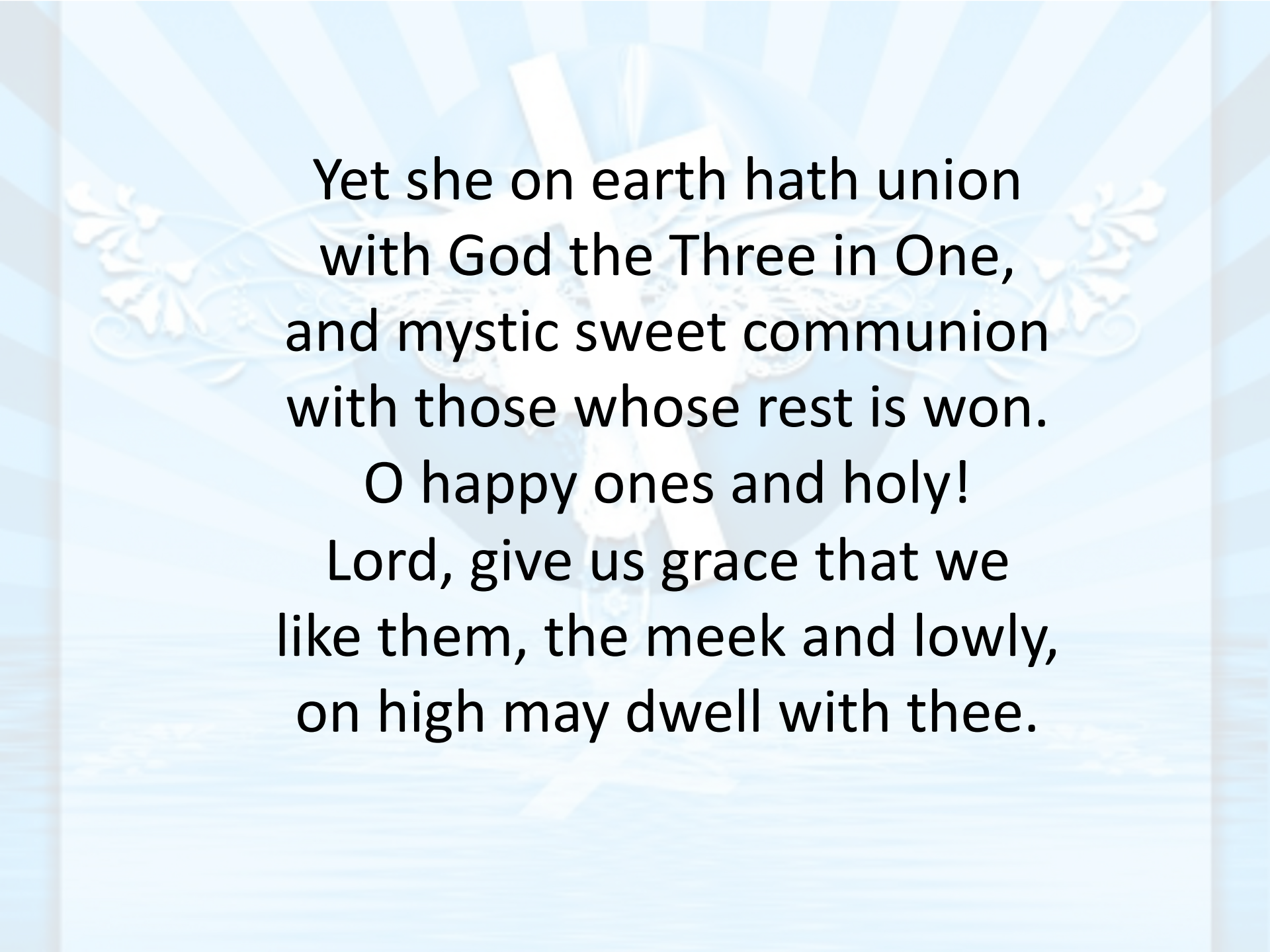
Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.



Though with a scornful wonder,
men see her sore 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!



Mid 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.



Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

OPENING PRAYER

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion;



OPENING PRAYER

for the sake of our Savior

Jesus Christ, who lives

and reigns with you and

the Holy Spirit, one God,

now and for ever.

Amen.





Young Disciples' Message




Happy Father's Day!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and
minds by the power of
your Holy Spirit, that as
the Scriptures are read
and your Word is
proclaimed, we may hear
with joy what you say to
us today.
Amen.**





1 Samuel
15:34 – 16 :13

34 Then Samuel left for Ramah, but Saul went up to his home in Gibeah of Saul.

35 Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again, though Samuel mourned for him. And the LORD was grieved that he had made Saul king over Israel.

16 The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

² But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it and kill me."

The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'

³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

4 Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked,
“Do you come in peace?”

⁵ Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.”

⁹ Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.”

10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these."

11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons
you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered.

"He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit
down until he arrives."

12 So he sent for him and had him brought in.

He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and
anointed him in the presence of his brothers,
and from that day on the Spirit of
the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel
then went to Ramah.

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795



PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ¹Give the king your
justice, O God...

People: and your righteousness
to the royal son!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ²May he judge your
people with righteousness...

People: and your poor with justice!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ³ Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

People: ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ⁵May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

People: ⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ⁷In his days may
righteousness flourish, and peace
abound, till the moon be no more!

People: ⁸May he have dominion from sea
to sea, and from the river to the ends of
the earth!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ⁹May his foes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

People: ¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ¹²For he delivers the needy
when they call, the poor and those
who have no helper.

People: ¹³He has pity on the weak and the
needy...

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: and saves the lives of the needy.

People: **14** From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: ¹⁵ Long may he live, may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all day!

People: ¹⁶ May there be abundance of grain in the land; may it wave on the tops of the mountains; may its fruit be like Lebanon;

PSALM READING

Psalm 72:1 – 17 UMH 795

Leader: and may they blossom forth in
the cities like grass of the field!

People: **17** May his name endure for ever,
his fame continue as long as the sun!
May people bless themselves by him, all
nations call him blessed!



Mark 4: 26 -34

26 He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground.

27 Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.

28 All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head.

29 As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

30 Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?

31 It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground.

32 Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."

33 With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand.

34 He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

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.**



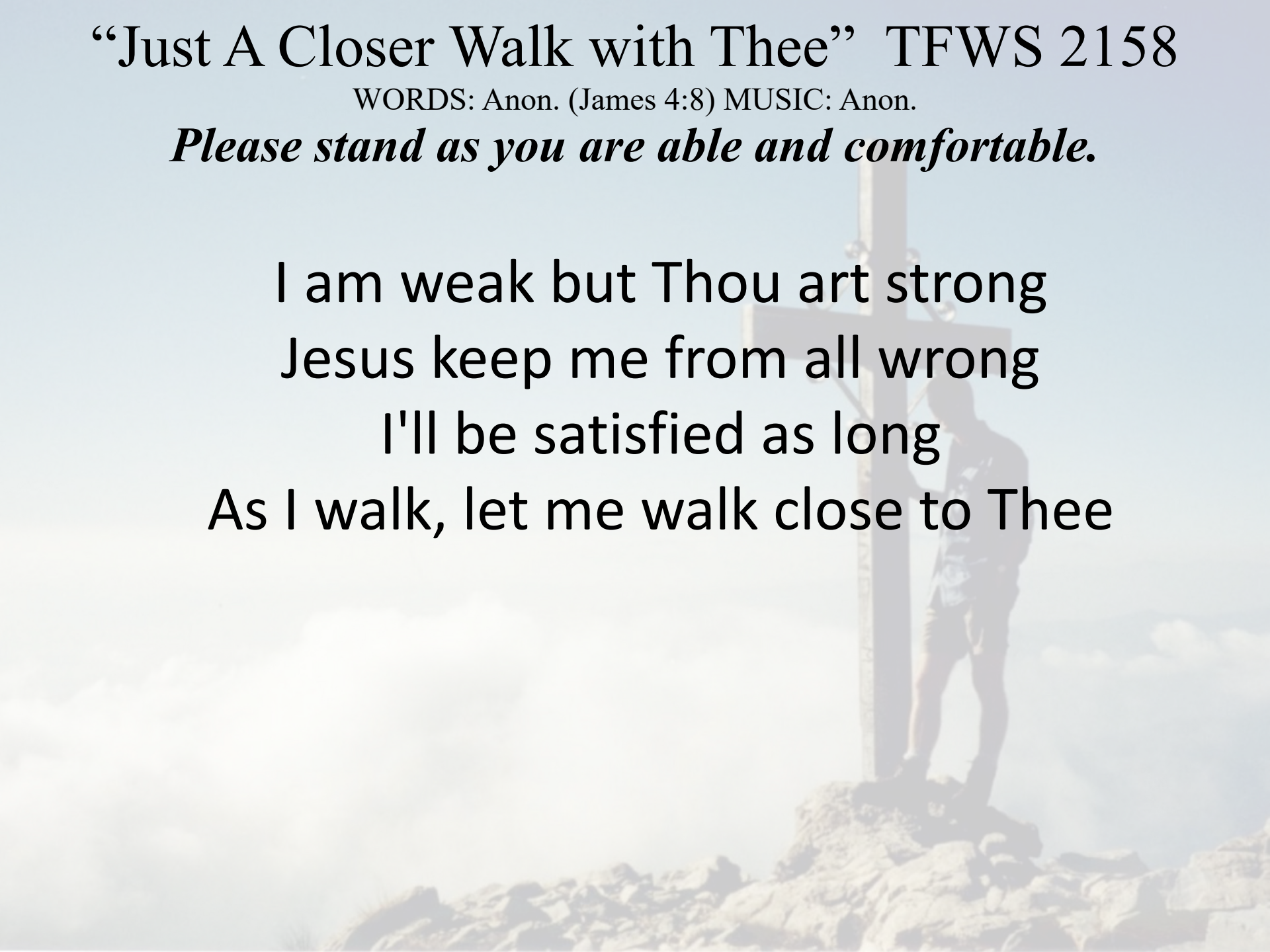
TODAY'S MESSAGE

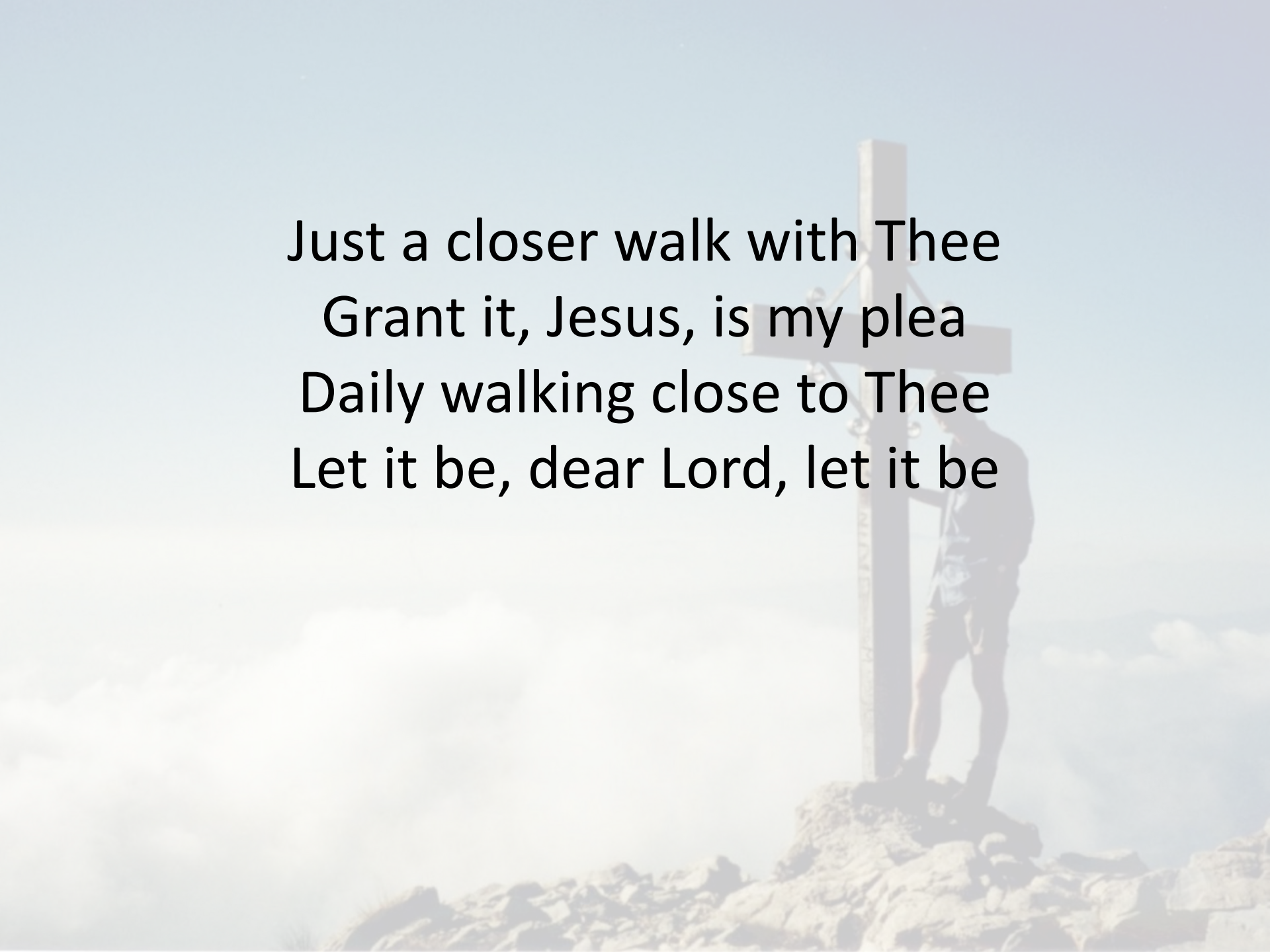
“Just A Closer Walk with Thee” TFWS 2158

WORDS: Anon. (James 4:8) MUSIC: Anon.

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee

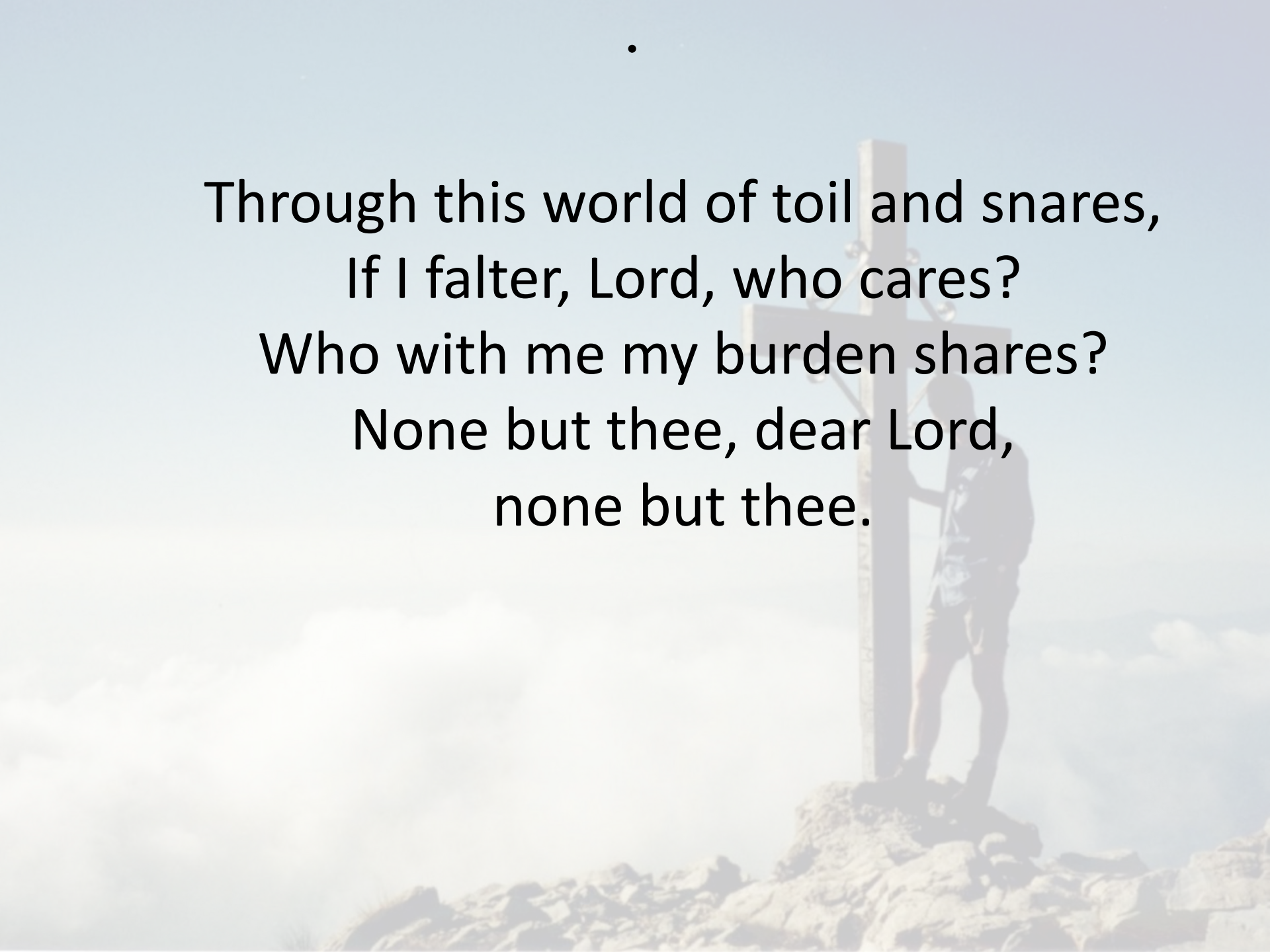


A person is standing on a rocky peak next to a large wooden cross. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt and shorts. The background is a vast, hazy landscape with mountains and a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

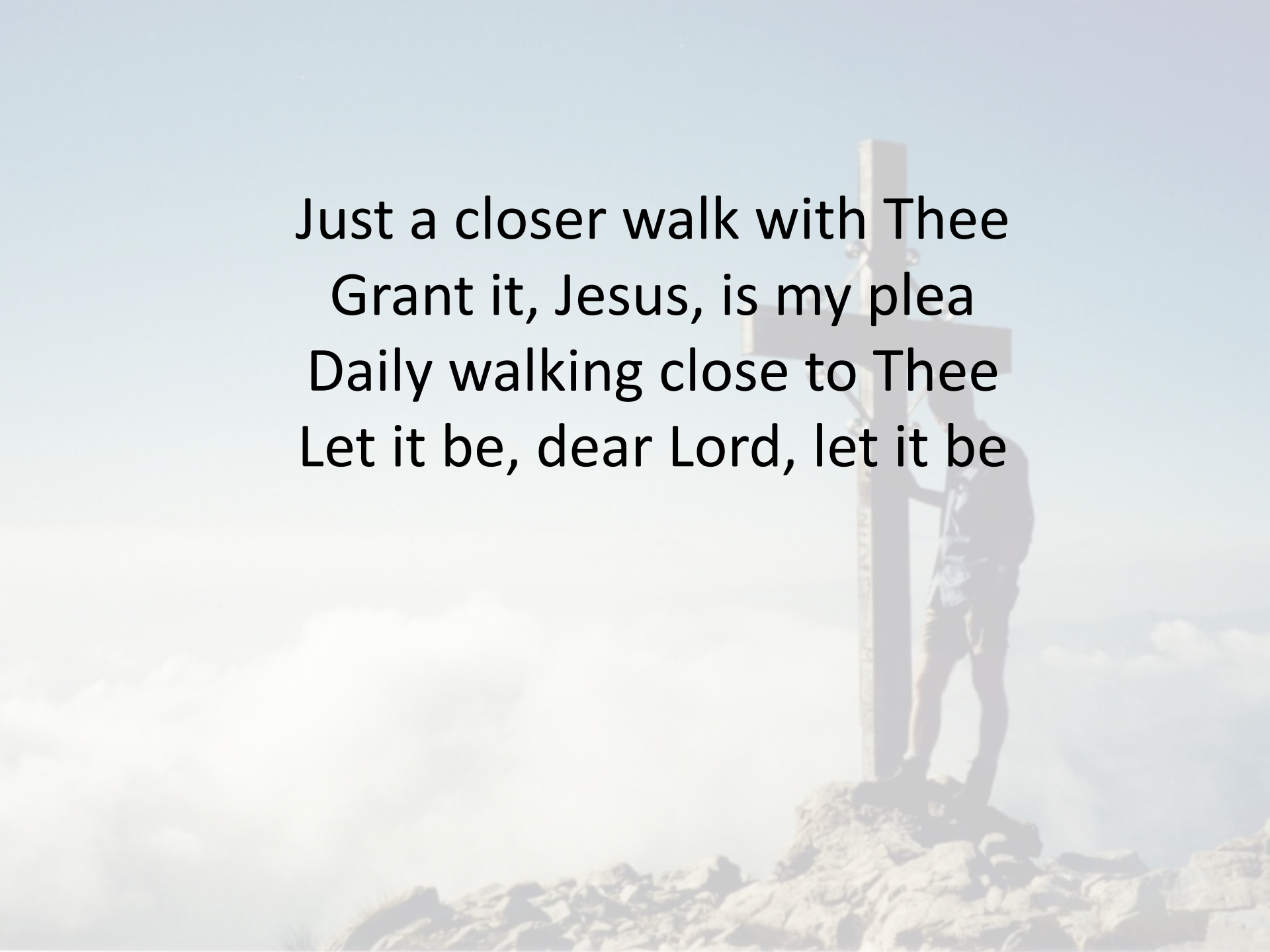
Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

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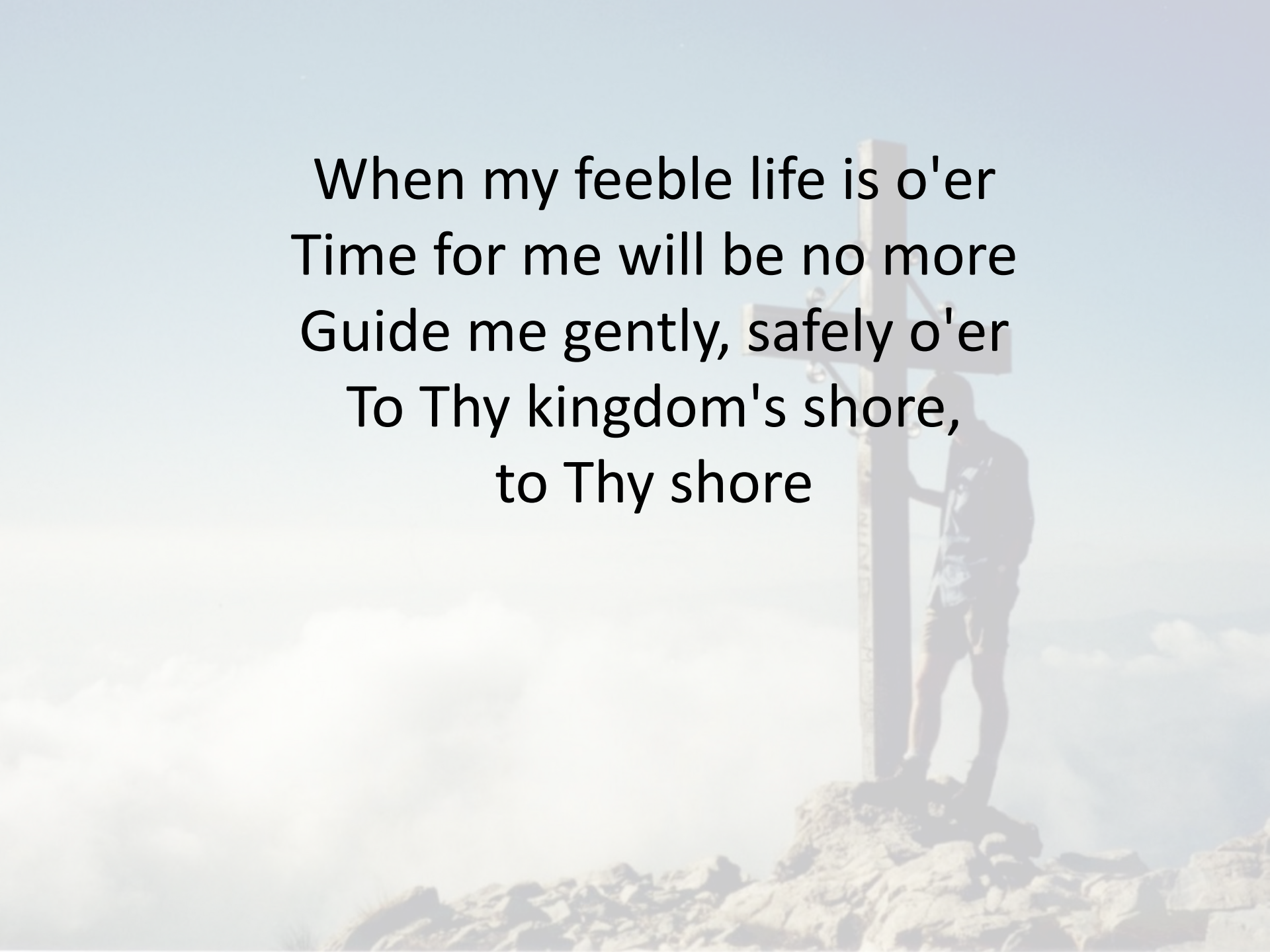
Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord,
none but thee.

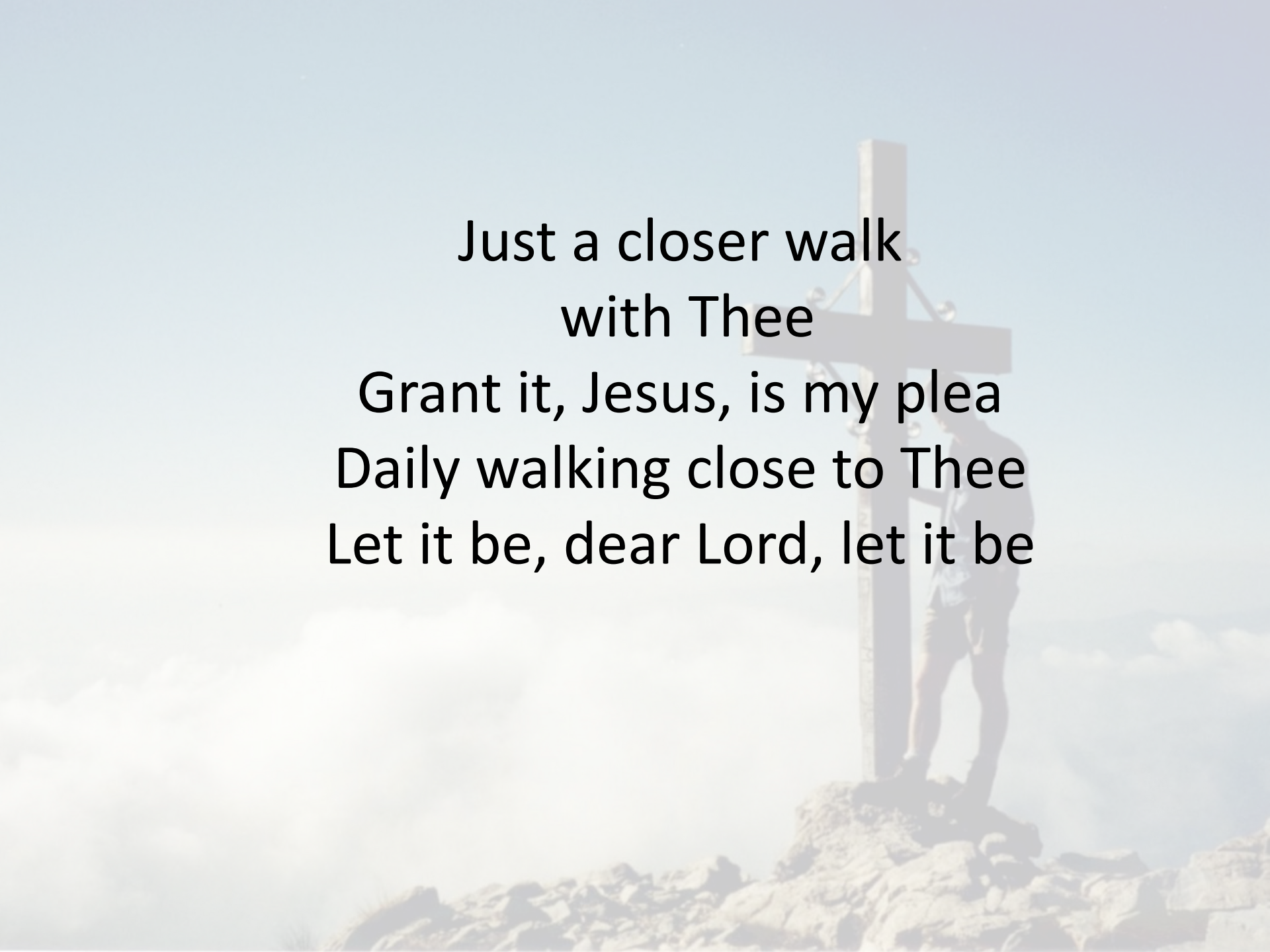
A person is standing on a rocky peak, leaning against a large wooden cross. The person is wearing a backpack and shorts, suggesting a hiker or traveler. The background is a vast, hazy landscape with mountains and a cloudy sky, creating a sense of solitude and contemplation. The overall tone is serene and spiritual.

Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be



When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom's shore,
to Thy shore



A person is standing on a rocky peak next to a large wooden cross. The background is a vast, hazy landscape with mountains and a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

Just a closer walk
with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880



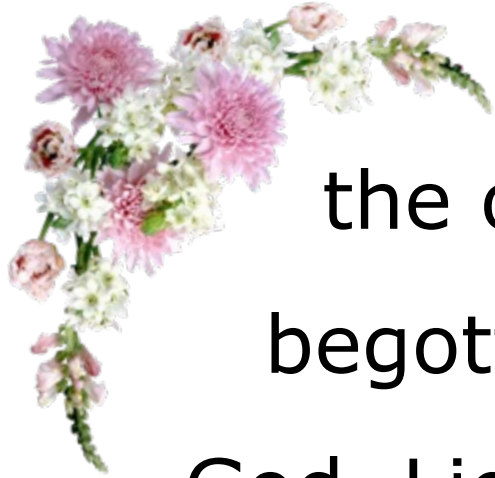
We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and
earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880



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.



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880




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.




AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

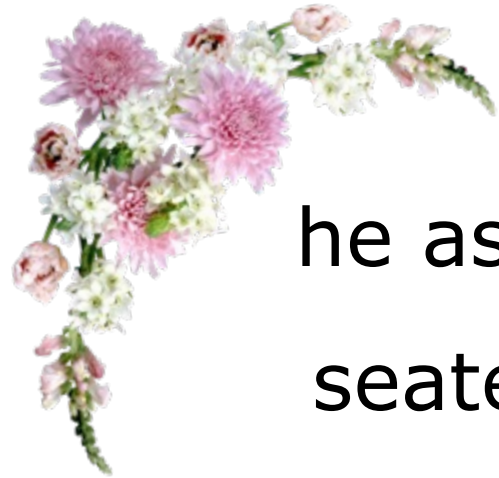


For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and
was buried. On the third day he rose
again in accordance with the
Scriptures;



AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880

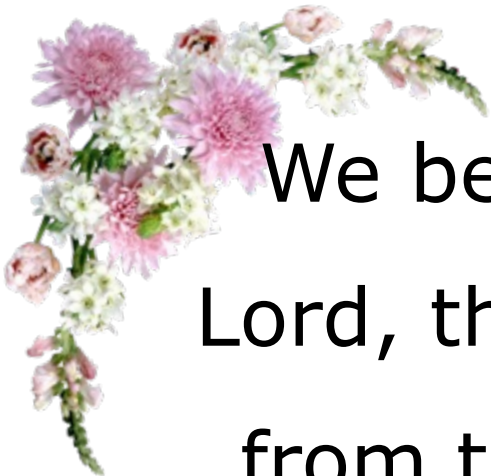


he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.




AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed UMH 880



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

LORD hear our
prayers



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



Pastoral Prayer

The background of the slide is a light blue wooden surface with a vertical grain. Scattered across the surface are several white cherry blossoms with yellow stamens and pinkish-red centers. Some blossoms are fully open, while others are buds. There are also several white petals scattered around the flowers.

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!

The image features a light blue, textured wooden background. Scattered across the surface are numerous white cherry blossoms in various stages of bloom, some fully open with yellow stamens and pinkish centers, and others as buds or fallen petals. A central white rectangular box with a thin black border contains the text.

Offertory Prayer

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.

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: Edward Mote, 1834 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863

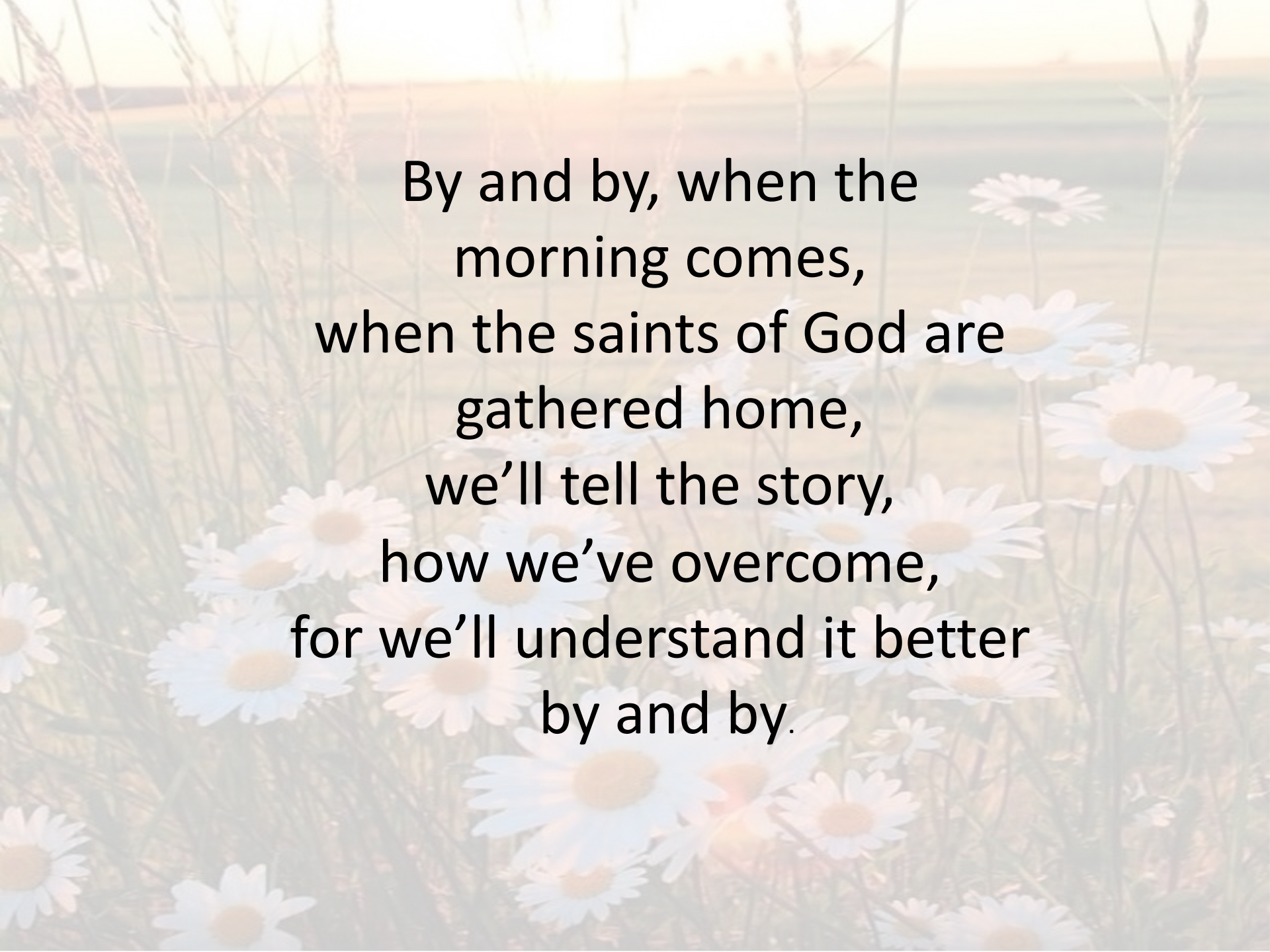
Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

We are often tossed and driv’n
on the restless sea of time,
somber skies and howling tempest
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.

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.

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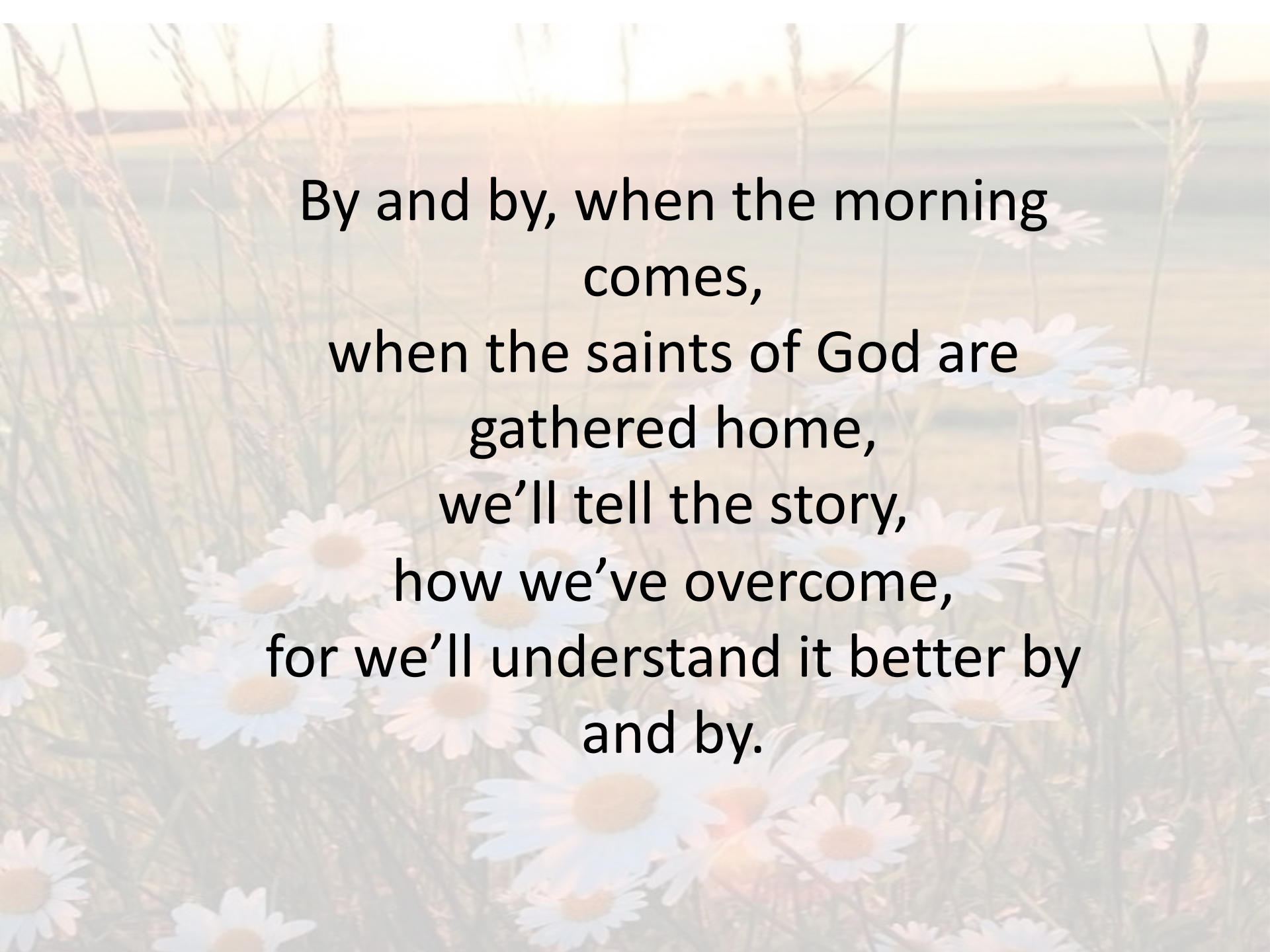
We are often destitute
of the things that life demands,
want of food and want of shelter,
thirsty hills and barren lands;
we are trusting in the Lord,
and according to the Word,
we will understand it better
by and by.



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.

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Temptations, hidden snares,
often take us unawares,
and our hearts are made to
bleed for
any 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.



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



“Hymn of Promise” UMH 707

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Hymn of Promise” UMH 707

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

“Hymn of Promise” UMH 707

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

“Hymn of Promise” UMH 707

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

A large, spreading tree silhouetted against a sunset sky over a body of water. The tree's reflection is visible in the water below. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow.

Question for Reflection

What did you learn from today's sermon?

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.