

Christ Church with St Mary's

Sunday 21st September 2025

Informal Service of Holy Communion

Theme : Growing in Generosity

We say together the words in **bold**





Welcome and Introduction



Bible verse of the year 2024 - 2025

**‘For all who are
led by the
Spirit of God are
children of God’**

Romans 8 : 14

A Prayer for Growth

**God of mission
who alone brings growth to your church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning
wisdom to our actions and power to our witness.
Help our Partnership of Churches to grow in numbers
in spiritual commitment to you
and in service to our Swindon community
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Opening Sentences

The world belongs to the Lord
the earth and all its people.

How good and how lovely it is
to live together in unity.

Love and faith come together
justice and peace join hands.



If the Lord's disciples keep silent,
these stones would shout aloud.

Lord, open our lips
**and our mouths shall
proclaim your praise.**



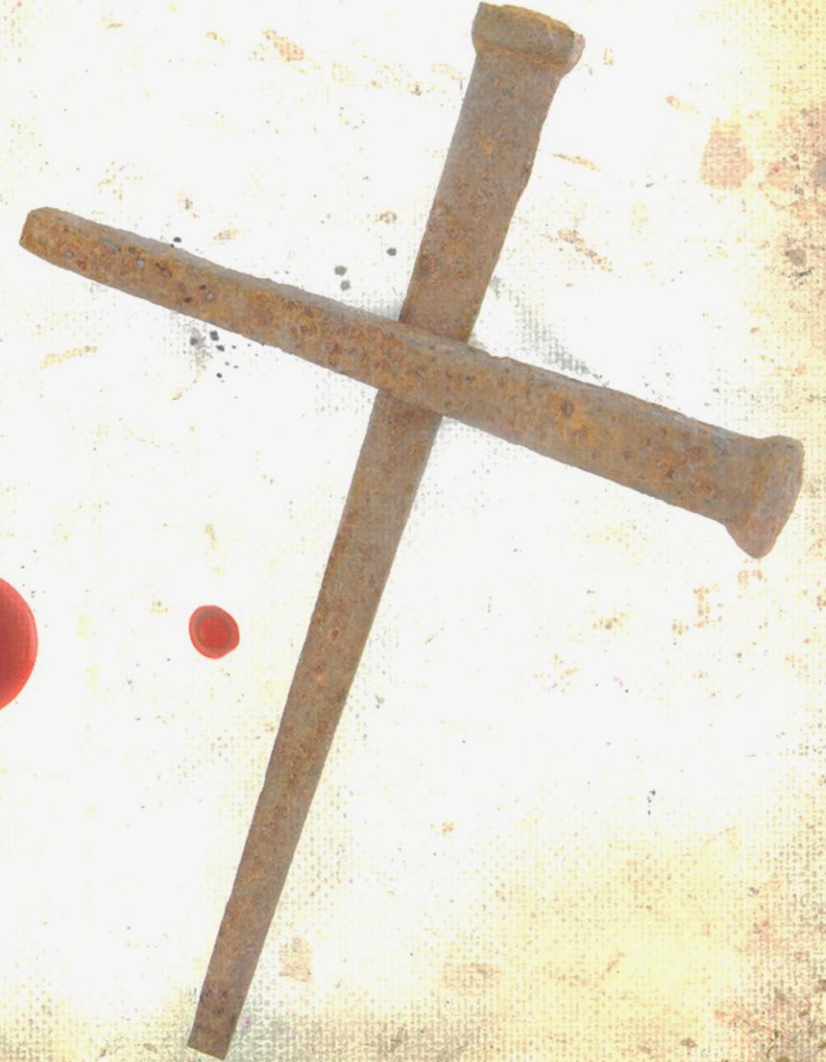
**¹In the darkness we were waiting
without hope without light
till from heaven you came running
there was mercy in your eyes.
To fulfil the law and prophets
to a virgin came the Word
from a throne of endless glory
to a cradle in the dirt.**



Chorus

**Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in One
God of glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the Kings of Kings**

**2 To reveal the kingdom coming
and to reconcile the lost
to redeem the whole creation
you did not despise the cross.
For even in your suffering
you saw to the other side
knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died.**



Chorus

**Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in One
God of glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the Kings of Kings**

**3 And the morning that you rose
all of heaven held its breath
till that stone was moved for good
for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs
and the angels stood in awe
for the souls of all who'd come
to the Father are restored.**



**4 And the Church of Christ was born
then the Spirit lit the flame
now this gospel truth of old
shall not kneel shall not faint.
By his blood and in his name
in his freedom I am free
for the love of Jesus Christ
who has resurrected me.**



Chorus

**Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in One
God of glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the Kings of Kings**



Offertory
and
thankyou
prayer



Children's Talk - 'Giving and Receiving'



Prayer with the children

Prayers of Penitence

As we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us turn to the Lord and confess our sins.

Almighty God, in the community of Christ's Church and in the presence of God's people, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.

We have not loved you, cared for your world or respected your people as we should.

We own our responsibility and pray for your pardon.

Amen

Words of Forgiveness

May God forgive us, Christ befriend us
and the Spirit renew and change our lives.

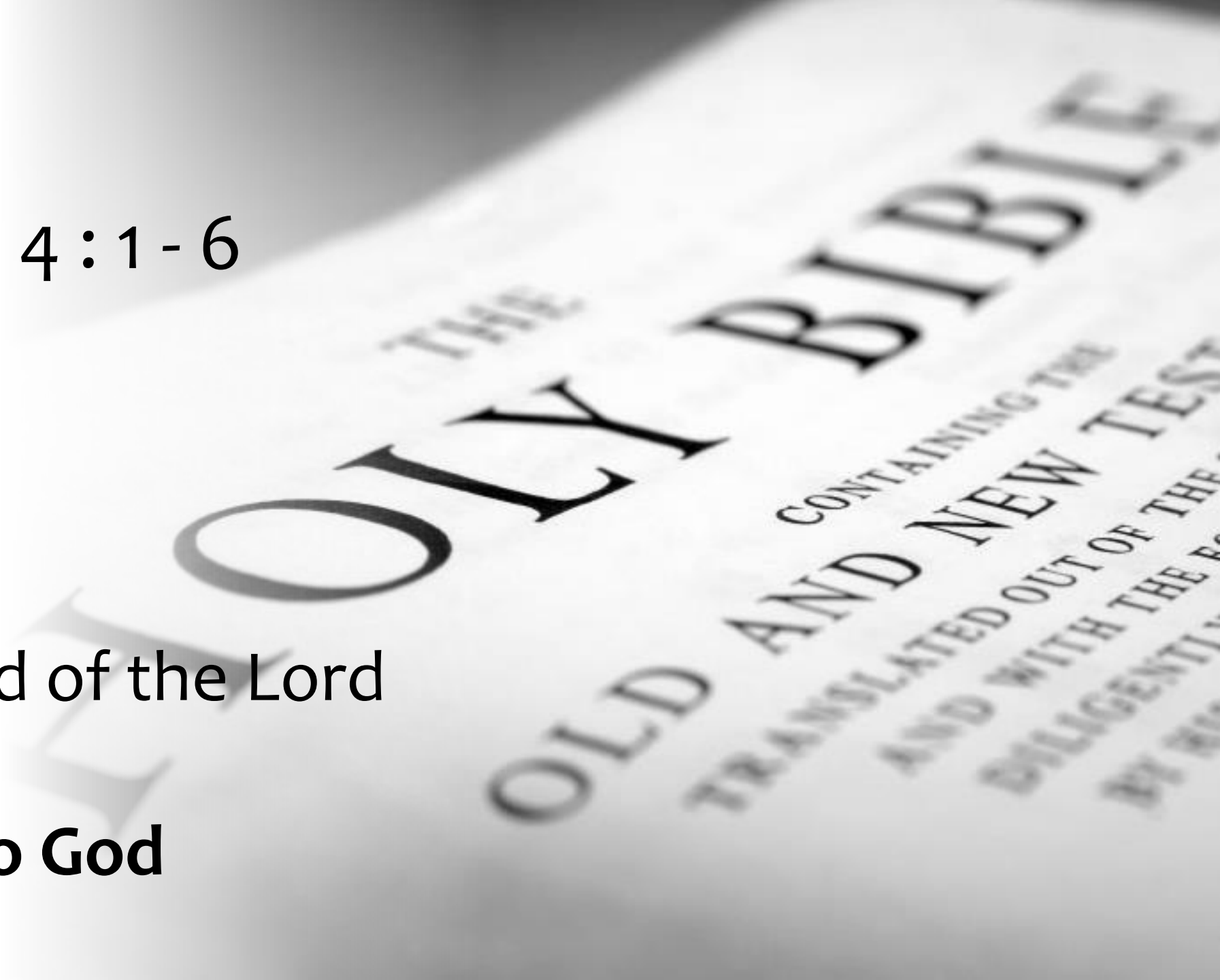
Amen



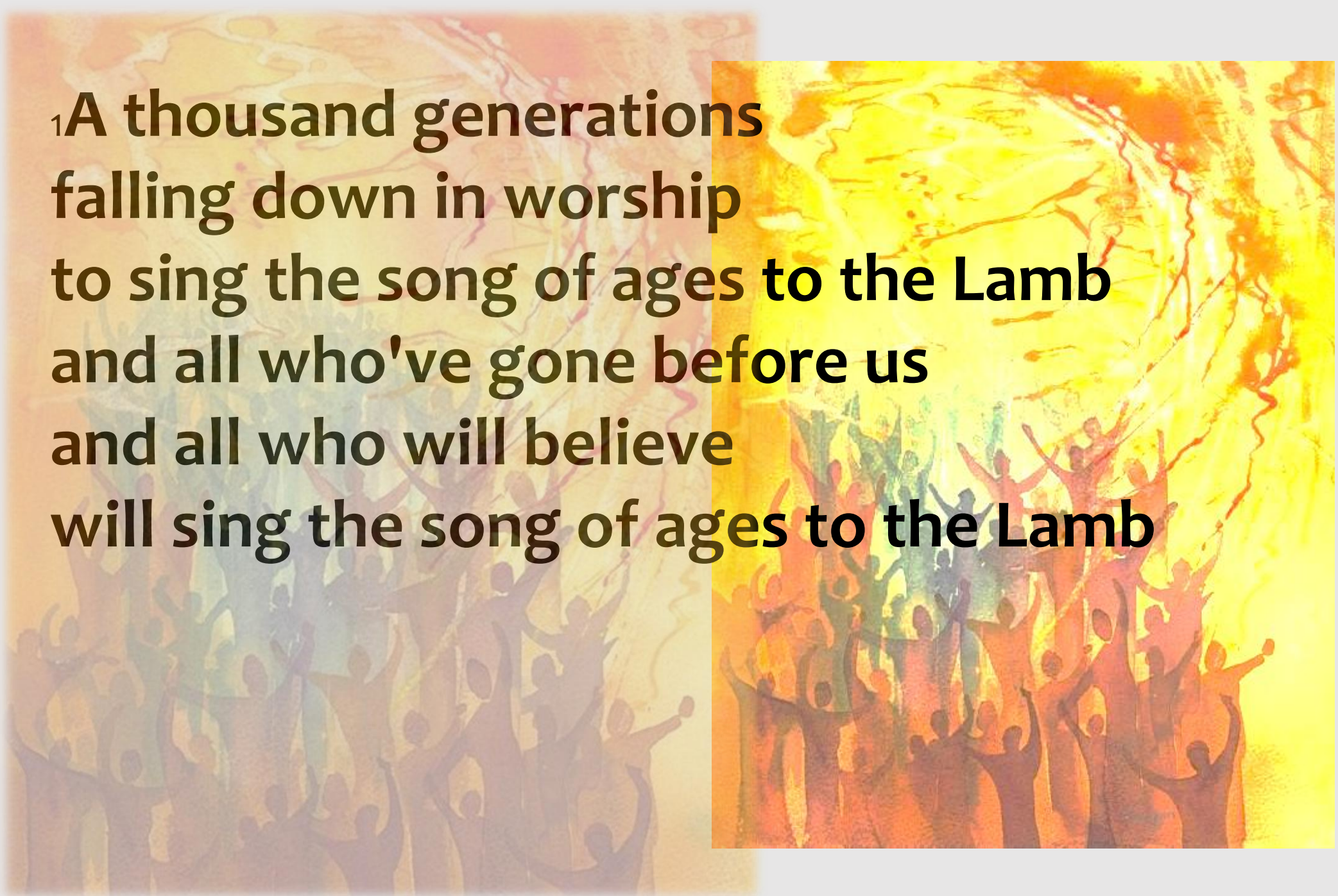
2 Corinthians 4 : 1 - 6

This is the word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God

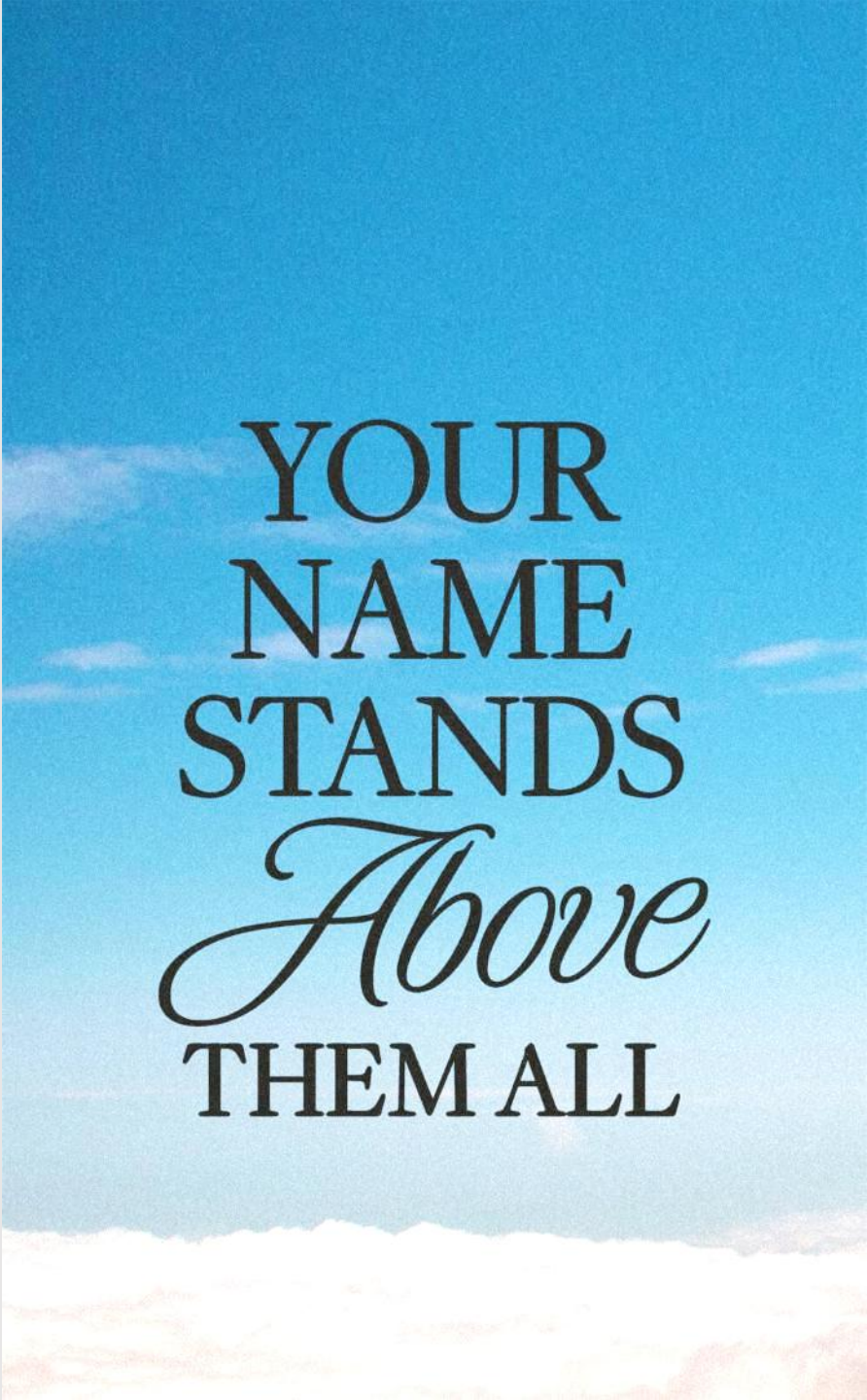


**¹A thousand generations
falling down in worship
to sing the song of ages to the Lamb
and all who've gone before us
and all who will believe
will sing the song of ages to the Lamb**



Pre-Chorus

**(Jesus) Your name is the highest
your name is the greatest
your name stands above them all.
All thrones and dominions
all powers and positions
your name stands above them all.**

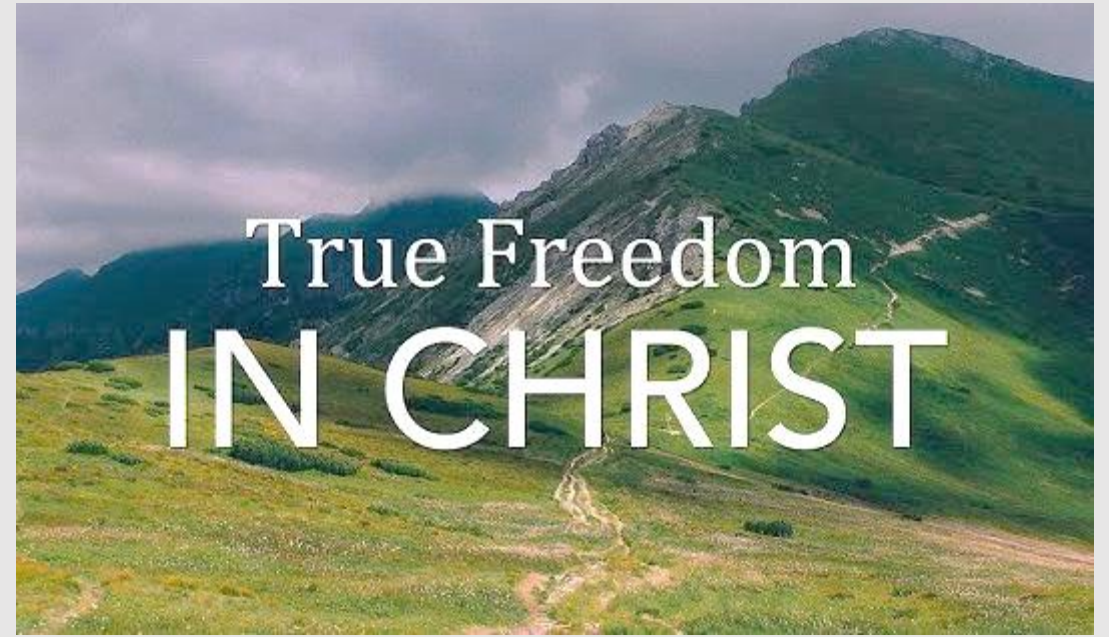


**YOUR
NAME
STANDS
Above
THEM ALL**



Chorus 1

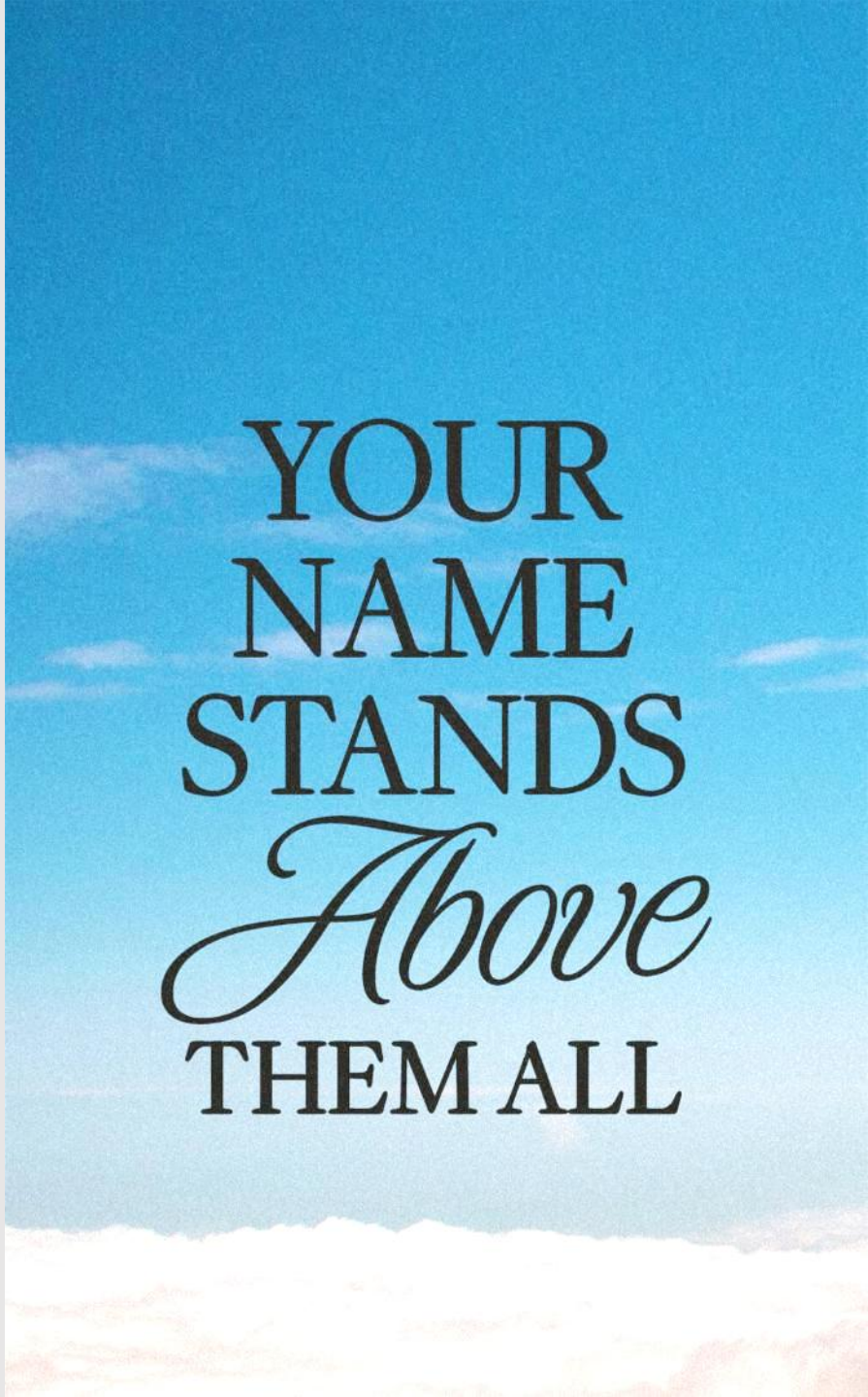
**And the angels cry Holy
all creation cries Holy.
You are lifted high
Holy holy forever.**



**2 If you've been forgiven
and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom
and if you bear his name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
we'll sing the song forever and Amen.**

Pre-Chorus

**(Jesus) Your name is the highest
your name is the greatest
your name stands above them all.
All thrones and dominions
all powers and positions
your name stands above them all.**



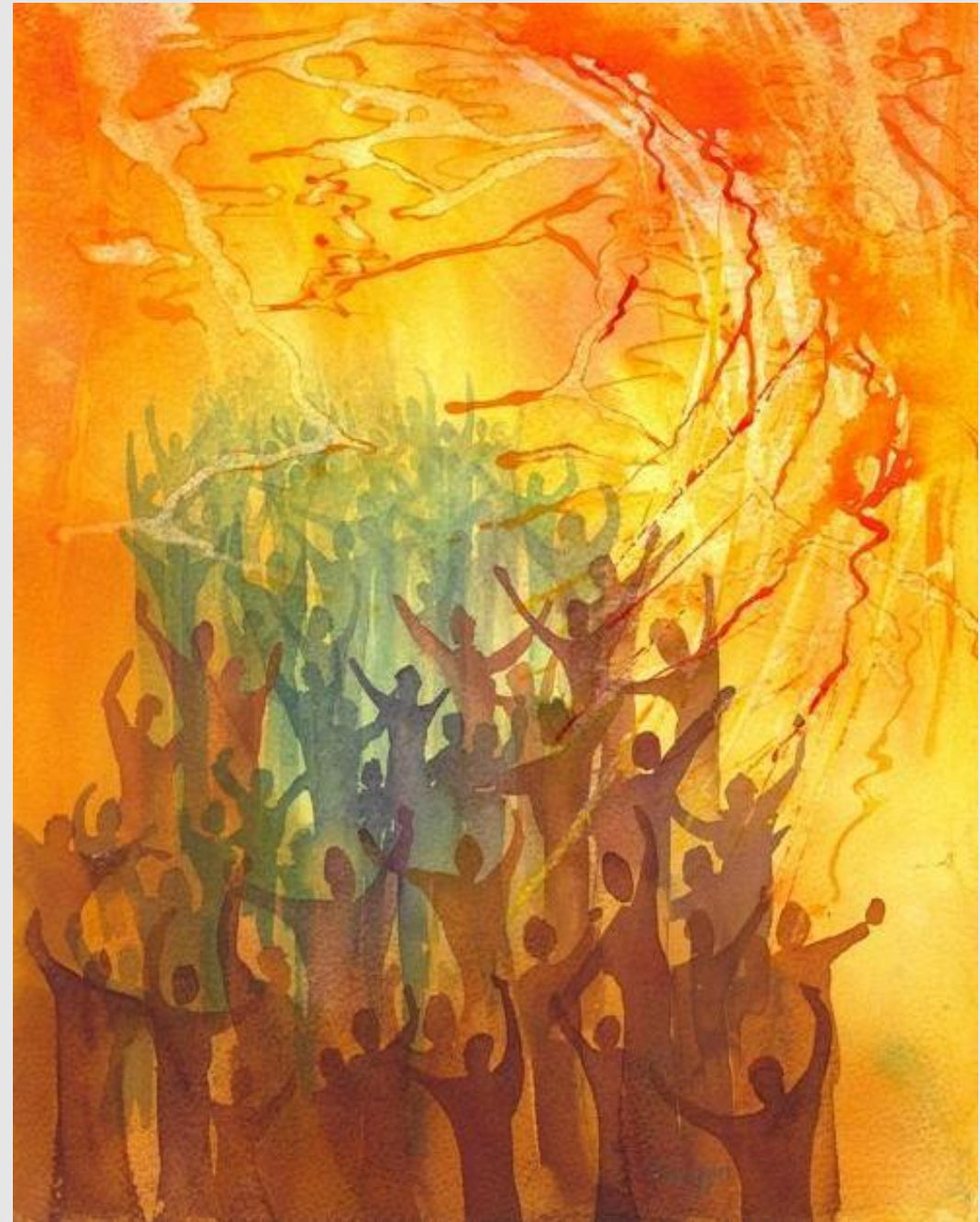
YOUR
NAME
STANDS
Above
THEM ALL

Chorus 2

**Hear your people sing Holy
to the King of Kings Holy.
You will always be Holy
Holy forever.**

Tag

**You will always be Holy
Holy forever.**



Matthew 9 : 9 - 13

This is the word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God

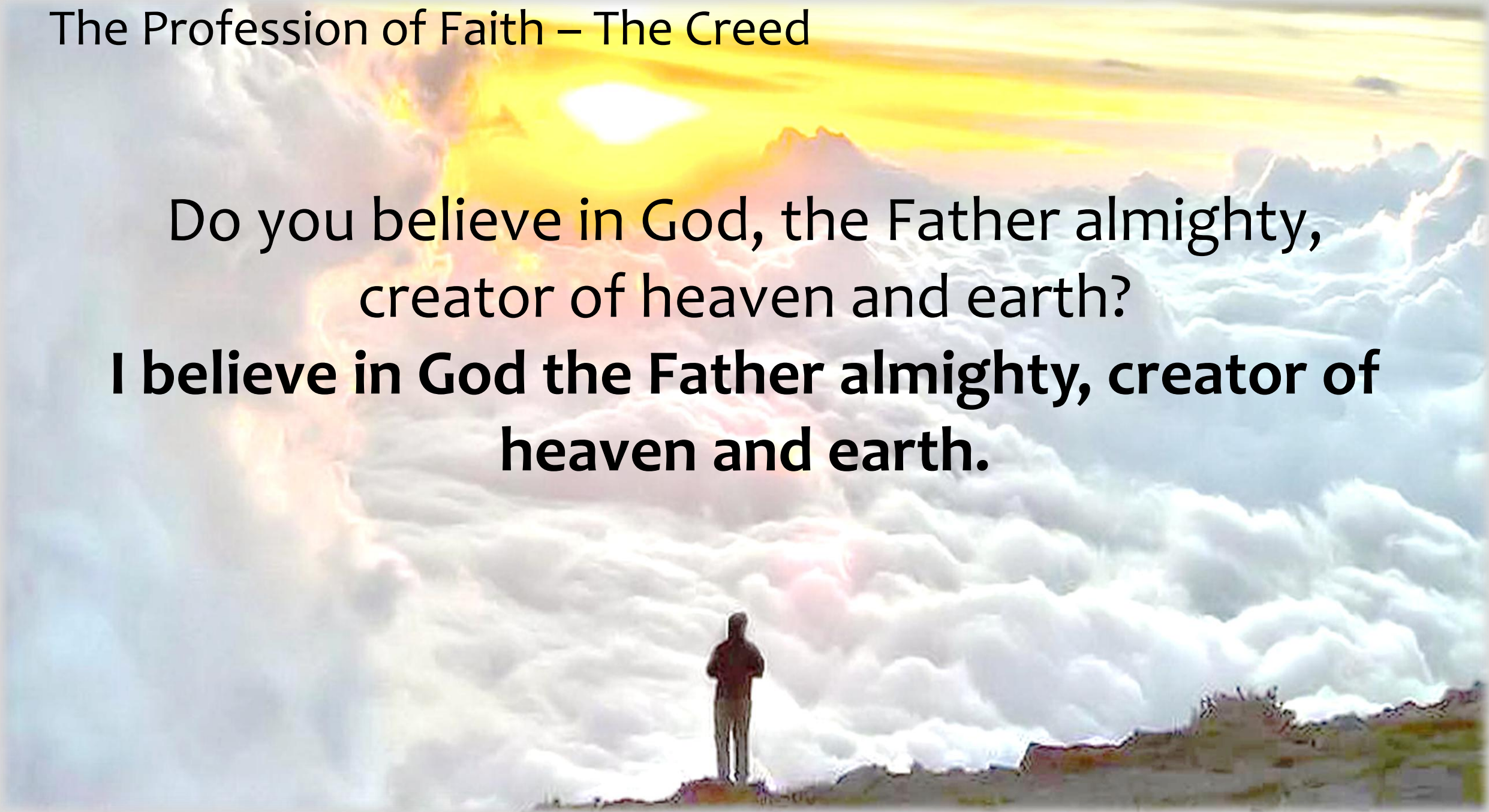


Sermon - 'Growing in Generosity'

The Profession of Faith – The Creed

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth?

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



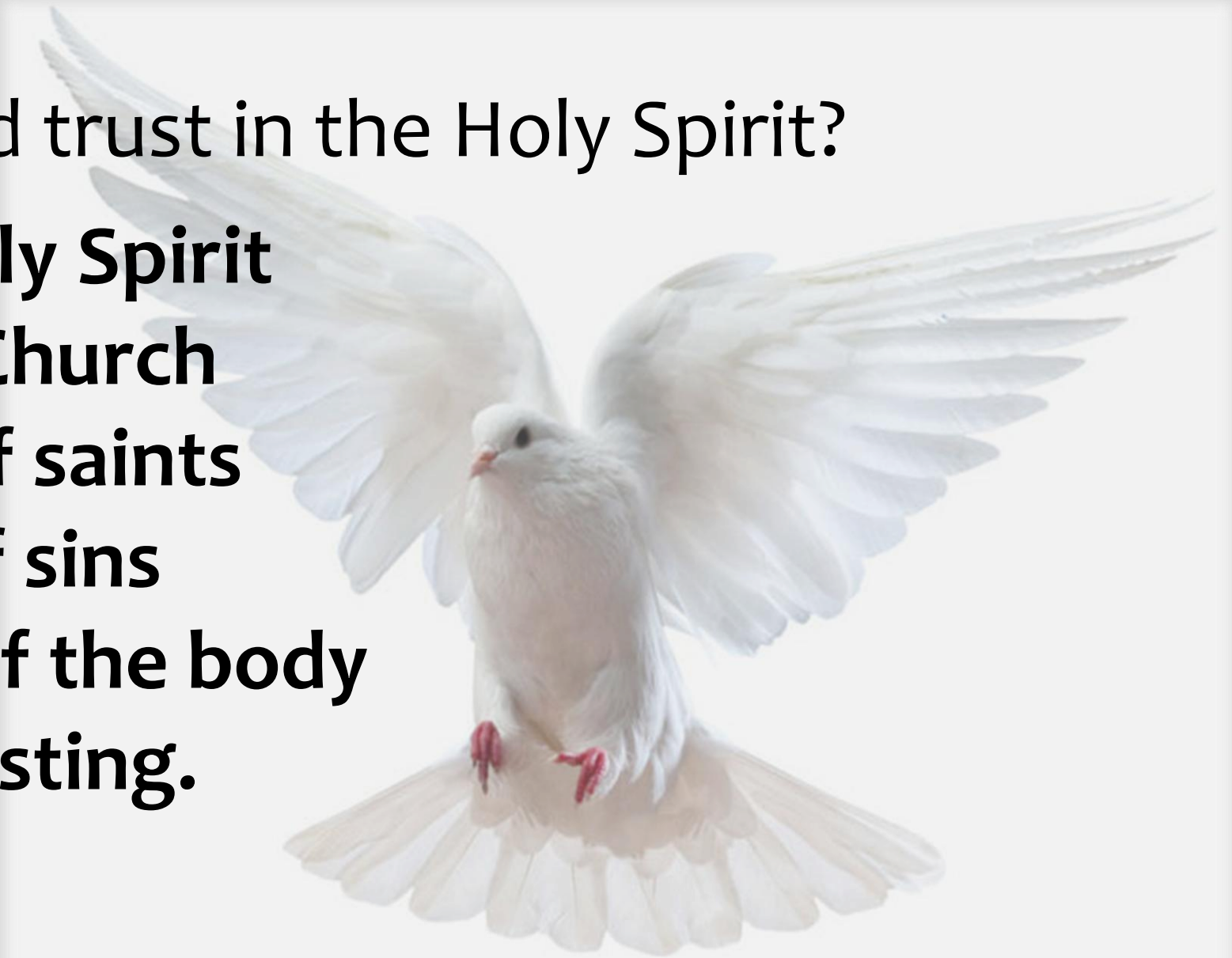
Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

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

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**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 Intercession

Final Response

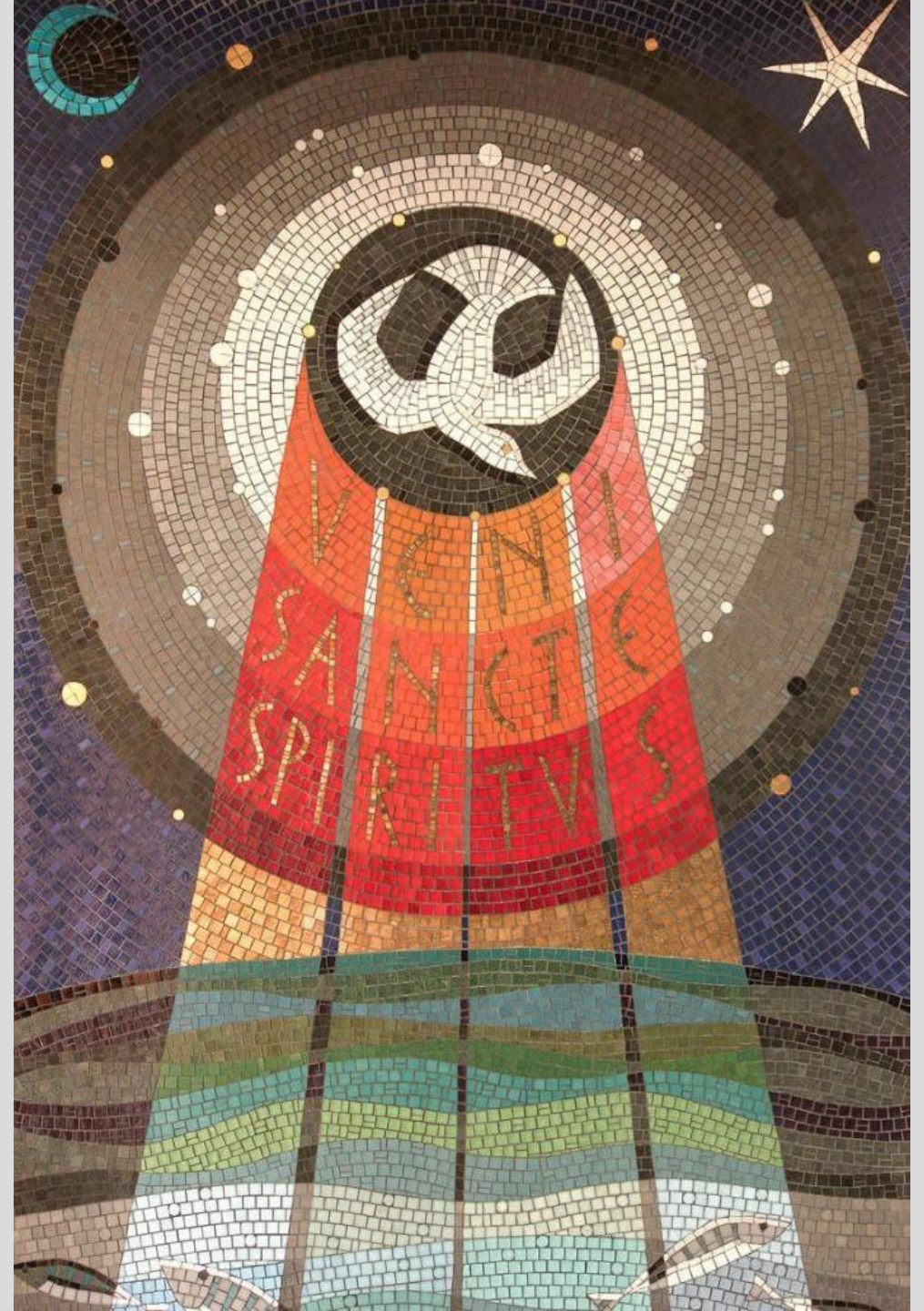
Merciful Father-

**Accept these prayers for
the sake of your son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord
be always with you

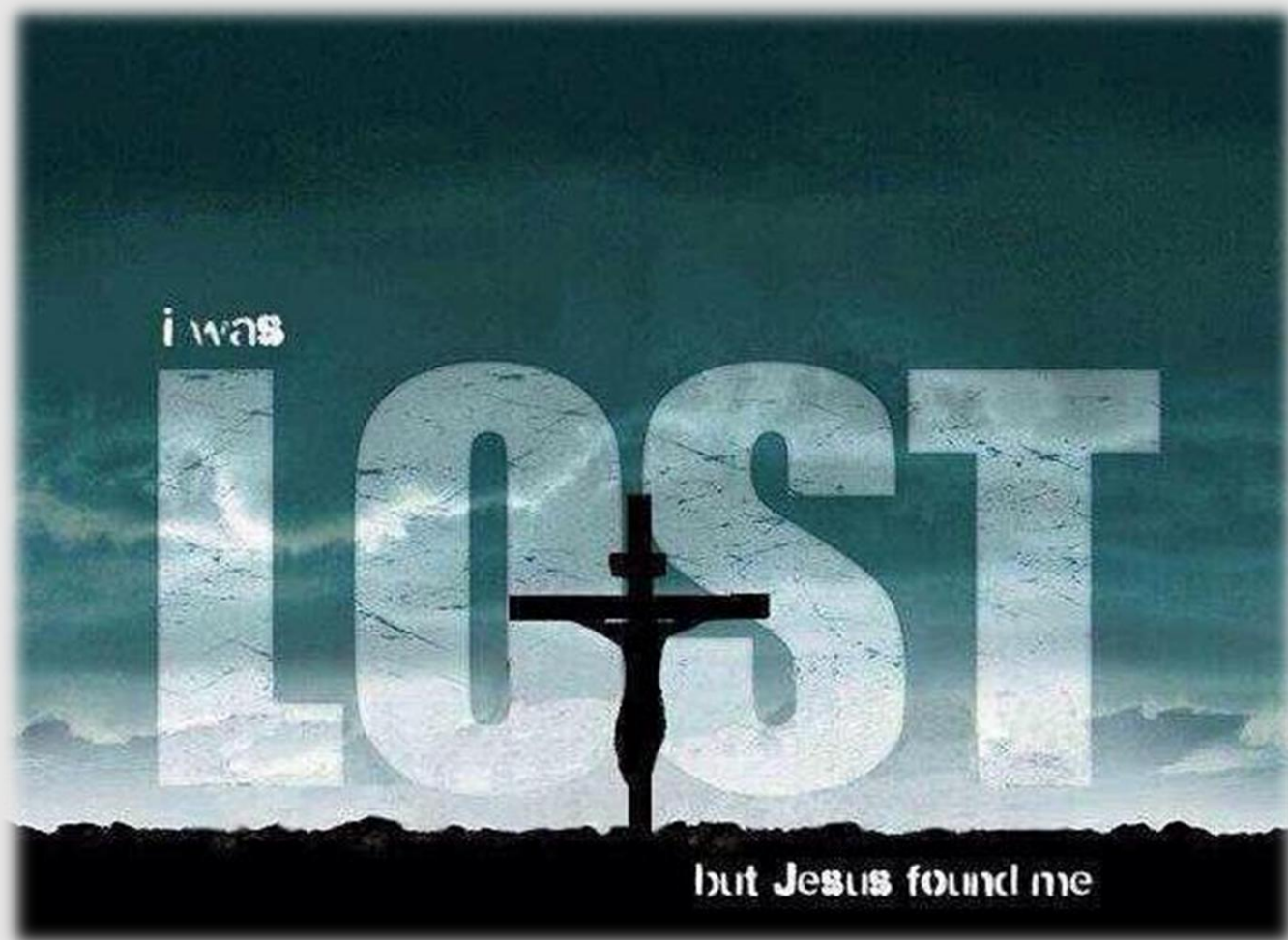
and also with you.



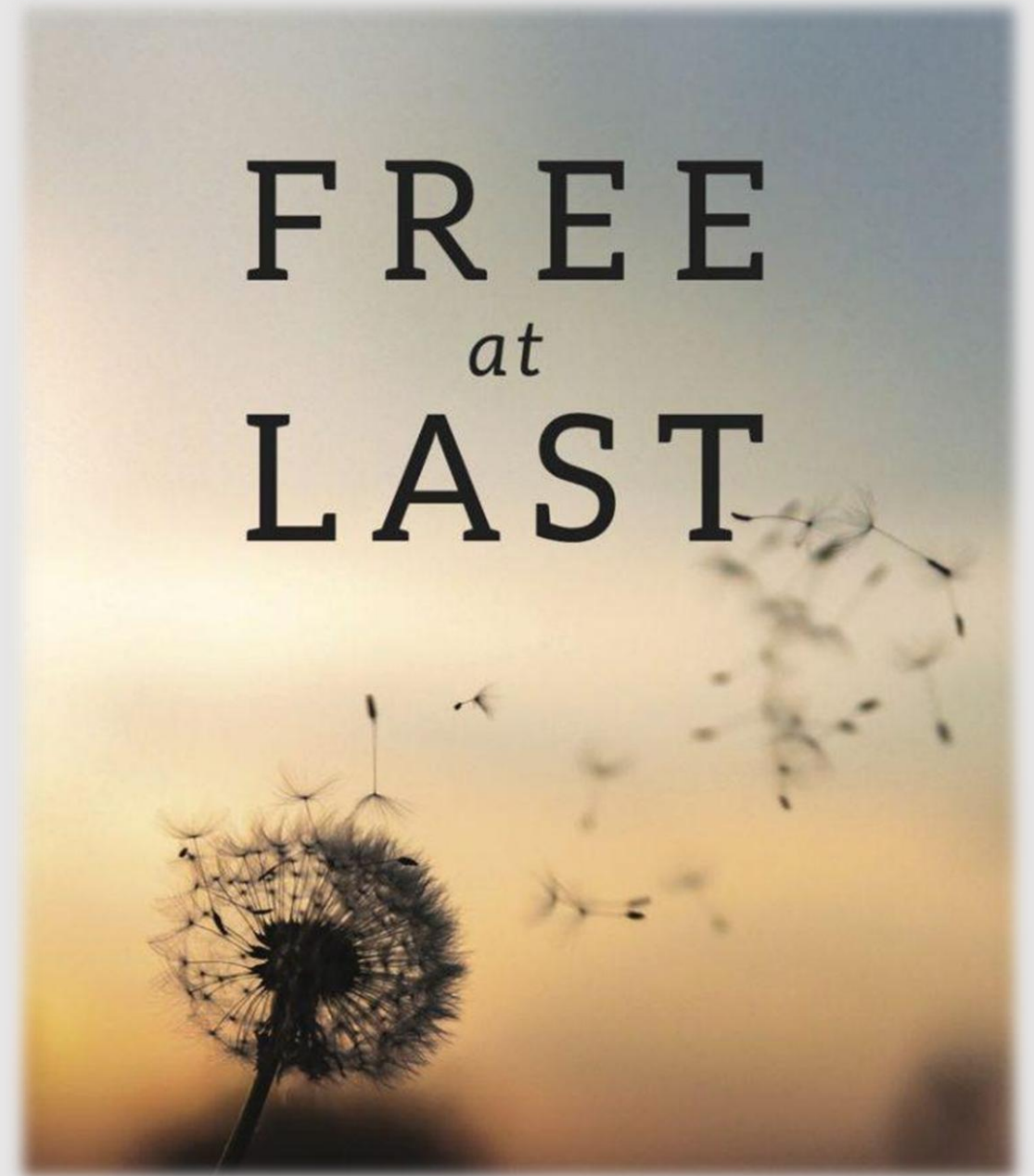
**1 Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?
I was lost, but he brought me in
Oh, his love for me
Oh, his love for me.**

Chorus 1

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God,
yes I am.**



**Free at last,
he has ransomed me
his grace runs deep,
while I was a slave to sin,
Jesus died for me
Yes, he died for me.**



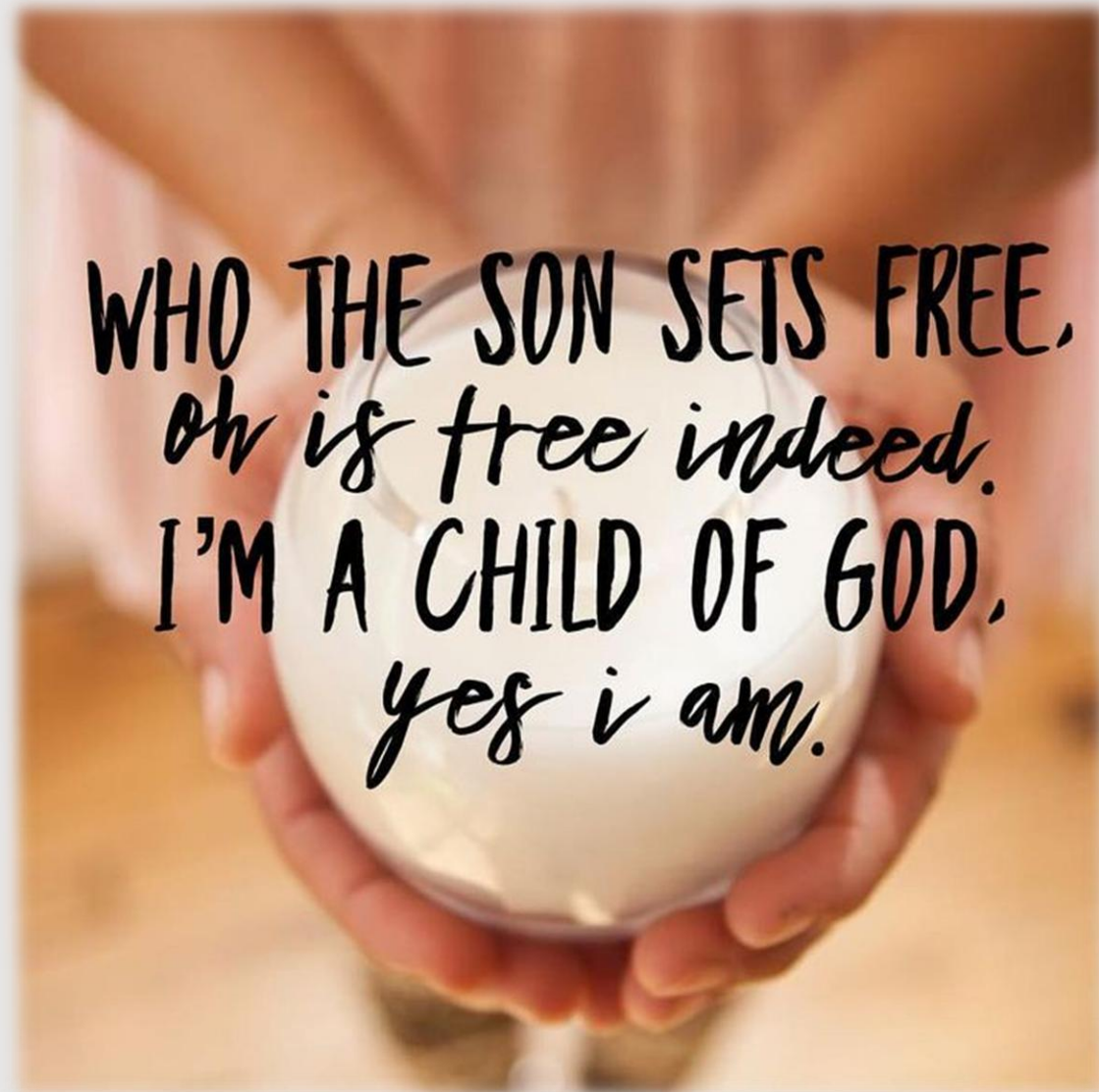
FREE
at
LAST

Chorus 1

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am**

Chorus 2

**In my Father's house
there's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am**



Bridge

**I am chosen,
not forsaken
I am who you
say I am (repeat)**

(Tag)

**Oh yes I am who
You say I am**



**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am**

Free Indeed

**In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am (repeat)**

The Holy Communion

The Lord is here

his Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

we lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

it is right to give God thanks and praise.



O God of mystery and promise,
you invite us to discover you in the intimate places
of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover
you within the complexities of our humanity.



You call us beyond ourselves
to places of imagination,
in the unending cycles of day and night,
seasons of life and death.



With all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.



Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you that in Jesus you make known to us
the wonder and richness of our humanity.

We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing
touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness.

Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity,
his flesh and blood with his friends.

As we do now what Jesus once did
let your Spirit move among us to settle on this
bread and this wine that they may become for us
the body and blood of Christ.



He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and said:



(together)

This is my body given for you.

Do this to remember me.

So too, after they had eaten, he took wine,
gave thanks for it and said:



(together)

**This is my blood, poured out in love for you.
Do this to remember me.**

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

Come now Spirit of God
and as we eat and drink these bodily things,
make us one body, food for the world,
one blood to be poured out for the life of all.
Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us
with longing for the new age of justice and peace.

We ask this through Jesus
who gave his body
that we might be one
and his blood that
we might find new life.

Amen



As Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**



Together we say:

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

This is the table, not of the church, but of our Lord.

It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come you who have much faith and you who have little.

With faith the
size of a...

NOTHING IS
IMPOSSIBLE.



Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is his will that those who want to know him
should meet him here.





Gathered Around the Table

[fed] + [forgiven]

Receiving the bread and wine

**¹ King of kings Majesty
God of heaven living in me
gentle Saviour closest friend
strong deliv'rer beginning and end
all within me falls at your throne**

Chorus

**Your Majesty I can but bow I lay my all before you now
in royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your Majesty**



**2 Earth and heav'n worship you
love eternal faithful and true
who bought the nations ransomed souls
brought this sinner near to your throne
all within me cries out in praise**

Chorus

**Your Majesty I can but bow I lay my all before you now
in royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your Majesty**

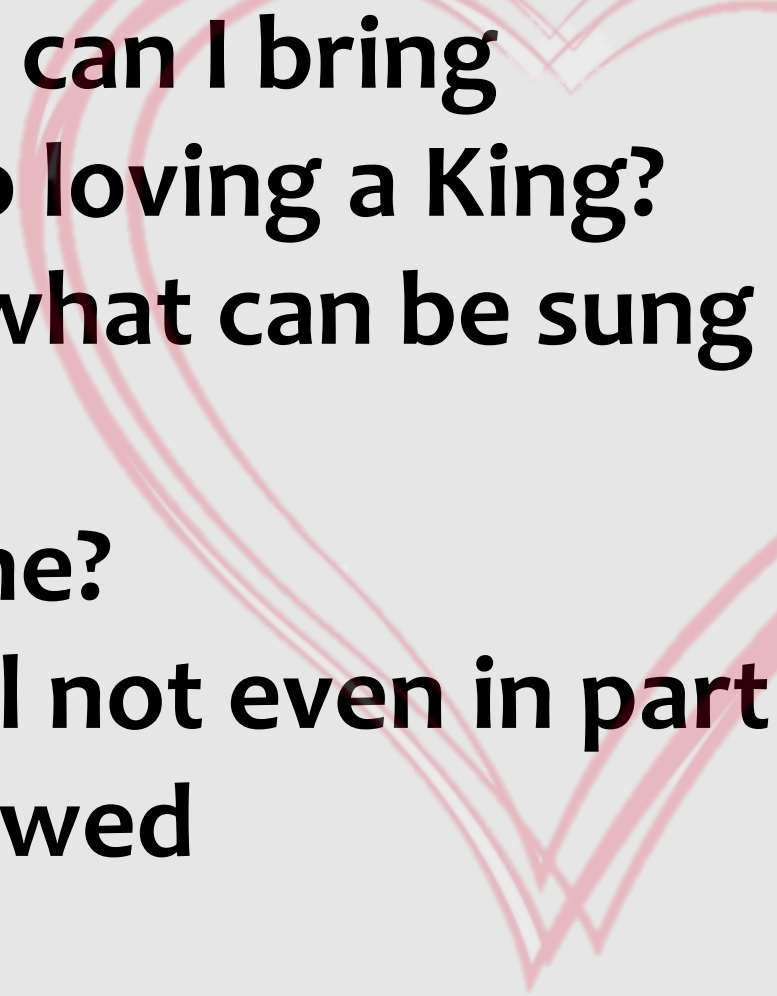


**¹I will offer up my life in spirit and truth
Pouring out the oil of love, as my worship to you.
In surrender I must give my every part
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.**



Chorus

**Jesus what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a Friend, to so loving a King?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of your name
for the things you have done?
Oh, my words could not tell not even in part
of the debt of love that is owed
by this thankful heart.**

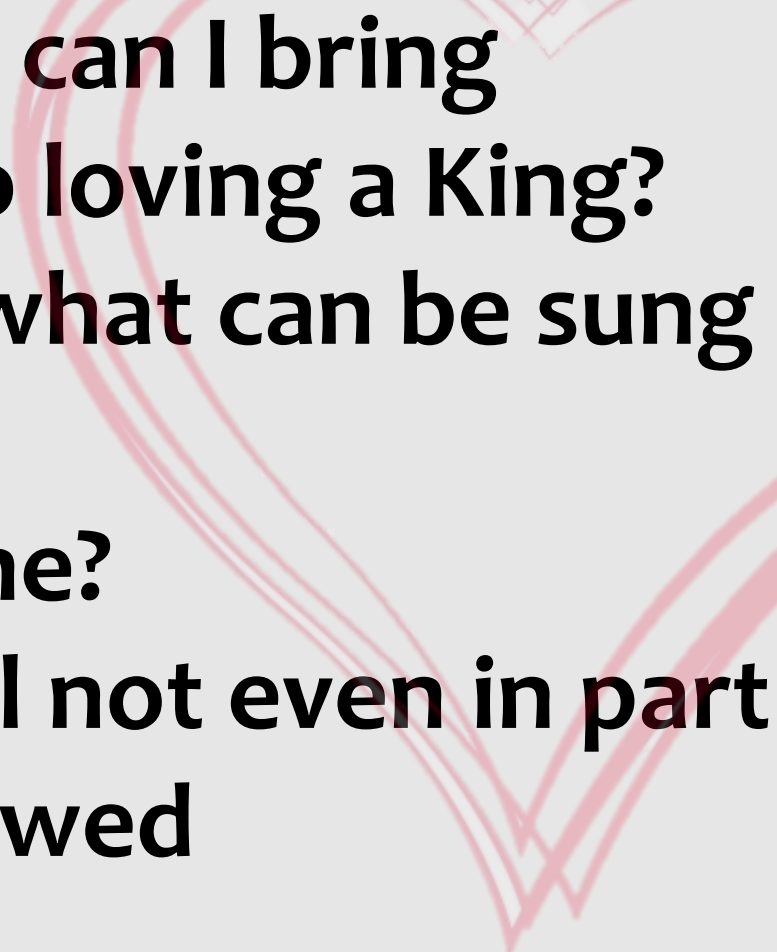


**2 You deserve my every breath
for you've paid the great cost
Giving up your life to death
even death on the cross.
You took all my shame away,
there defeated my sin
opened up the gates of heaven
and have beckoned me in.**

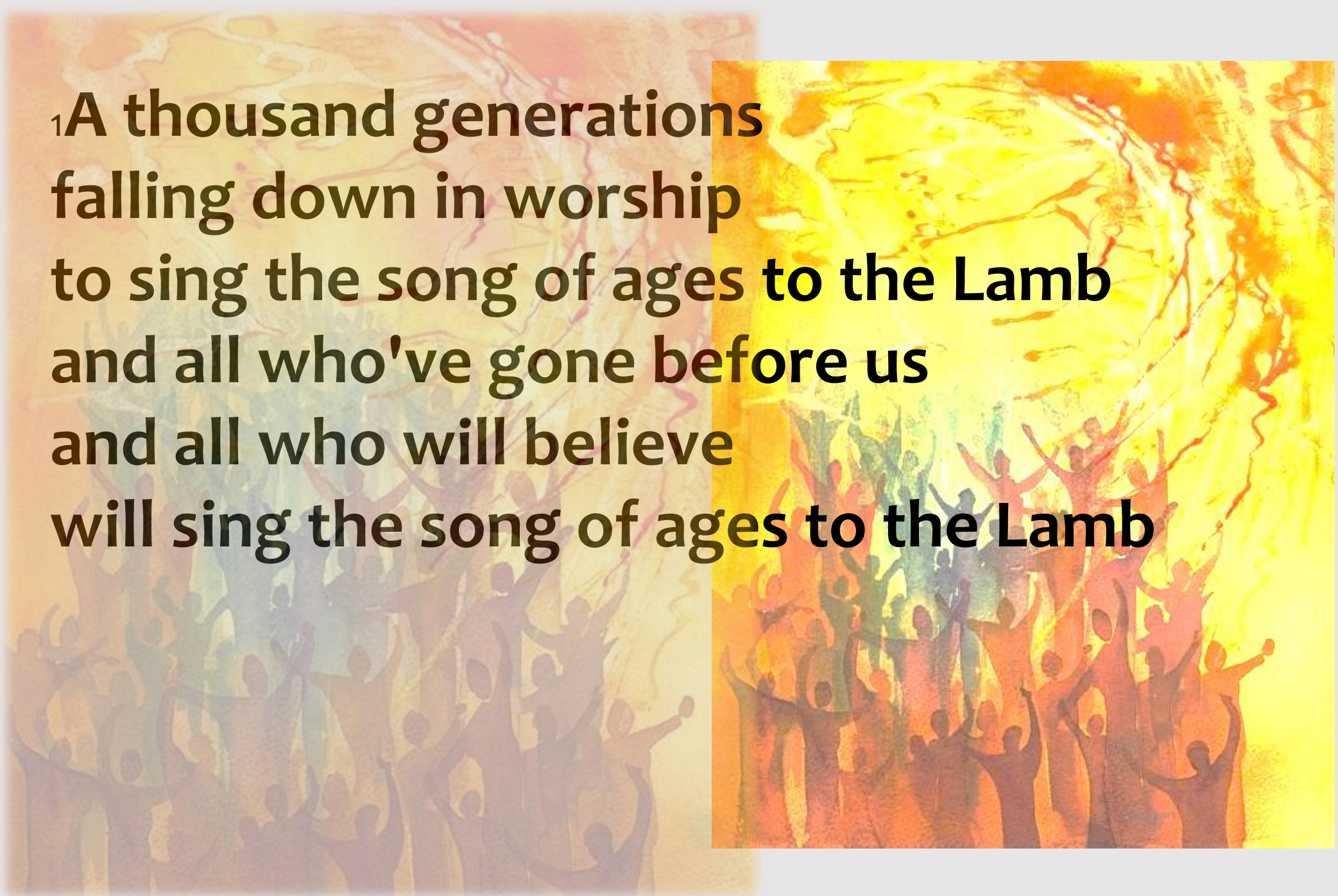


Chorus

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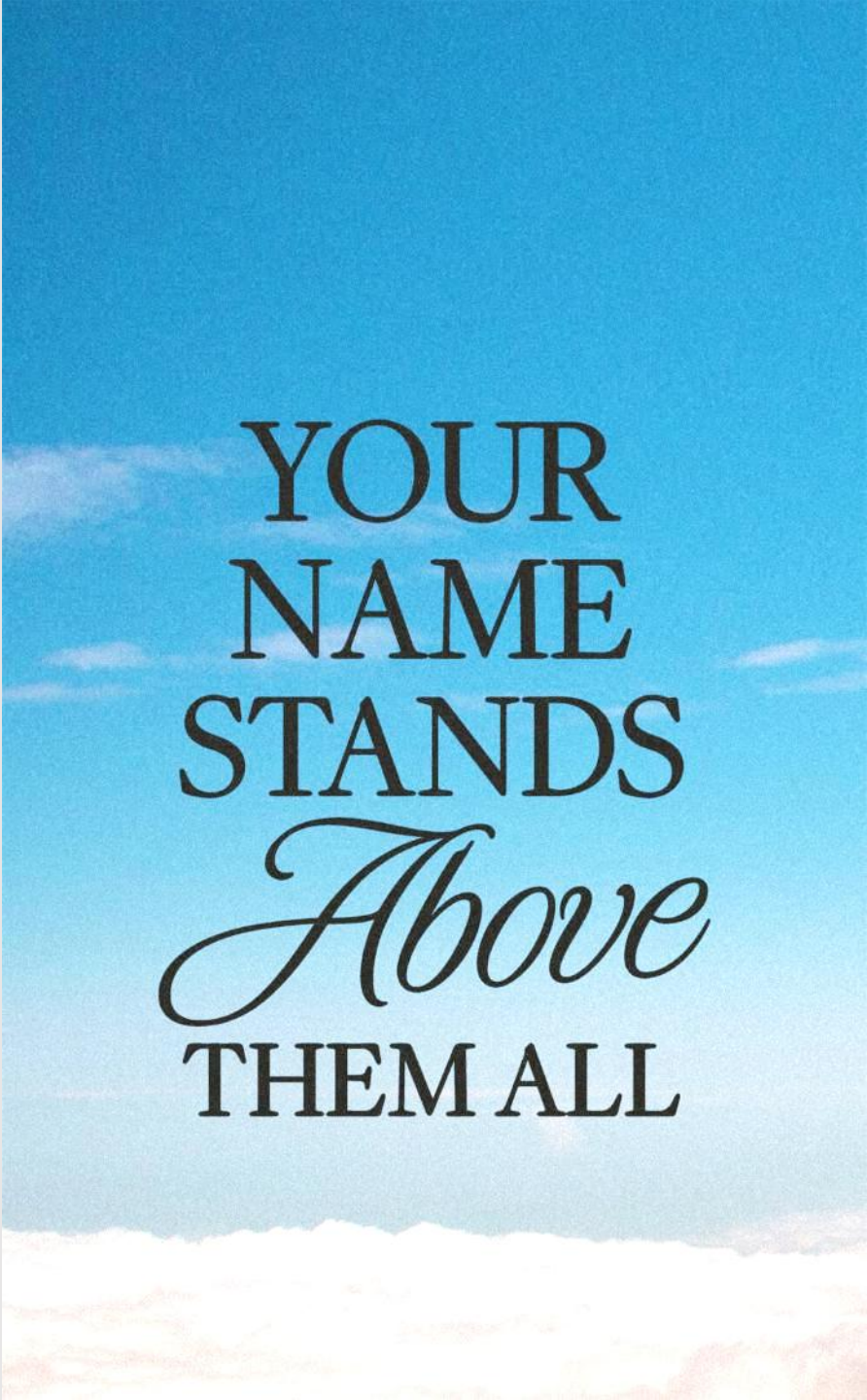


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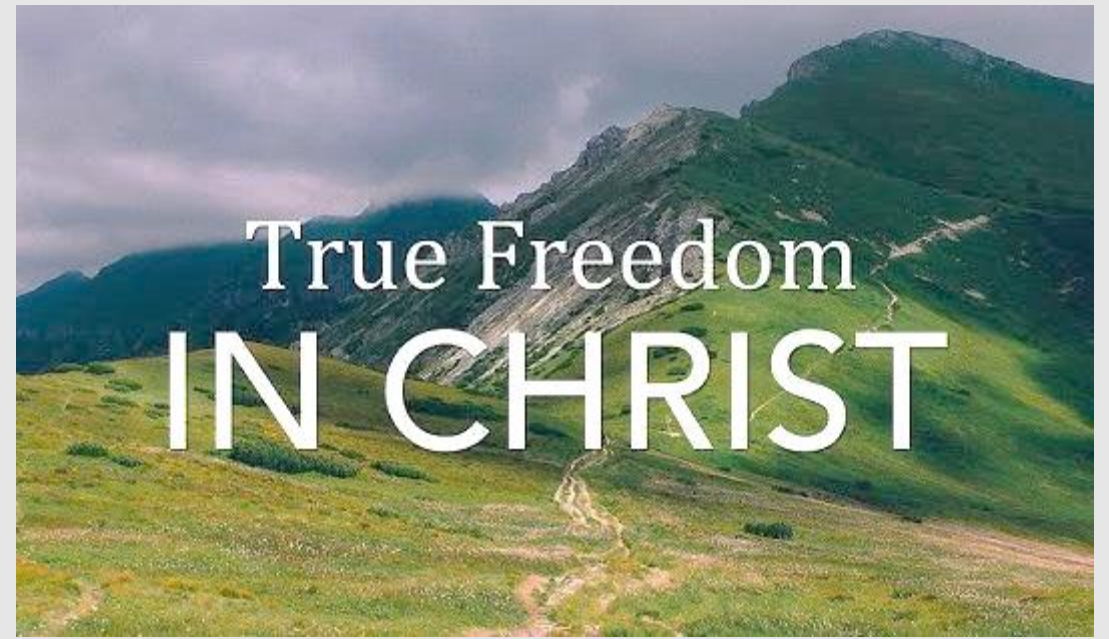


**YOUR
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Chorus 1

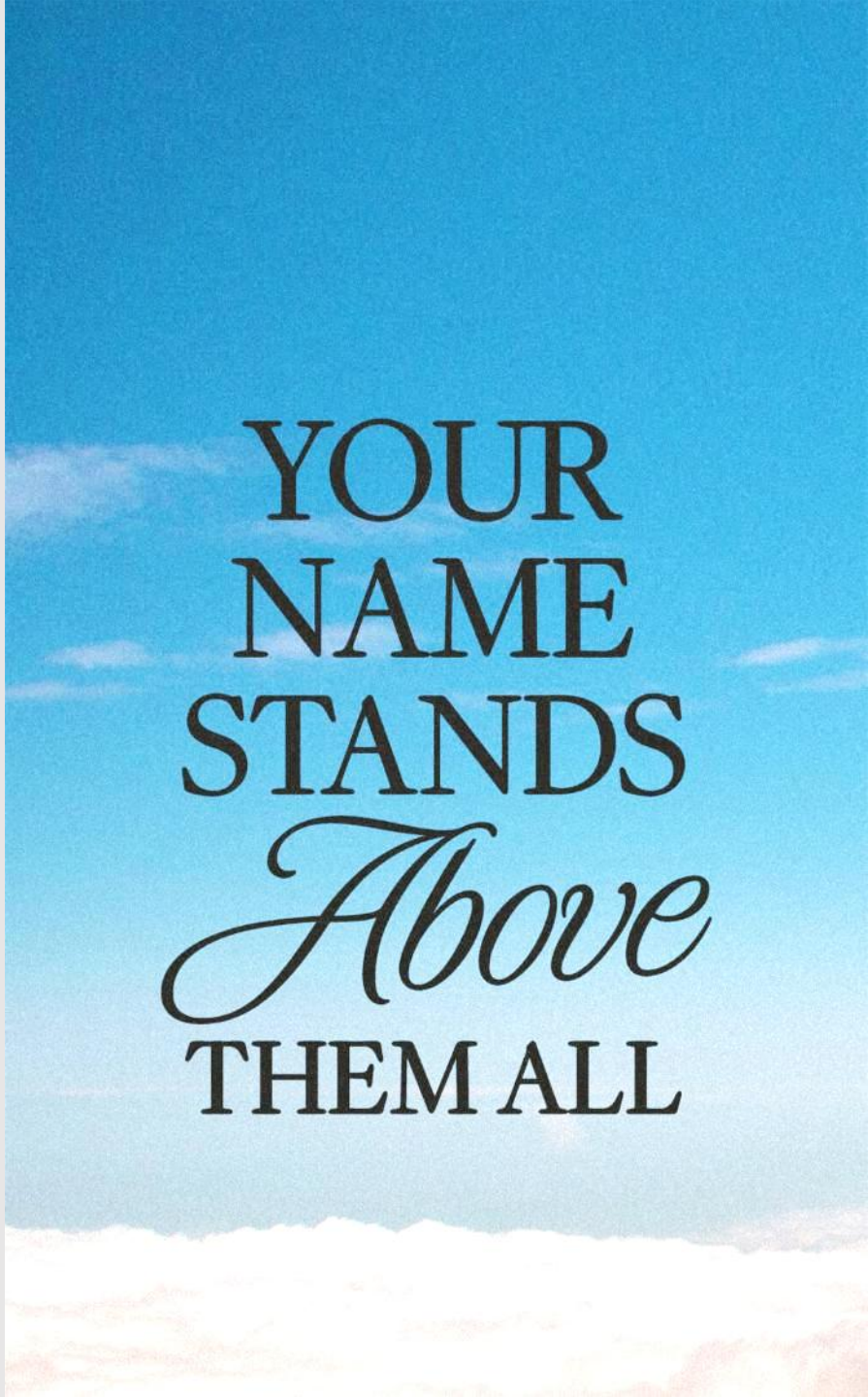
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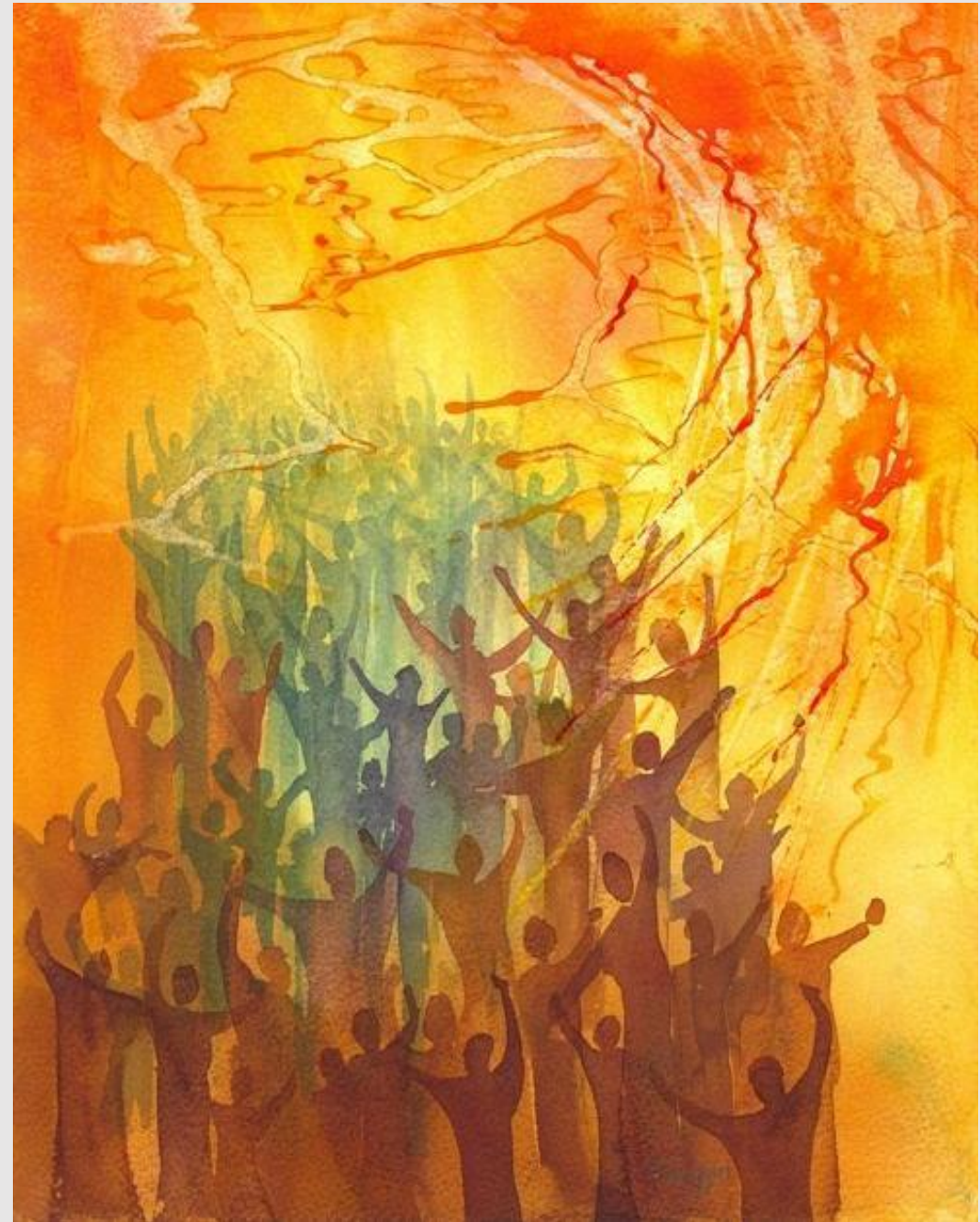
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Chorus 2

**Hear your people sing Holy
to the King of Kings Holy.
You will always be Holy
Holy forever.**

Tag

**You will always be Holy
Holy forever.**





Gathered Around the Table

[fed] + [forgiven]

Receiving the bread and wine

After communion:

Let us pray

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have
put your life into our hands
now we put our lives into yours.
Take us, renew us and remake us.
What we have been is past
what we shall be through you,
still awaits us.**

Lead us on. Take us with you.



Amen.

Now may the Spirit of God who brooded over the
waters and brought order out of chaos



find a home in our hearts and settle our minds
as we continue today and that tomorrow we may
wake and live to God's glory. **Amen.**

Family News

What is going on?



Generosity



Baptisms



Weddings



**Funerals and
Memorials**



**Culture &
Heritage**



Worship



**Leisure Facilities
and Events**

**GROWING IN
GENEROSITY**

**CHRIST CHURCH &
St. Mary
STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN 2025**

LIVE GENEROUSLY



THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIVING

Offer traditional services

- Including baptisms, weddings, and funerals, and more

Serve the Old Town community and parish

- local primary and secondary schools and lunch club, afternoon teas, walking groups etc

Maintain our two churches, community centre, and burial grounds

- Provide education, leisure, and social activities, community services, concerts, and events.

Support fellow Anglican churches in the Bristol Diocese

- with a Parish Share donation.

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

> THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

The Parish Giving Scheme via direct debit is our preferred method of regular giving as it greatly reduces our administration, improves cashflow and helps us to budget and plan ahead:

www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/swindon-christchurch-st-mary-swindon/



please scan me

**Parish Giving
Scheme**

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/>

On-line

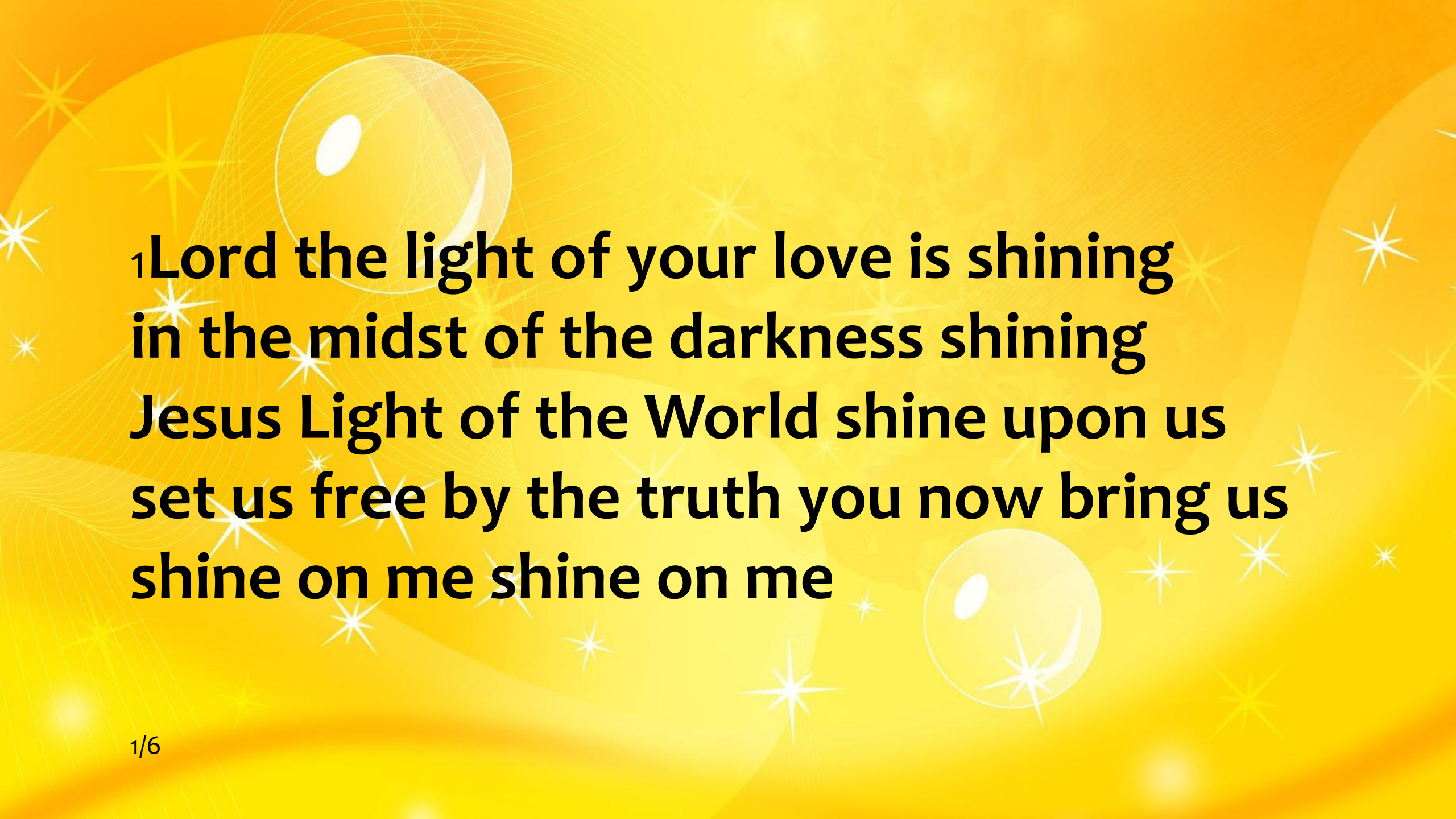
<https://donate.justgiving.com/>

Contactless

Church Entrance

Cash

Collection Plate



**¹Lord the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
set us free by the truth you now bring us
shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
fill this land with the Father's glory
blaze Spirit blaze
set our hearts on fire
flow river flow
flood the nations with grace and mercy
send forth your word
Lord and let there be light**

**2 Lord I come to your awesome presence
from the shadows into your radiance
by the blood I may enter your brightness
search me try me consume all my darkness
shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
fill this land with the Father's glory
blaze Spirit blaze
set our hearts on fire
flow river flow
flood the nations with grace and mercy
send forth your word
Lord and let there be light**

**3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness
ever changing from glory to glory
mirrored here may our lives tell your story
shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
fill this land with the Father's glory
blaze Spirit blaze
set our hearts on fire
flow river flow
flood the nations with grace and mercy
send forth your word
Lord and let there be light**

Go out into the world in peace, have courage
hold on to what is good,
return no one evil for evil
strengthen the faint hearted,
support the weak, help the suffering,
honour everyone, love and serve God
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

The Blessing

With the risen life of
Christ within you,
go in the peace of
Christ.

Thanks be to God.

