

Sunday 15th March 2026

Christ Church with St Mary's

Service of Holy Communion

Theme: Mothering Sunday
Lent 4

We say together the words in **bold**





The Lord be with you

and also with you.



Parish Bible verse
2025 - 2026

**Love never wrongs
anyone- hence love
is the fulfilment
of the law.**

Romans 13:10

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

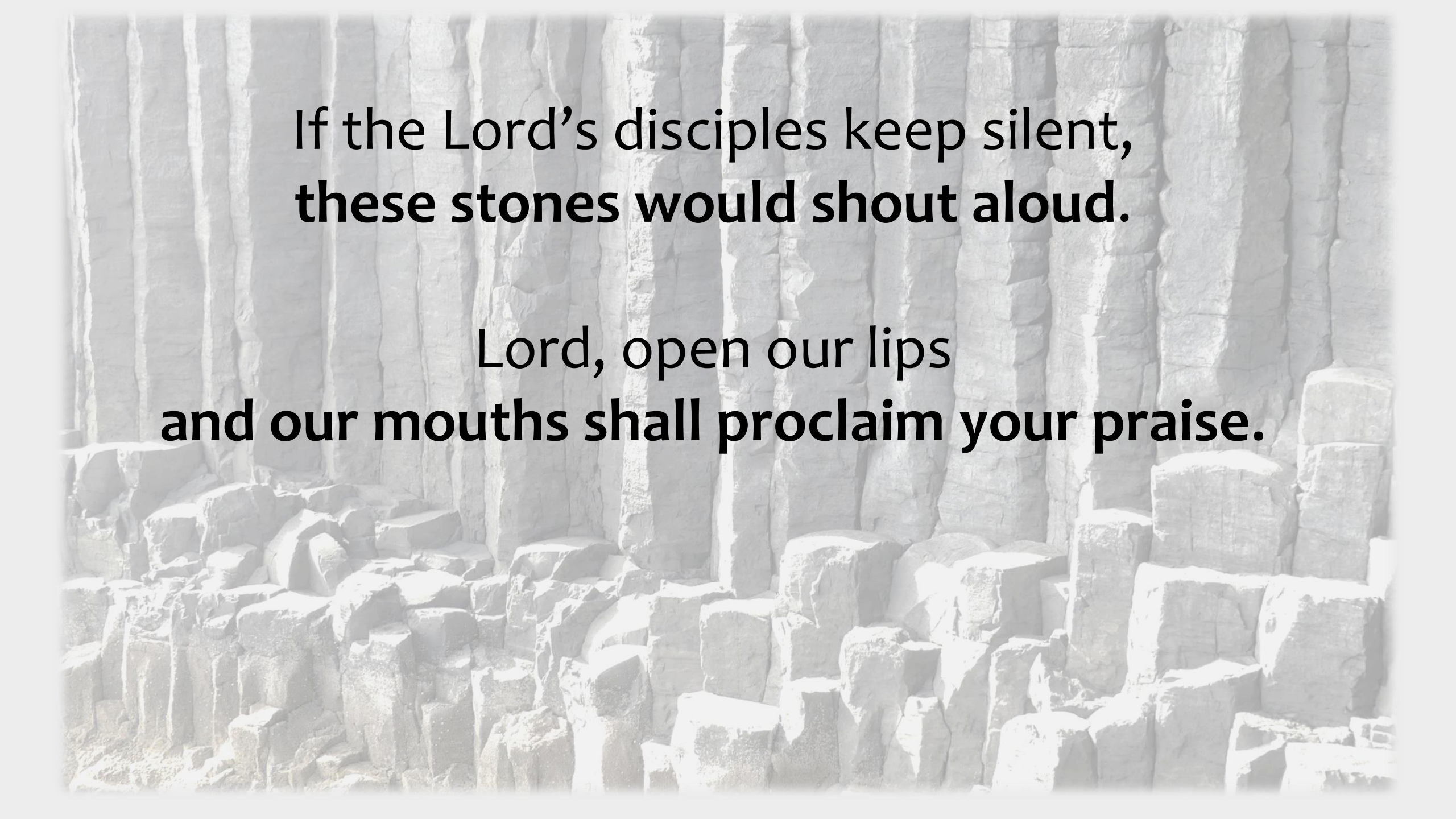
Opening Sentences

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.

**1 In 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

Mothering Sunday



Children's talk – 'Why? ... because she loves you'



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



Colossians 3 : 12 - 17

This is the word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God



**All my days I will sing this song of gladness
give my praise to the Fountain of delights
for in my helplessness you heard my cry
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.**





**2 I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer
I will sing of the blood that never fails
of sins forgiven of conscience cleansed
of death defeated and life without end.**

Chorus

**Beautiful Saviour wonderful Counsellor
clothed in majesty Lord of history
you're the way the truth the life
Star of the morning glorious in holiness
you're the Risen One heaven's champion
and you reign you reign over all.**





**3 I long to be where the praise is never-ending
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades
where countless worshippers will share one song
and cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb.**

Chorus

**Beautiful Saviour wonderful Counsellor
clothed in majesty Lord of history
you're the way the truth the life
Star of the morning glorious in holiness
you're the Risen One heaven's champion
and you reign you reign over all.**



John 19 : 25b - 27

This is the word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God





Sermon- 'The Mother Heart of God'

Prayers



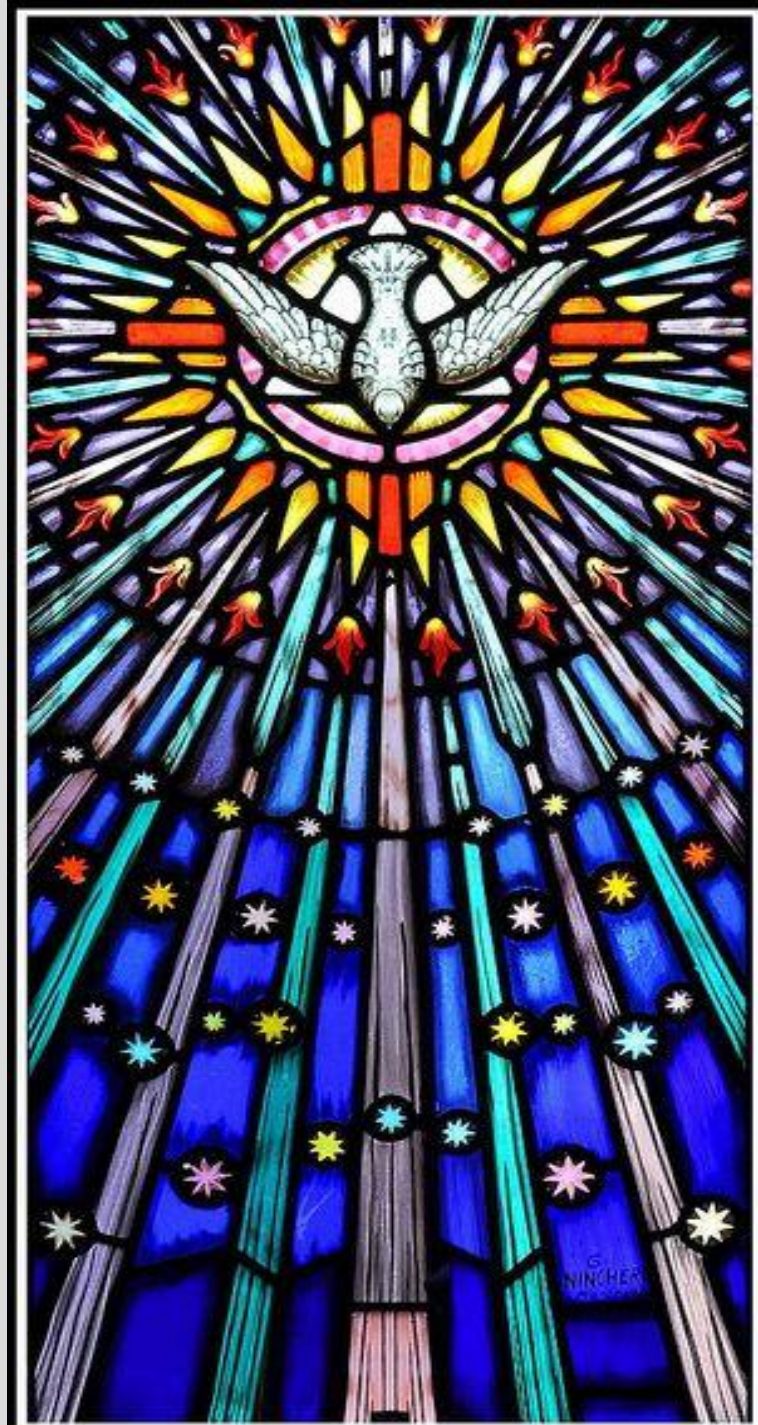
Final Response

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

The Peace

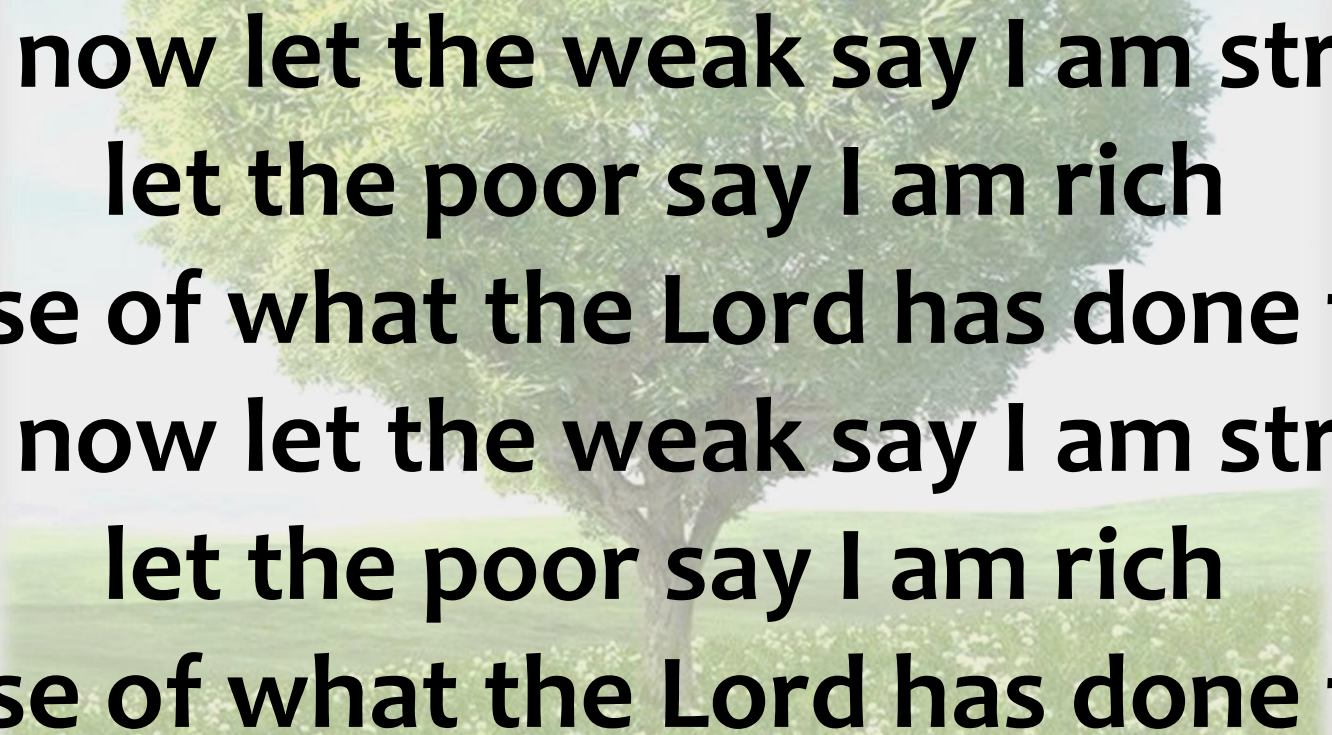
The peace of the Lord
be always with you

and also with you.



**1 Give thanks with a grateful heart
give thanks to the Holy One
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ his Son.**

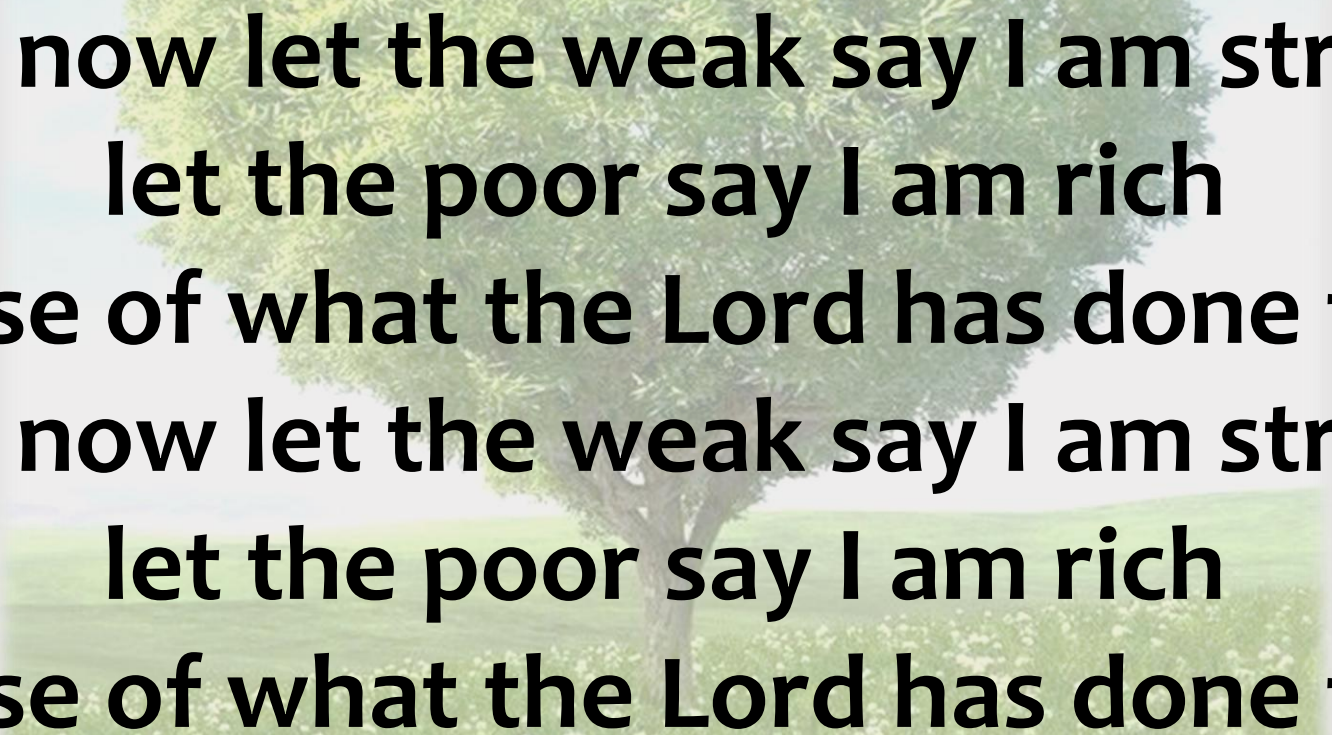




**And now let the weak say I am strong
let the poor say I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say I am strong
let the poor say I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us.**

**1 Give thanks with a grateful heart
give thanks to the Holy One
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ his Son.**





**And now let the weak say I am strong
let the poor say I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say I am strong
let the poor say I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us.**

The Communion Prayer

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.

Matthew 17:20



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



Receiving
the
bread and wine



I AM
THE BREAD OF
life



**Be still, my soul, when battles are fought
Be still and know when peace has come**

Chorus 1

**Find me in the river
In the abundance of his love
In the fullness of his pro- mi - ses
Be still, my - soul, be still - and know**



**Be still, my soul, when kingdoms fall
Be still and know when vict'ry's won**

Chorus 2

**Find me in the river
In the abundance of his love
In the fullness of his pro- mi - ses
Be still, my soul, be still and know
he is God he is God he is God.**

Bridge

**Be exalted, be exalted
Be exalted in all the earth**

**Find me in the river
In the abundance of his love
In the fullness of his pro- mi - ses
Be still, my soul, be still and know
Be still, my soul, be still and know
he is God, he is God (Repeat as desired)**

**1 O let the Son of God enfold you
with his Spirit and his love
let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**





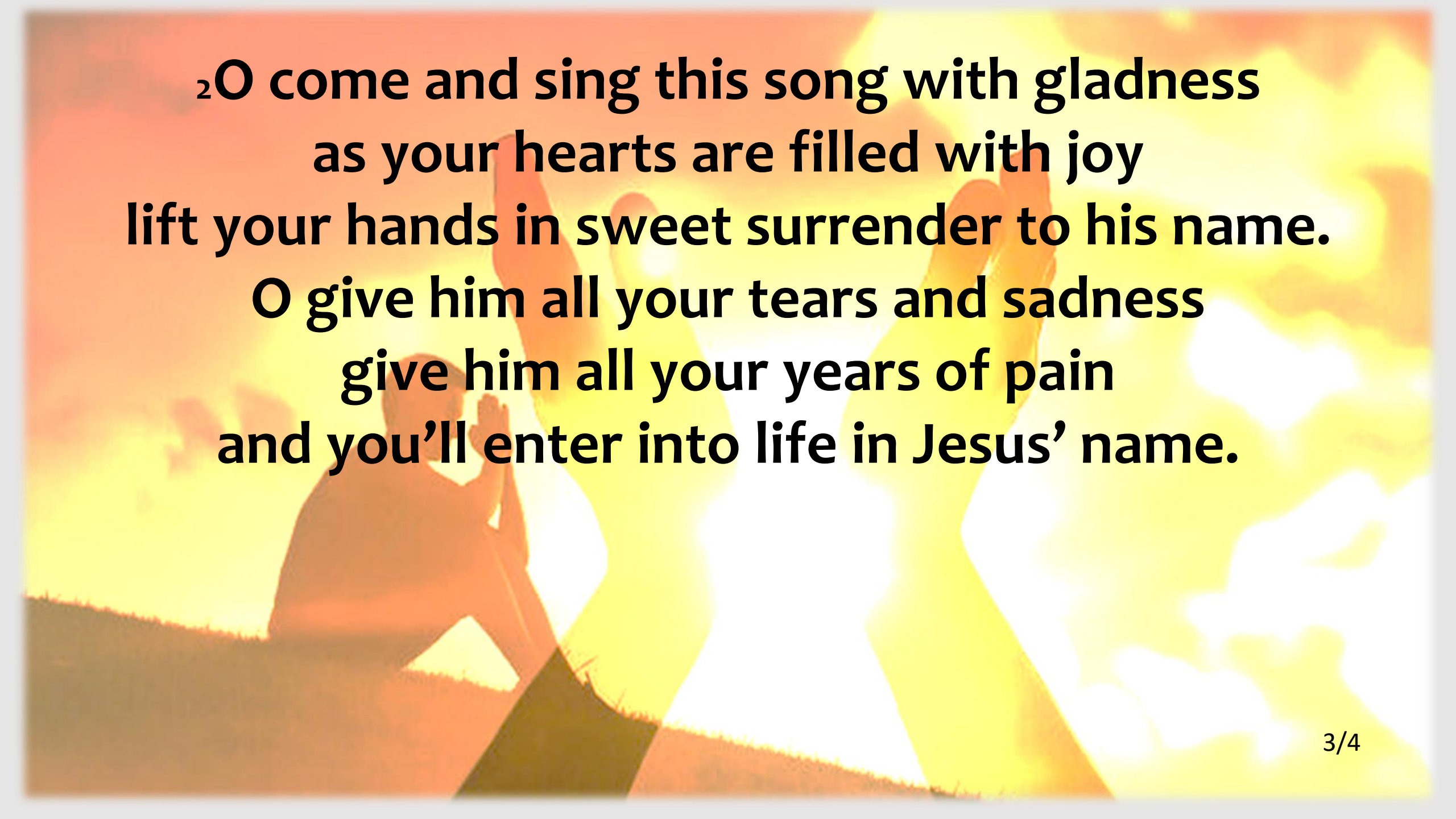
THE
HOLY SPIRIT

IS GOD'S POWER RIGHT INSIDE OF YOU!

Chorus

**Jesus, O Jesus
come and fill your lambs.**

**Jesus, O Jesus
come and fill your lambs.**



**2 O come and sing this song with gladness
as your hearts are filled with joy
lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness
give him all your years of pain
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.**



THE
HOLY SPIRIT

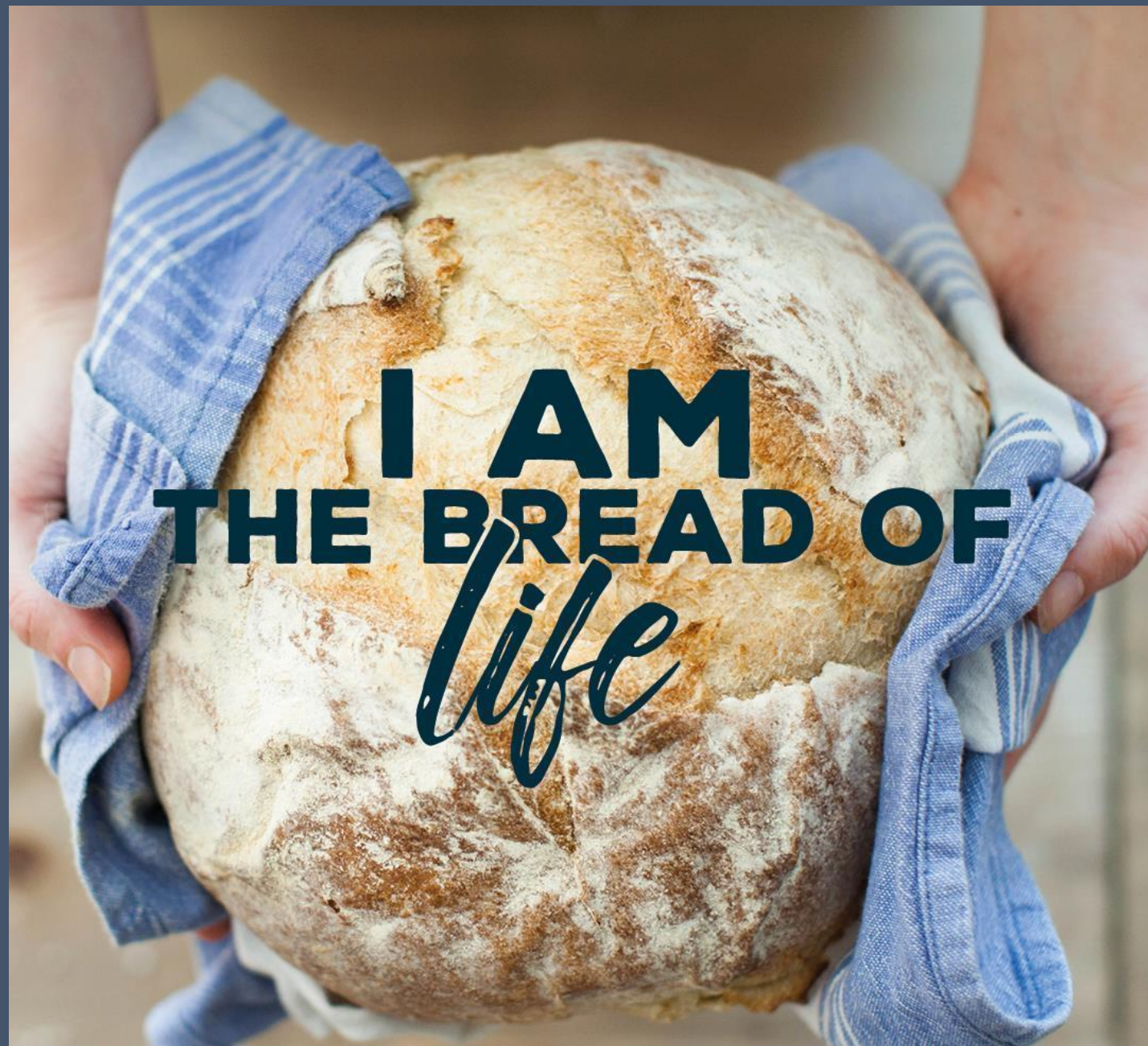
IS GOD'S POWER RIGHT INSIDE OF YOU!

Chorus

**Jesus, O Jesus
come and fill your lambs.**

**Jesus, O Jesus
come and fill your lambs.**

Receiving
the
bread and wine



I AM
THE BREAD OF
life

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.

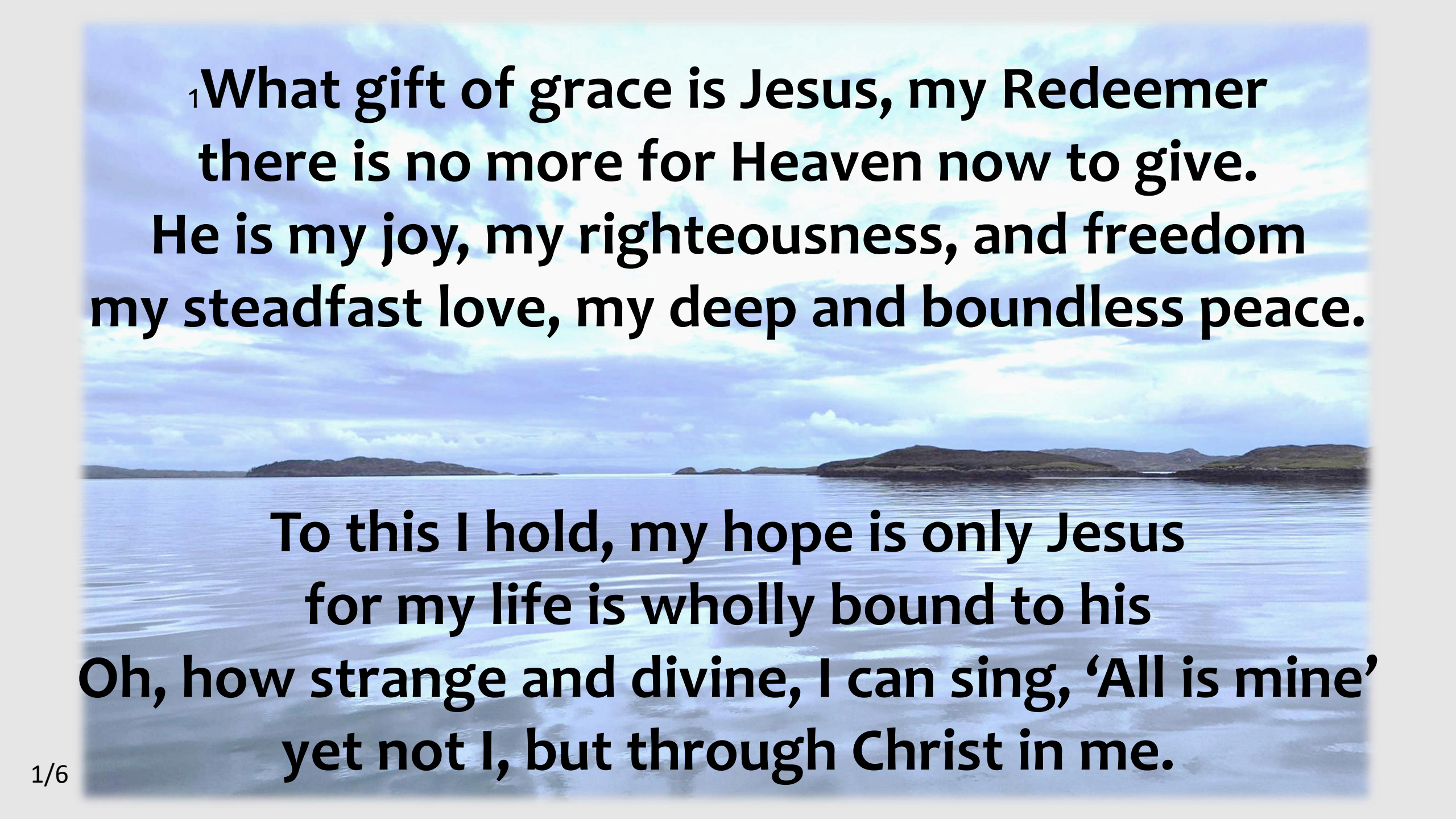
Family News

God's work-
our hands



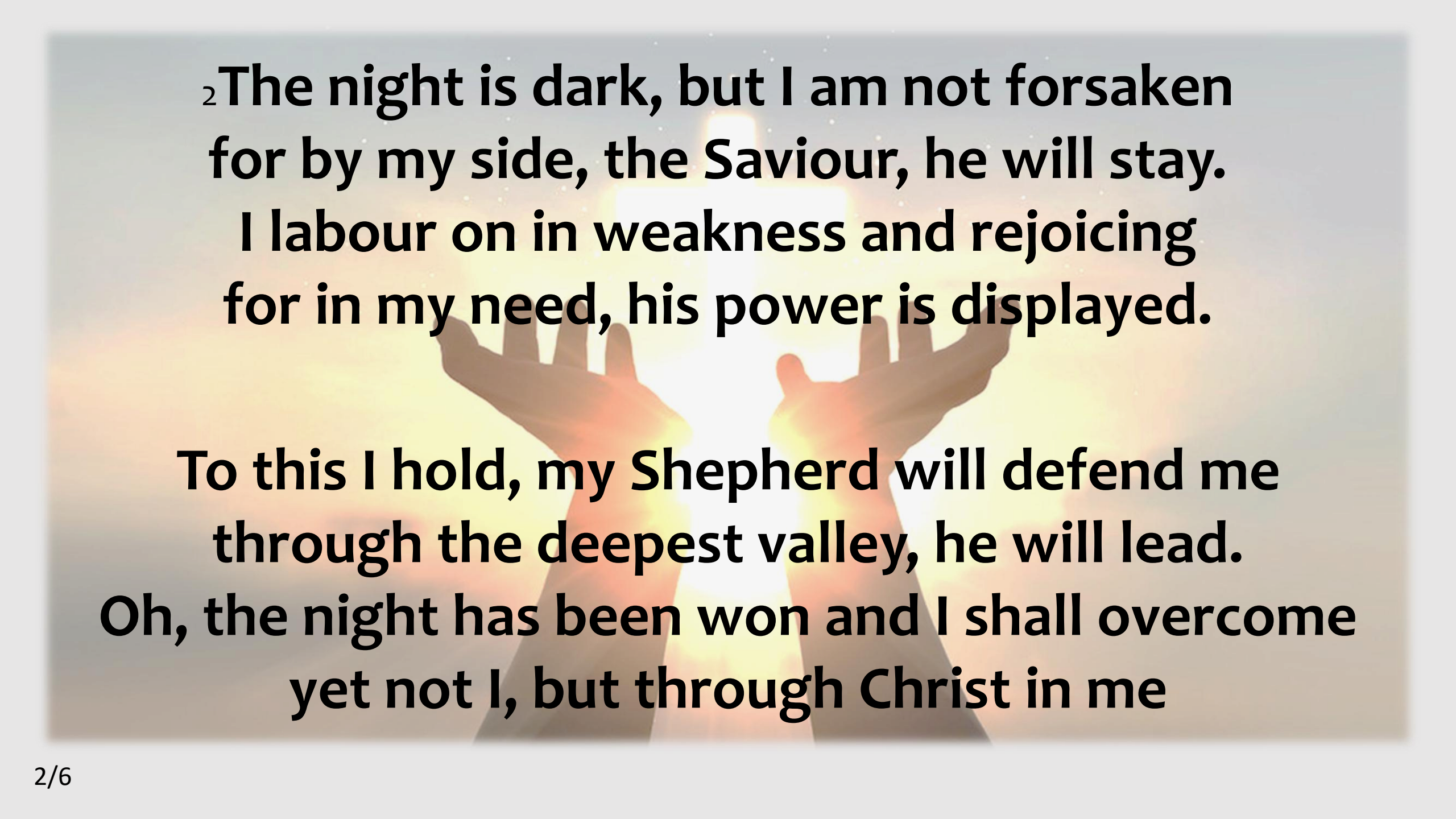


The distribution of daffodils will take place as we sing our final song



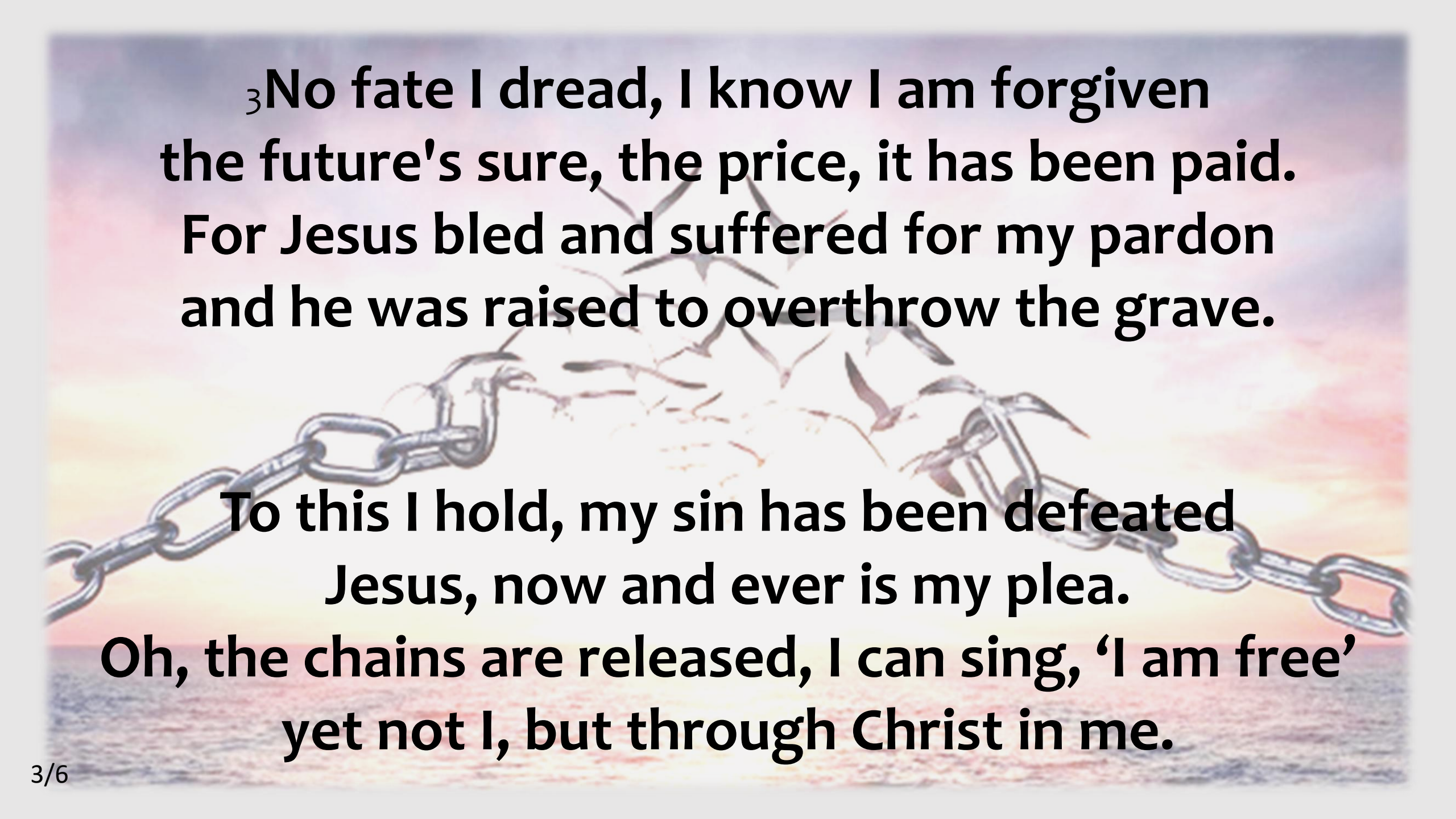
**1 What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
there is no more for Heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.**

**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
for my life is wholly bound to his
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing, 'All is mine'
yet not I, but through Christ in me.**



**2 The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
for by my side, the Saviour, he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
for in my need, his power is displayed.**

**To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
through the deepest valley, he will lead.
Oh, the night has been won and I shall overcome
yet not I, but through Christ in me**



**₃ No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
the future's sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
and he was raised to overthrow the grave.**

**To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus, now and ever is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing, 'I am free'
yet not I, but through Christ in me.**

**4 With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
for he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day, I know he will renew me
until I stand with joy before the throne.**



**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
all the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’.**

(repeat)



Ending

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat

‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’

‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’

‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’

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

