

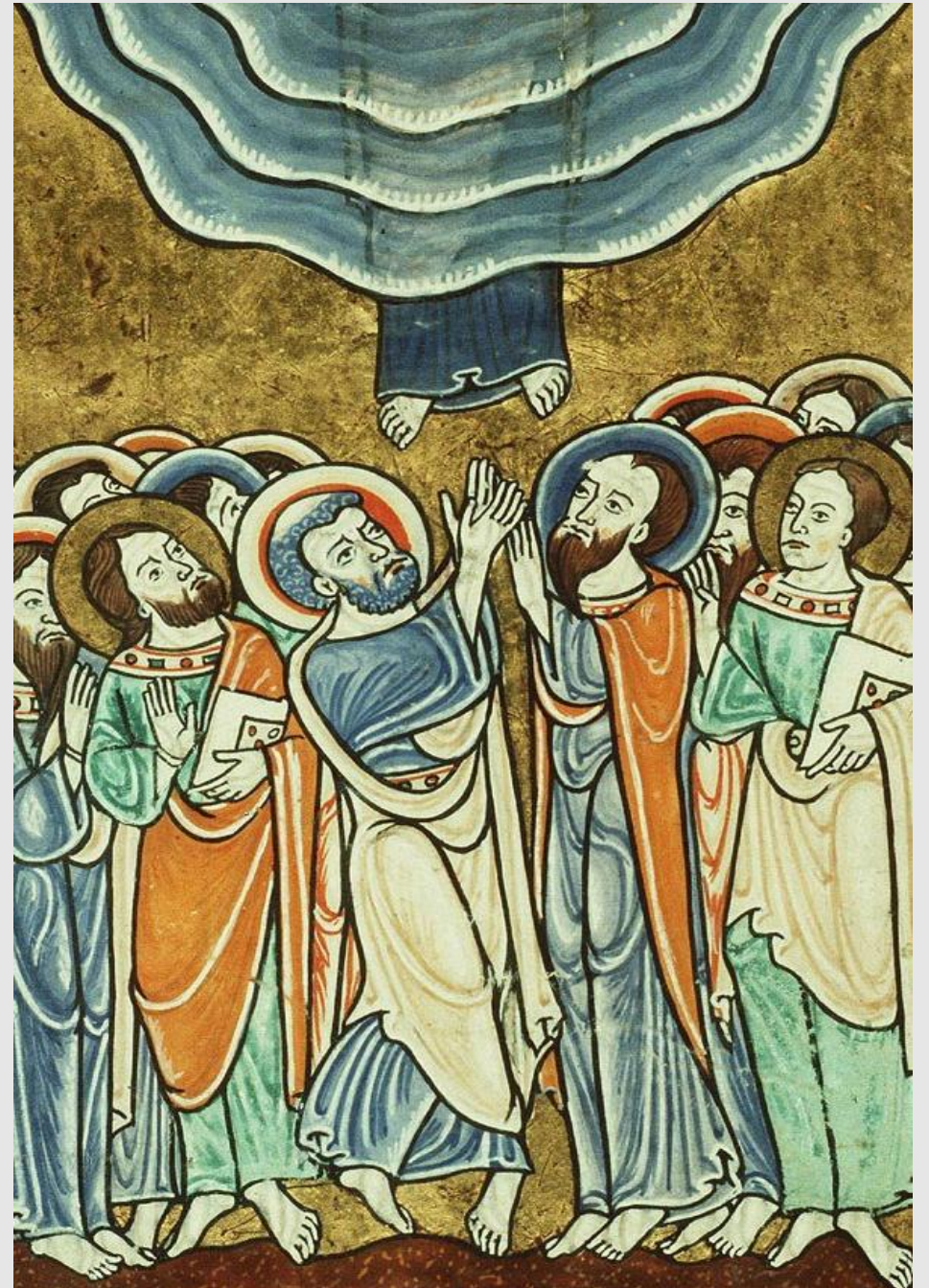
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Christ Church with St Mary's**

**Service of Holy Communion**

**Theme: The disciples on  
Ascension Day**

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**

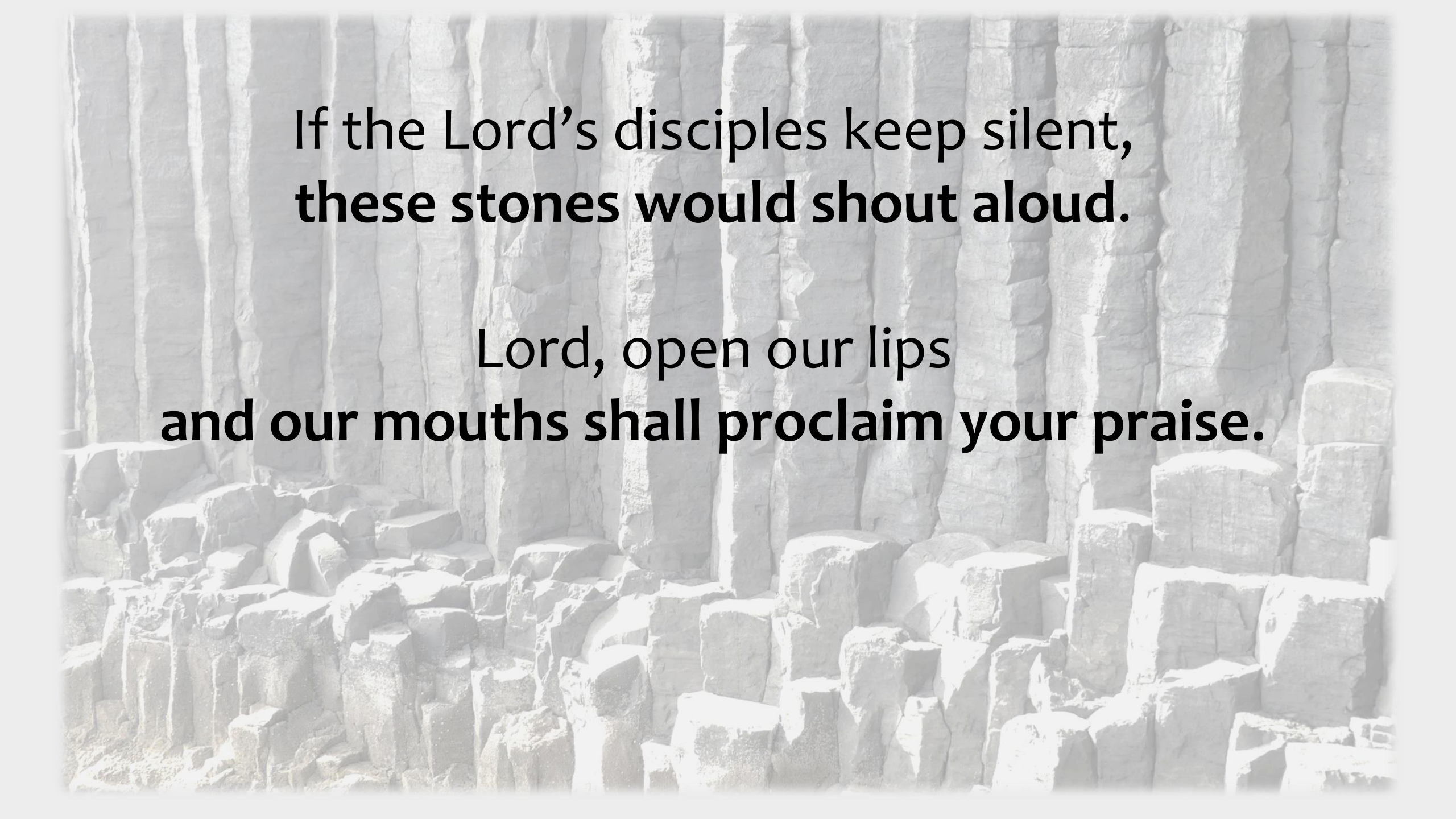
Opening Sentences

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.**



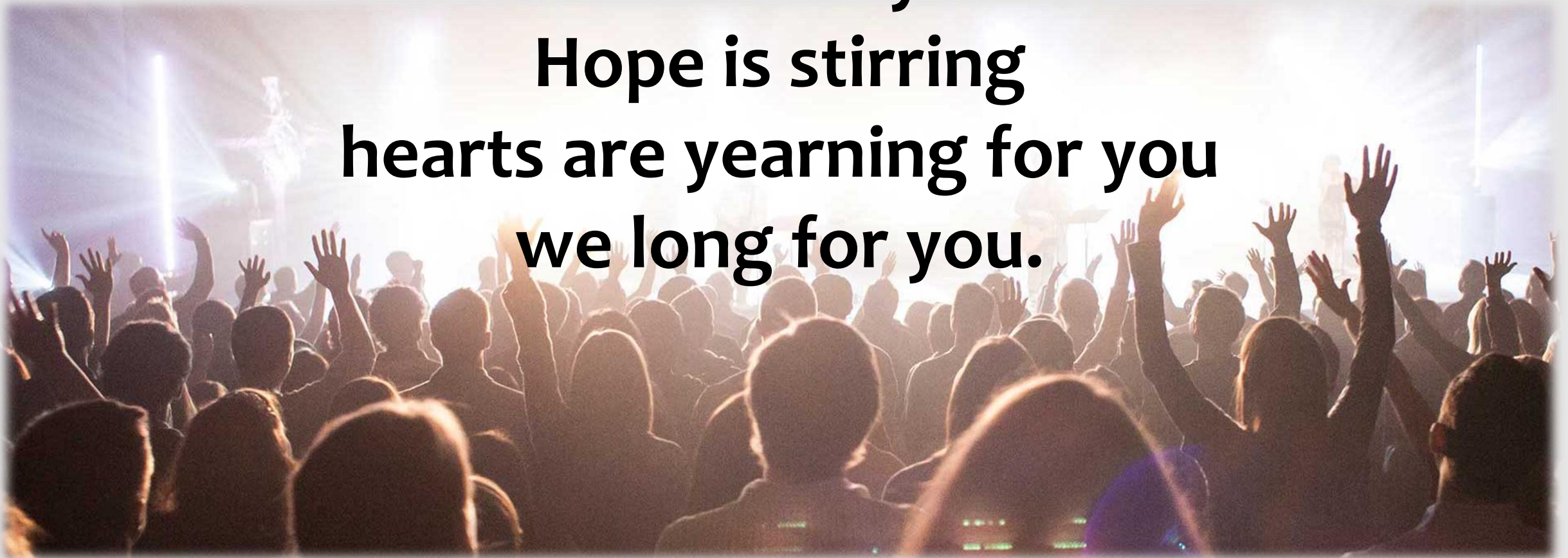


If the Lord's disciples keep silent,  
**these stones would shout aloud.**

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

**1 Praise is rising  
eyes are turning to you  
we turn to you.**

**Hope is stirring  
hearts are yearning for you  
we long for you.**





Pre-Chorus

**'Cause when we see you  
we find strength to face the day  
in your presence  
all our fears are washed away  
(washed away)**

Chorus

**Hosanna hosanna  
you are the God who saves us  
worthy of all our praises  
hosanna hosanna  
come have your way among us  
we welcome you here Lord Jesus**



**2 Hear the sound of  
hearts returning to you  
we turn to you.  
In your Kingdom  
broken lives are made new  
you make us new.**





Pre-Chorus

**'Cause when we see you  
we find strength to face the day  
in your presence  
all our fears are washed away  
(washed away)**

Chorus

**Hosanna hosanna  
you are the God who saves us  
worthy of all our praises  
hosanna hosanna  
come have your way among us  
we welcome you here Lord Jesus**

Ending

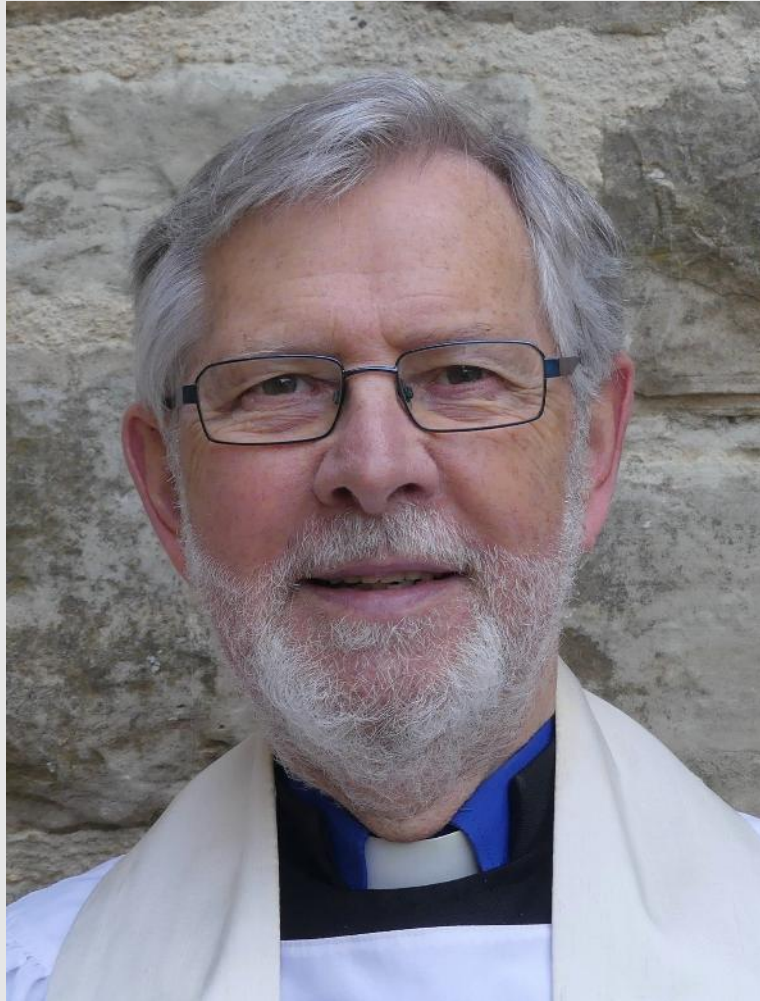
**Hosanna hosanna**





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Offertory  
and  
thankyou  
prayer



Children's talk – 'The disciples on Ascension Day'



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**



Acts 1 : 6 - 14

This is the word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God**



John 17 : 1 - 11

This is the word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God**





Sermon- 'The disciples on Ascension Day'

# Prayers



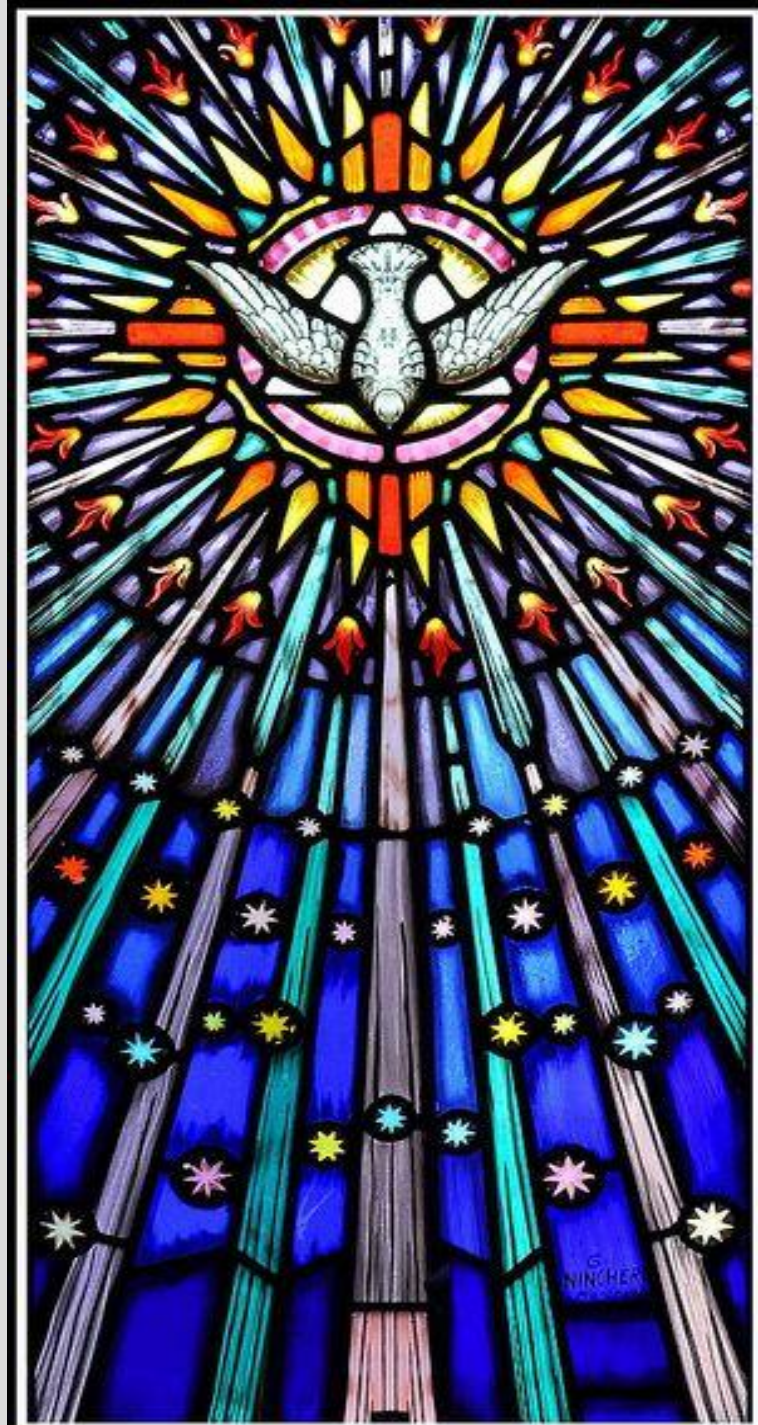
Final Response

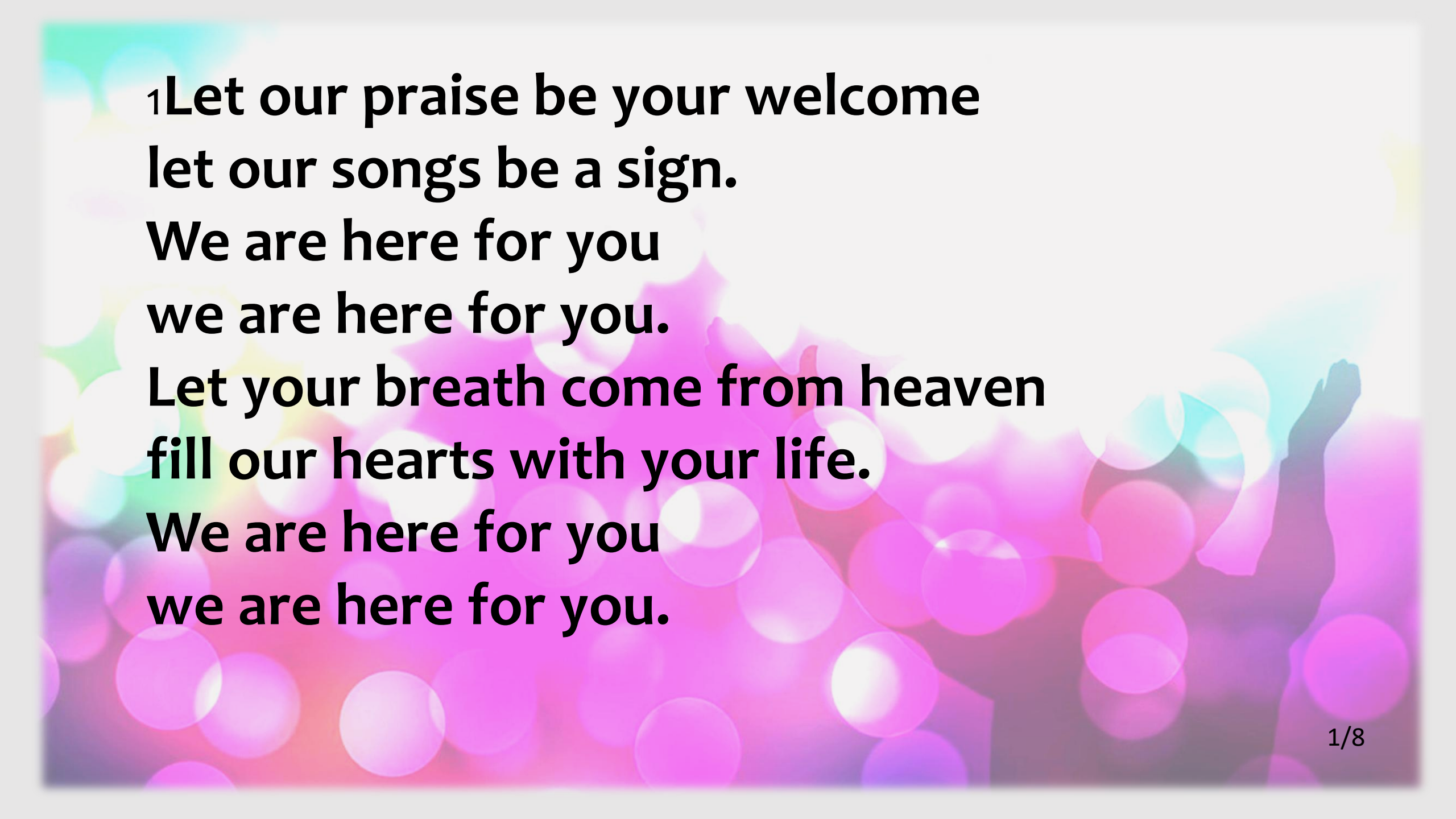
**Merciful Father - Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

# The Peace

The peace of the Lord  
be always with you

**and also with you.**





**1 Let our praise be your welcome  
let our songs be a sign.  
We are here for you  
we are here for you.  
Let your breath come from heaven  
fill our hearts with your life.  
We are here for you  
we are here for you.**

The background is a gradient of light blue and purple, featuring several glowing, translucent hearts of various sizes. Some hearts are larger and more prominent, while others are smaller and more subtle. The scene is filled with soft, out-of-focus light spots, creating a dreamy and ethereal atmosphere.

Chorus

**To you our hearts are open  
nothing here is hidden.  
You are our one desire  
you alone are holy,  
only you are worthy.  
God let your fire fall down.**

**Let our shout be your anthem  
your renown fill the sky.**

**We are here for you  
we are here for you.**

**Let your Word move in power  
let what's dead come to life.**

**We are here for you  
we are here for you.**

The background is a gradient of light blue and purple, featuring several glowing, translucent hearts of various sizes. Some hearts are larger and more prominent, while others are smaller and more subtle. The hearts have a shimmering, iridescent quality. Scattered throughout the background are numerous small, bright white and blue light particles, giving the overall scene a magical and ethereal feel.

Chorus

**To you our hearts are open  
nothing here is hidden.  
You are our one desire  
you alone are holy,  
only you are worthy.  
God let your fire fall down.**

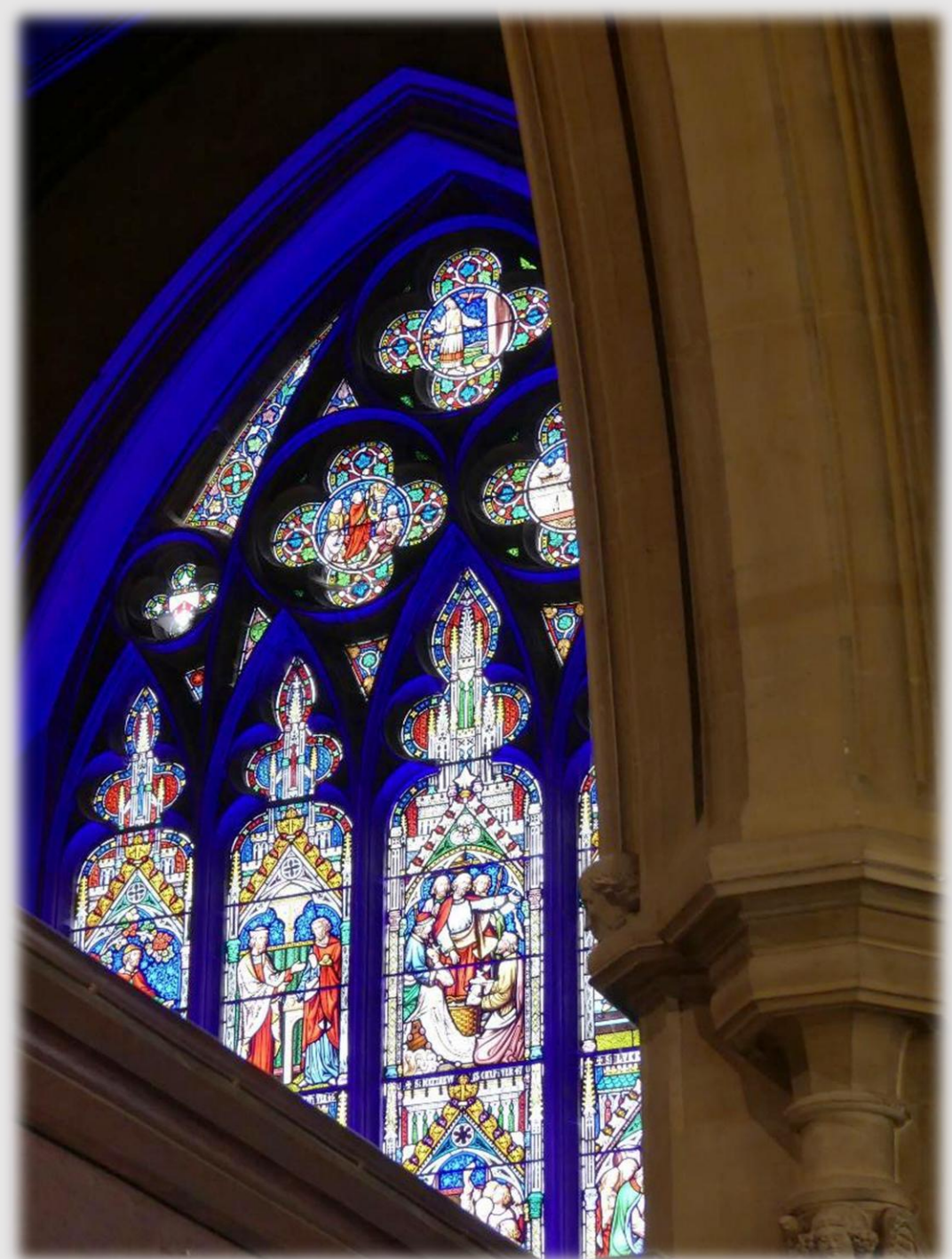
Bridge

**We welcome you with praise  
we welcome you with praise.  
Almighty God of love  
be welcome in this place.**

**We welcome you with praise  
we welcome you with praise.  
Almighty God of love  
be welcome in this place.**

*Praise Him!*

**Let ev'ry heart adore  
Let ev'ry soul awake.  
Almighty God of love  
be welcome in this place.  
We welcome you with praise  
we welcome you with praise.  
Almighty God of love  
be welcome in this place.**



The background is a gradient of light blue and purple, featuring several glowing, translucent hearts of various sizes. Some hearts are larger and more prominent, while others are smaller and more subtle. The scene is filled with soft, out-of-focus light particles, giving it a dreamy and ethereal feel.

Chorus

**To you our hearts are open  
nothing here is hidden.  
You are our one desire  
you alone are holy,  
only you are worthy.  
God let your fire fall down.**

Ending

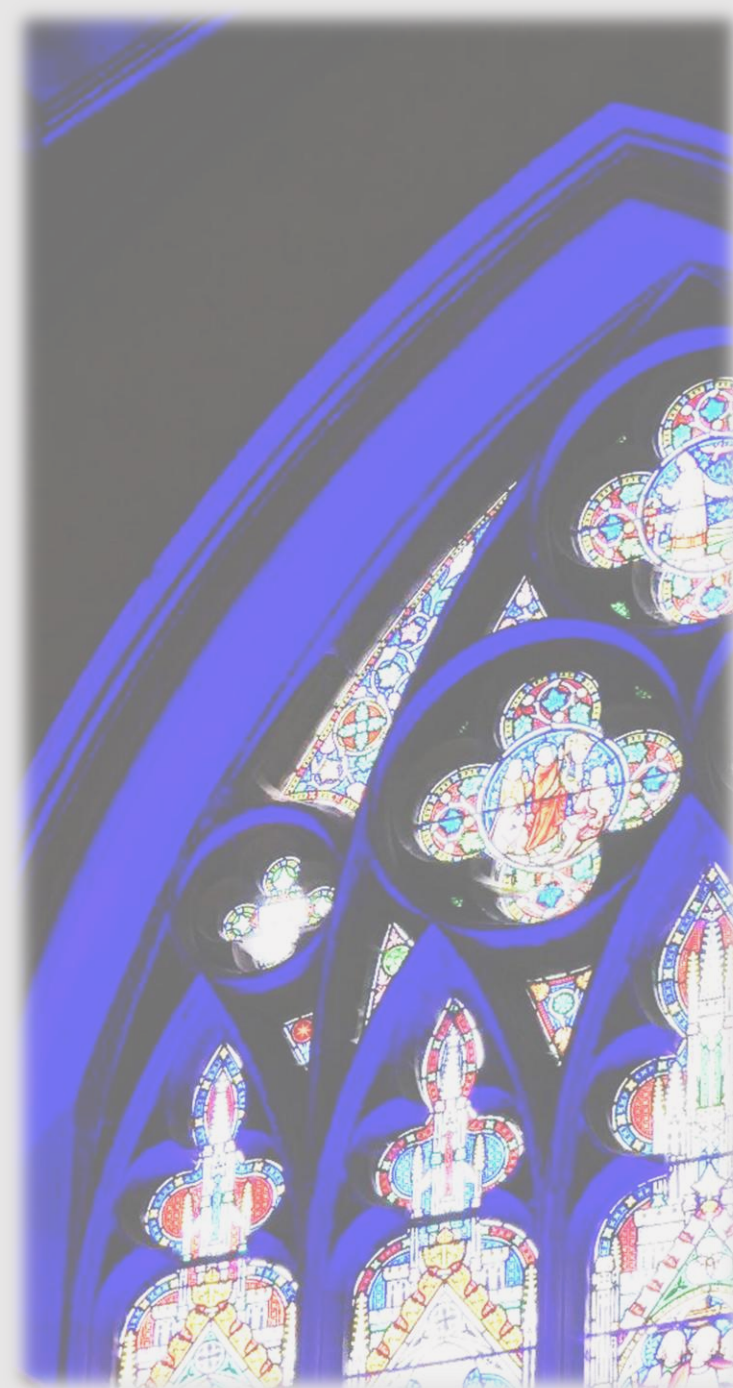
**Be welcome in your house Lord  
be welcome in your house.**

CCLI Song # 5925649

Jesse Reeves | Matt Maher | Matt Redman | Tim Wanstall

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8/8



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



**1 There must be more than this  
O breath of God come breathe within  
there must be more than this  
Spirit of God we wait for you.  
Fill us anew we pray, fill us anew we pray.**



Chorus

**Consuming fire fan into flame**

**a passion for your name**

**Spirit of God fall in this place**

**Lord have your way, Lord have your way with us.**



**2 Come like a rushing wind  
clothe us with power from on high  
now set the captives free  
leave us abandoned to your praise.  
Lord let your glory fall, Lord let your glory fall.**



Chorus

**Consuming fire fan into flame  
a passion for your name.**

**Spirit of God fall in this place.**

**Lord have your way**

**Lord have your way with us. (repeat)**

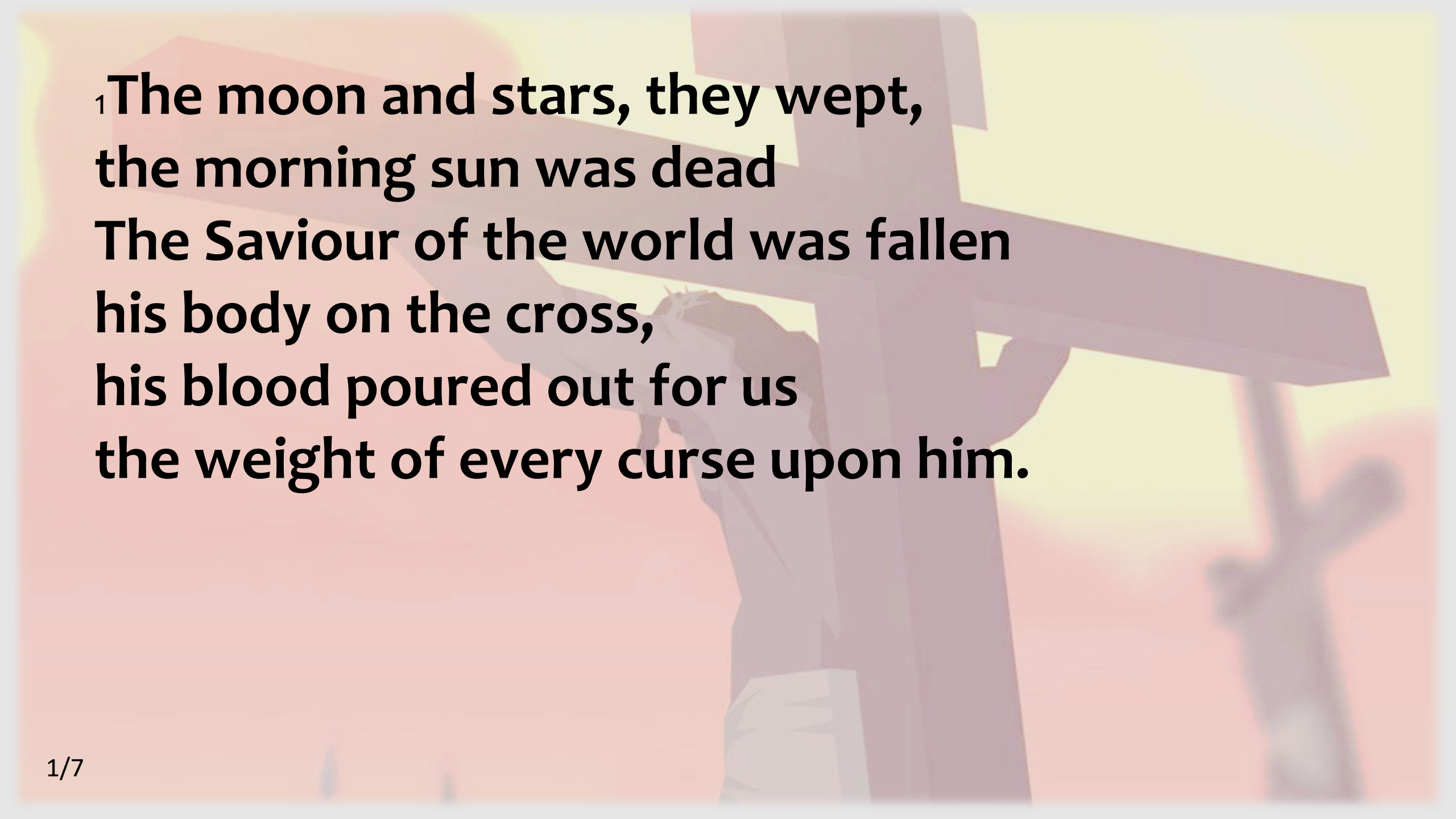
**Glory, glory, send your glory**

**glory, glory, send your glory**

**glory, glory, send your glory**

**glory, glory. (repeat)**





**1 The moon and stars, they wept,  
the morning sun was dead  
The Saviour of the world was fallen  
his body on the cross,  
his blood poured out for us  
the weight of every curse upon him.**

**2 One final breath he gave as heaven looked away  
the Son of God was laid in darkness.**

**A battle in the grave,  
the war on death was waged  
the power of hell forever broken.**



## Pre-chorus

**The ground began to shake, the stone rolled away  
his perfect (reckless) love could not be overcome.**

**Now, death, where is your sting?**

**Our resurrected King has rendered you defeated.**



Chorus

**Now, forever he is glorified, forever he is lifted high  
and forever he is risen. He is alive, and he is alive !**



Bridge

**We sing hallelujah, we sing hallelujah  
We sing hallelujah, the Lamb has overcome (repeat)  
We sing hallelujah, we sing hallelujah,  
we sing hallelujah.**



Pre-chorus

**The ground began to shake, the stone rolled away  
his perfect (reckless) love could not be overcome.**

**Now, death, where is your sting?**

**Our resurrected King has rendered you defeated.**



Chorus

**Now, forever he is glorified, forever he is lifted high  
and forever he is risen. He is alive, and he is alive!**



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.

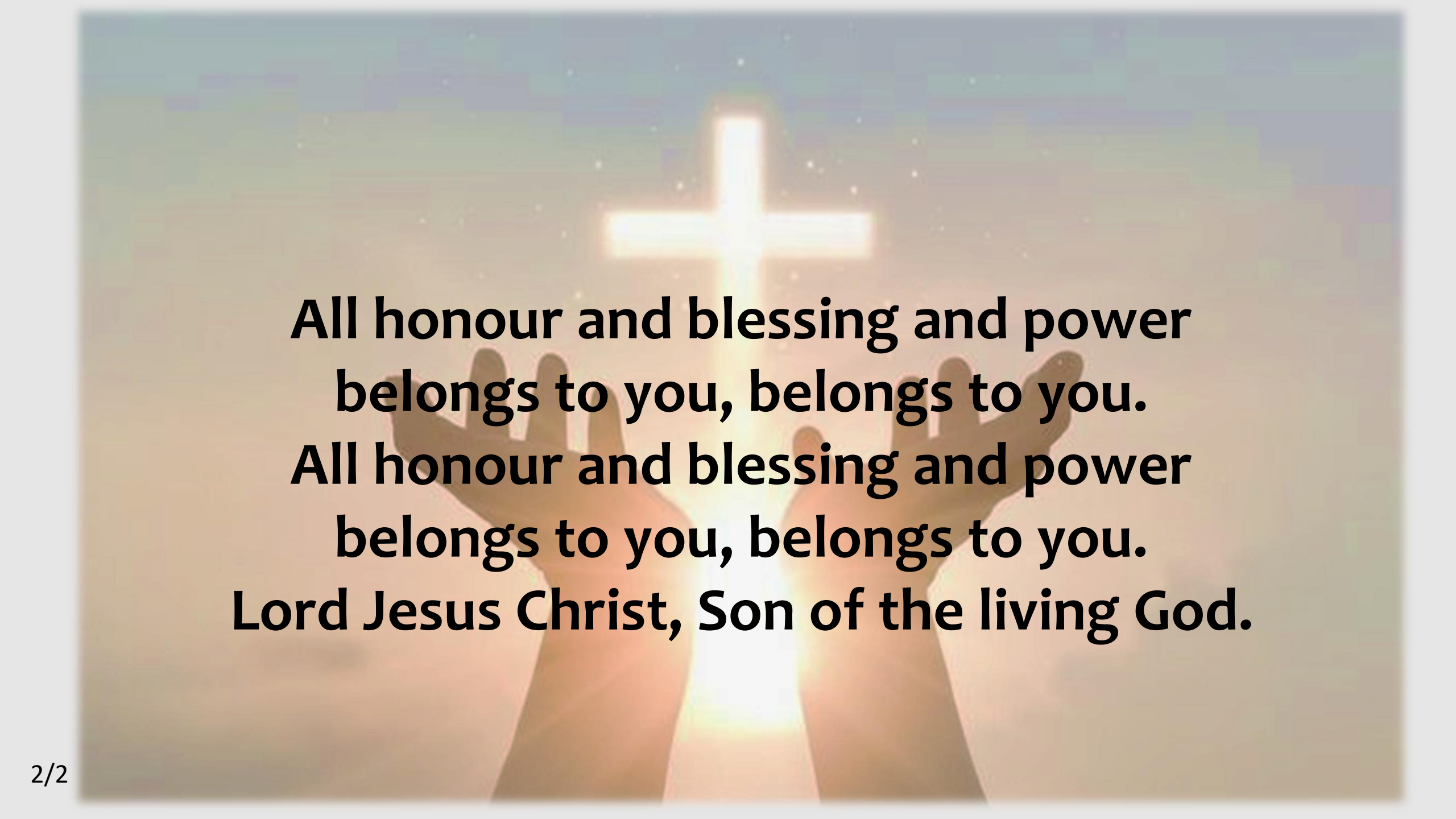
**Amen.**

# Family News

God's work-  
our hands

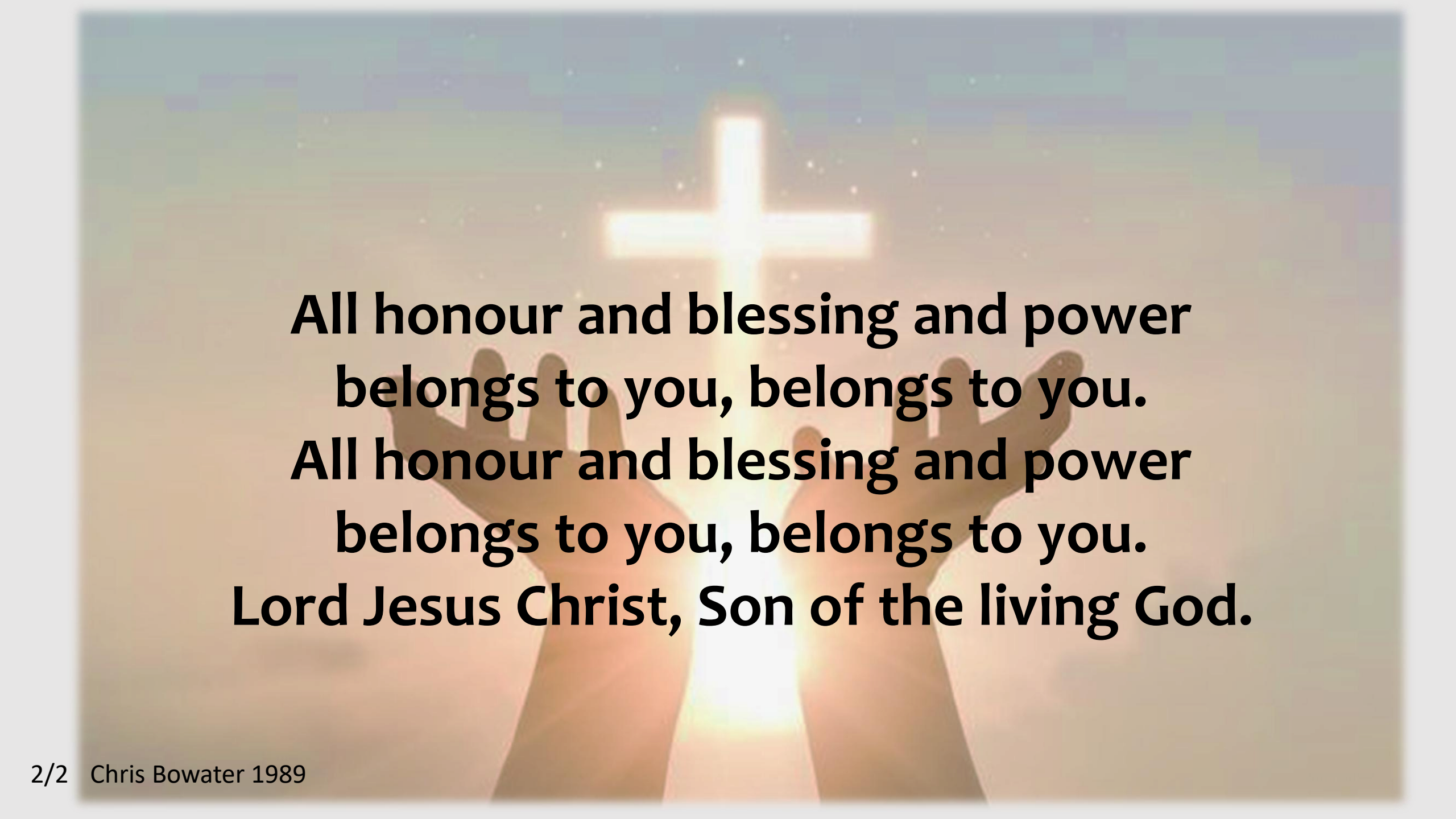


**Jesus shall take the highest honour  
Jesus shall take the highest praise  
let all earth join heaven in exalting  
the Name which is above all other names.  
Let's bow the knee in humble adoration  
for at his Name ev'ry knee must bow.  
Let ev'ry tongue confess  
he is Christ, God's only Son.  
Sov'reign Lord, we give you glory now.**

A glowing cross is centered in the upper half of the image against a soft, hazy sky. In the foreground, two hands are raised in prayer, their fingers spread, with the palms facing upwards. The hands are silhouetted against the bright light of the cross. The overall atmosphere is one of reverence and devotion.

**All honour and blessing and power  
belongs to you, belongs to you.  
All honour and blessing and power  
belongs to you, belongs to you.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God.**

**Jesus shall take the highest honour  
Jesus shall take the highest praise  
let all earth join heaven in exalting  
the Name which is above all other names.  
Let's bow the knee in humble adoration  
for at his Name ev'ry knee must bow.  
Let ev'ry tongue confess  
he is Christ, God's only Son.  
Sov'reign Lord, we give you glory now.**

A glowing cross is centered in the upper half of the image, set against a soft, hazy sky with a few small white specks. Below the cross, two hands are raised in a gesture of prayer or worship, their fingers spread. The hands are silhouetted against the bright light of the cross. The overall scene is peaceful and spiritual.

**All honour and blessing and power  
belongs to you, belongs to you.  
All honour and blessing and power  
belongs to you, belongs to you.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God.**

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

