

Sunday 19th July 2026

Christ Church with
St Mary's

Informal Service
of Holy Communion

Theme: God's help

We say together all words in **bold**



Welcome and Introduction





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

In the beginning
before time
before people
before the world began

All : GOD WAS



Here and now
among us
beside us
clearer than air
closer than breathing

All : GOD IS



In all that is to come
when we have turned
to dust and human
knowledge has been
completed

All : **GOD WILL BE**



Not despairing of earth
but delighting in it
not condemning the world
but redeeming it
through Jesus Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit

All: GOD WAS, GOD IS, GOD WILL BE.



**1 Here is love, vast as the ocean
loving-kindness as the flood
when the Prince of Life, my ransom
shed for me his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He shall never be forgotten,
through Heav'n's everlasting days.**



**2 On the mount of crucifixion
fountains opened deep and wide
through the flood-gates of God's mercy
flowed the vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers
poured incessant from above
and God's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.**



**3 Let me all your love accepting
love you, ever all my days
let me seek your kingdom only
and my life be to your praise.
You alone will be my glory
nothing in the world I see
you have cleansed
and sanctified me
you have loved and set me free.**

SEEK
GOD
FIRST

MATTHEW 6:33

**4 In your truth you will direct me
by your Spirit, through your Word
and your grace my need is meeting
as I trust in you, my Lord.**

**All your fullness you are pouring
from your endless wells above
without measure, full and boundless
as I yield myself in love.**





Offertory
and
thank you
prayer



Children's Talk – 'God is with us'

A group of four children are sitting in a row, facing forward with their eyes closed and hands clasped in prayer. From left to right: a girl in a pink shirt, a girl in a white shirt, a boy in a blue shirt, and a girl in a pink and white shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing a classroom setting with a map on the wall.

Prayer with the children

**O Lord, help me to
understand that
nothing will come my
way that you and I
together can't handle.**

Amen

Confession

All of us carry with us past experiences, past failures or mistakes, which lie like burdens in our lives.

All of us have histories in relationships, things which we wish we had not done or said, or which will not enhance our future together.

In the silence that follows, let us reflect on things we would rather not carry with us and in the light of Christ confess our sins.

(silence)

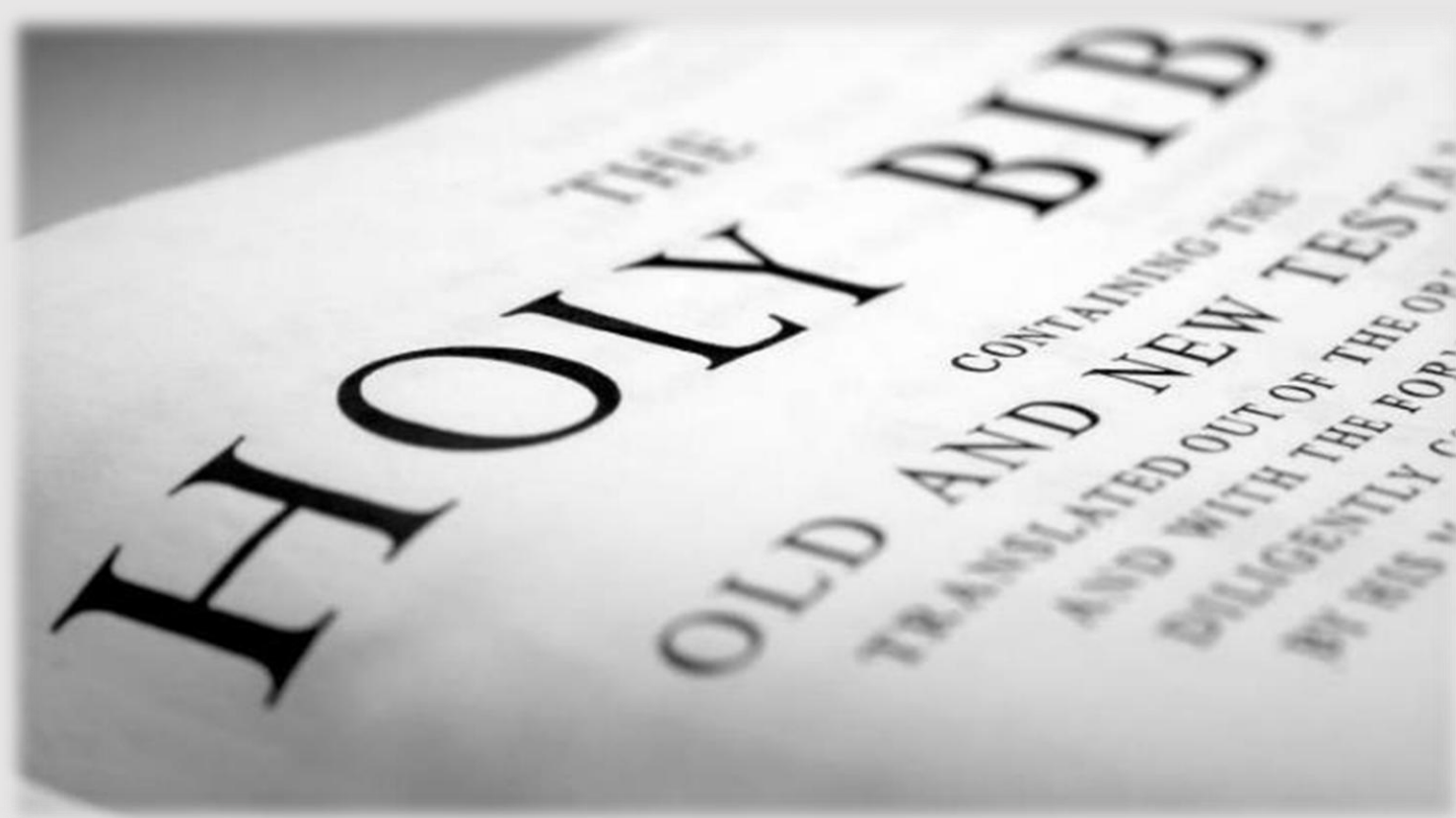
**All: Take all these our burdens into your life,
O God. We lay them down in faith for healing,
forgiveness, re-creation and release.**

Amen

Words of Forgiveness

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

Amen



Reader: This morning the first reading comes from....

Romans 8 : 12 - 25

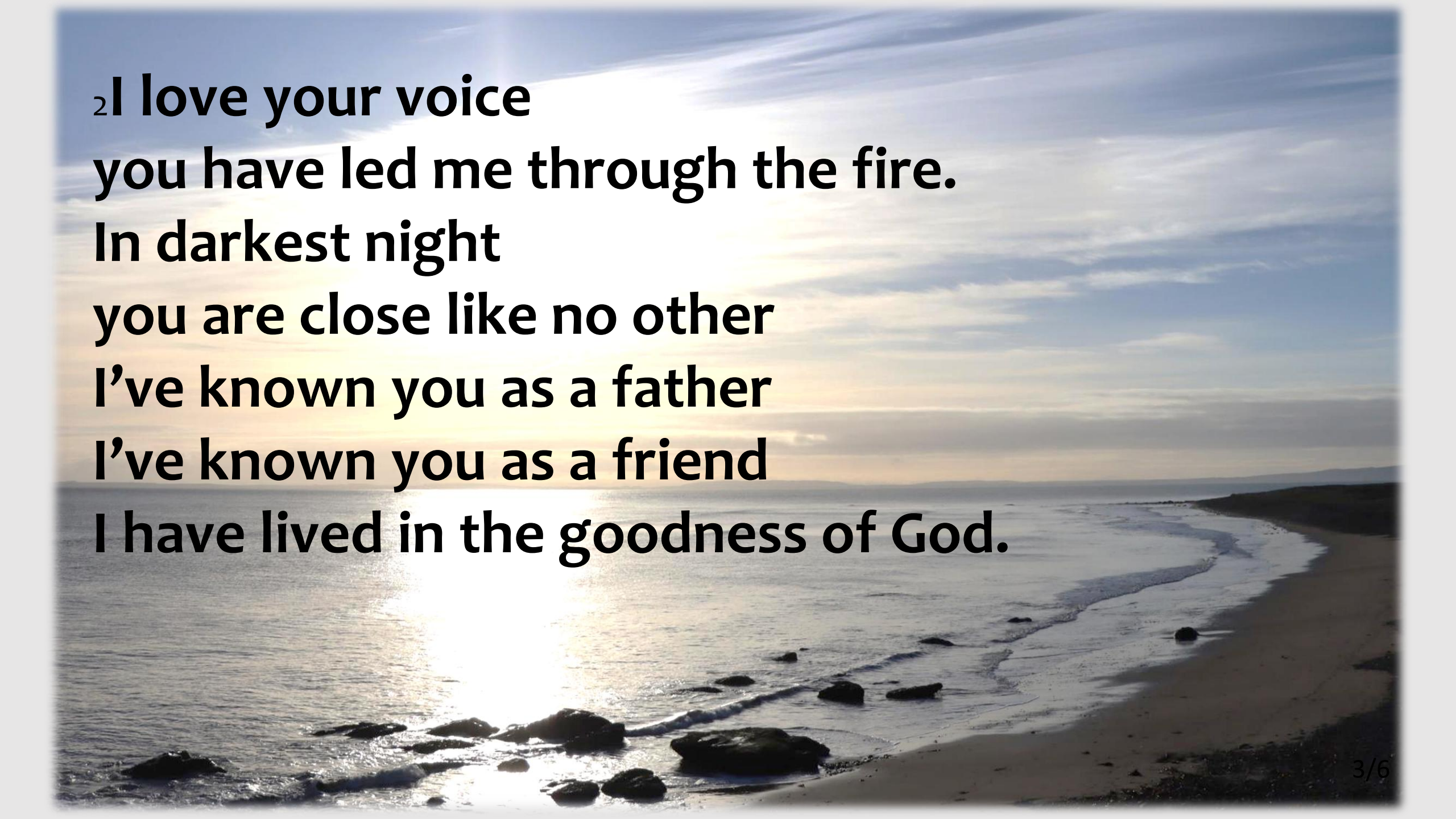
Listen now for the Word of God.

**¹I love you Lord
oh, your mercy never fails me.
All my days
I've been held in your hands.
From the moment that I wake up
until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God.**



Chorus

**All my life you have been faithful
all my life you have been so so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

The background of the image is a photograph of a beach at sunset or sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects off the water and the wet sand. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The beach is sandy with some dark rocks scattered along the shoreline. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**²I love your voice
you have led me through the fire.
In darkest night
you are close like no other
I've known you as a father
I've known you as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God.**

Chorus

**All my life you have been faithful
all my life you have been so so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

Bridge

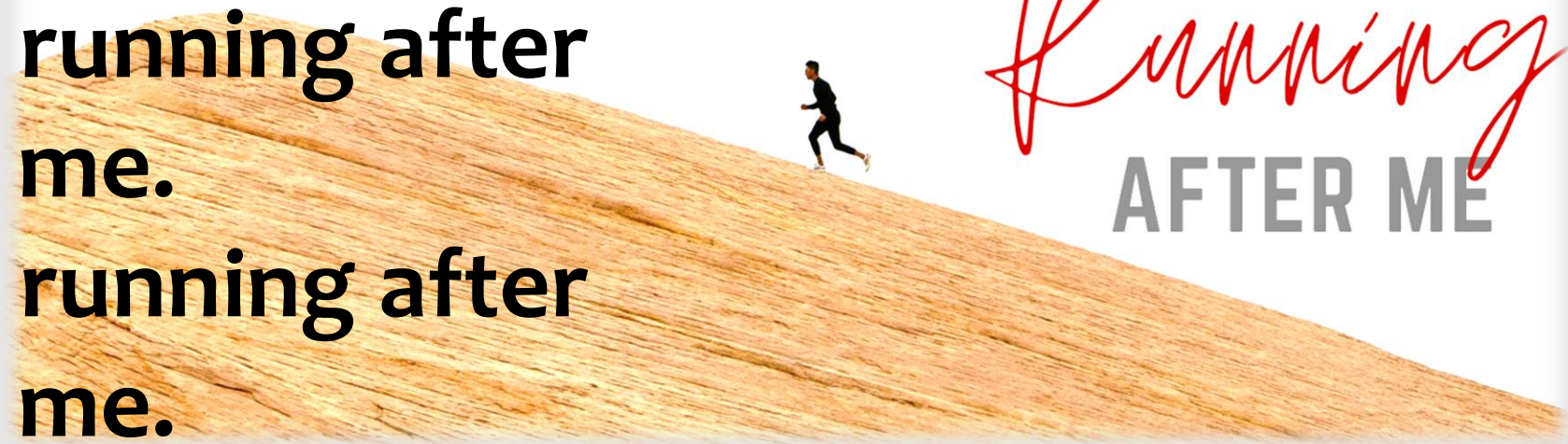
**Your goodness is running after
it's running after me.**

**Your goodness is running after
it's running after me.**

With my life laid down I'm surrendered now.

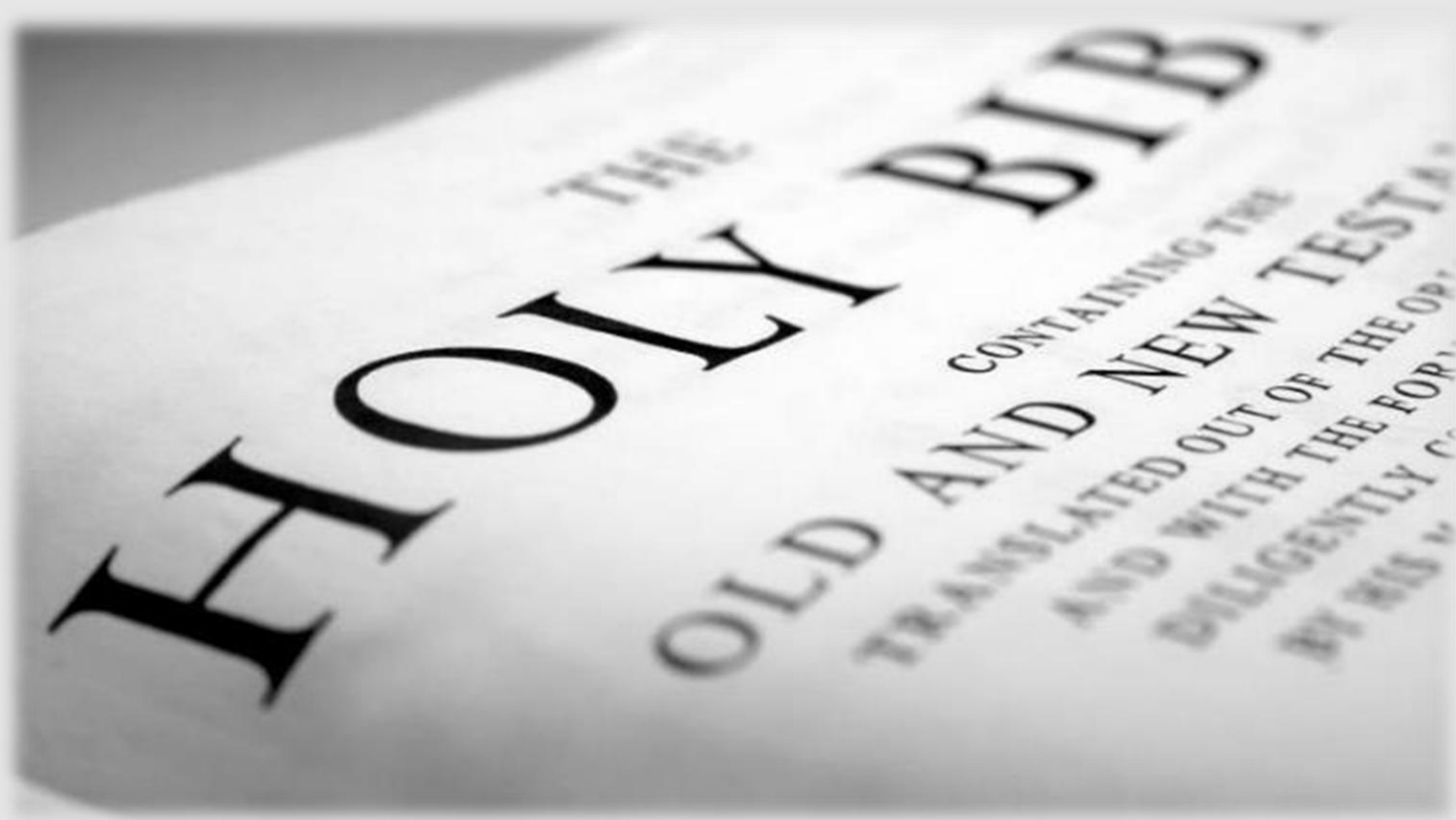
**I give you everything your goodness is running after
it's running after me.**

YOUR
Goodness
IS
Running
AFTER ME



Chorus

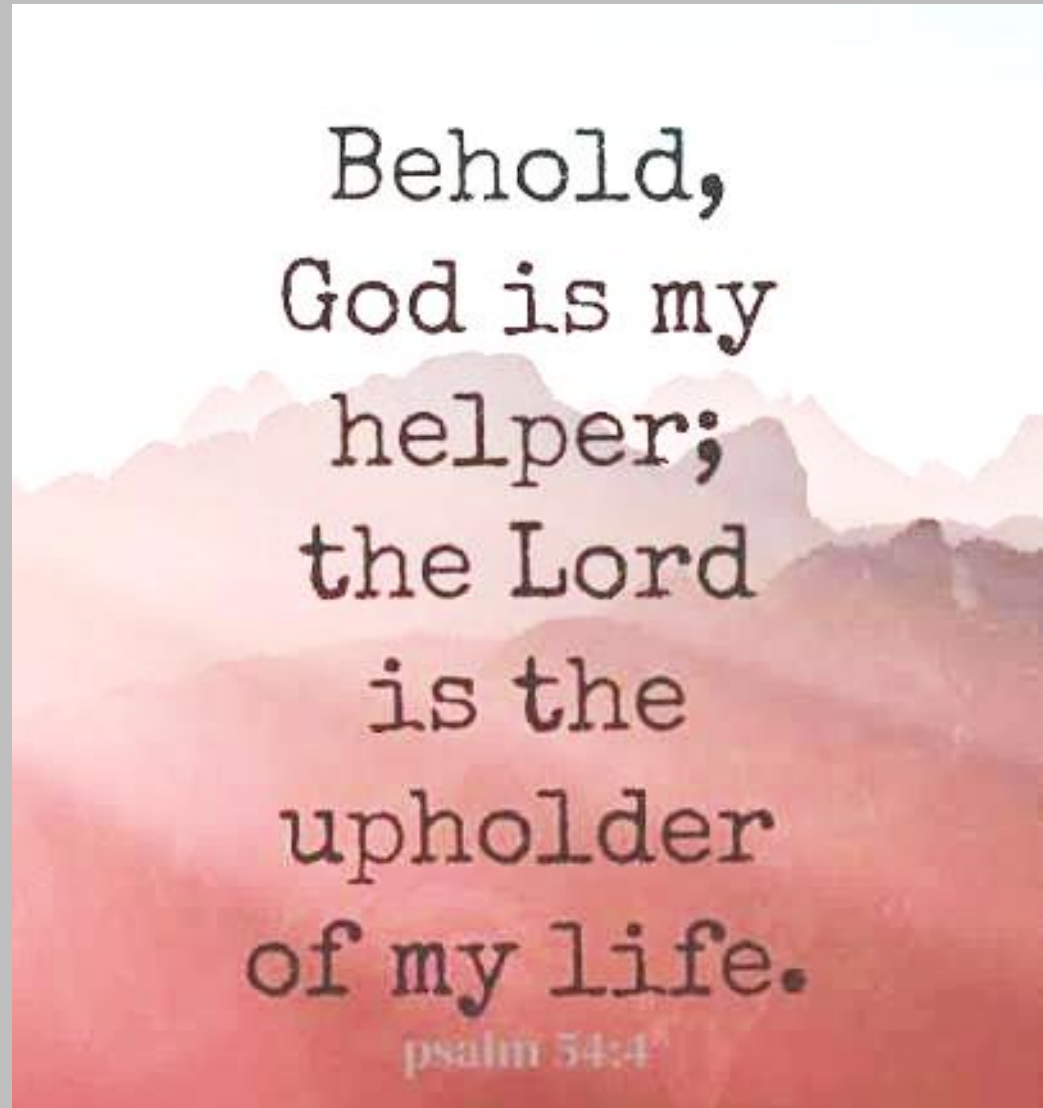
**All my life you have been faithful
all my life you have been so so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.**



Reader: This morning the second reading comes from...

Matthew 13 : 24 - 30, 36 - 43

Listen now for the Word of God.



Sermon – ‘God’s help in times of need’

ANOINTING

Oil

Anointing with oil

God bless you, helping you to be a blessing to others.
In Jesus name. Amen

We say together in faith



What We Believe

**Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was and is and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father
who created all things:
**for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

What We Believe

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:
**for with his blood
he purchased us for God
from every tribe and language
from every people and nation.**

What We Believe

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
the Spirit and the Bride say ‘Come!’
Even so come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession



Final Response

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

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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours

now and for ever.

Amen

**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**



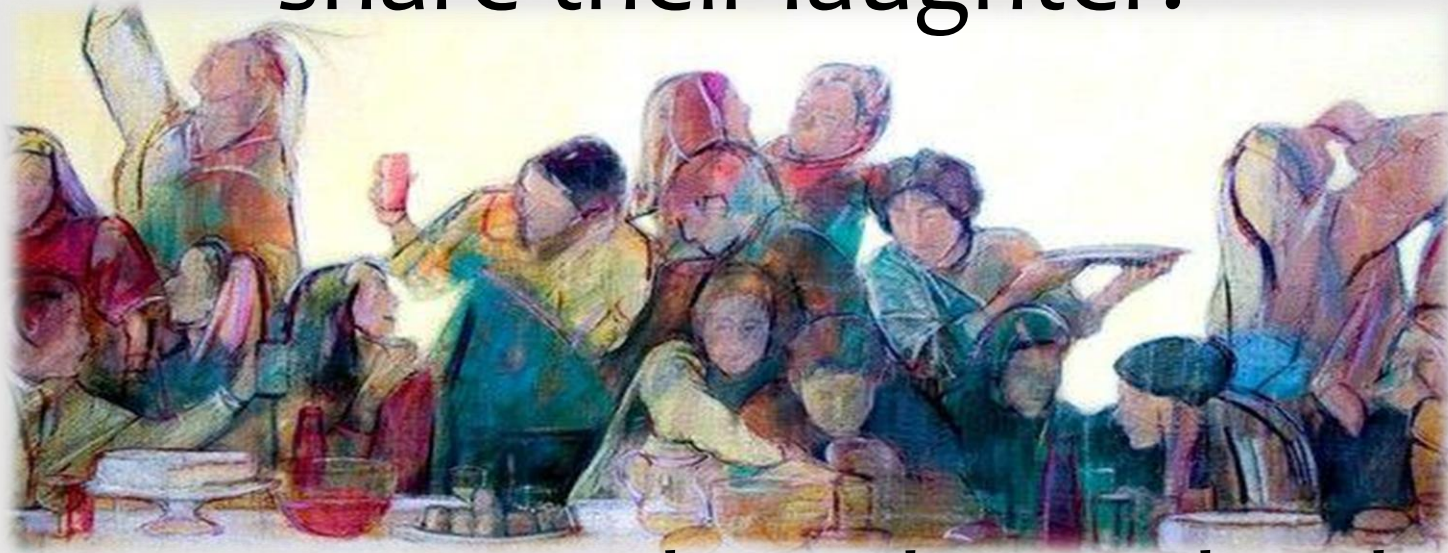
Invitation



Gathered round a table is where
Jesus so often met people

... gathered round the table of Matthew, Zacchaeus,
Simon, Peter, Lazarus and Martha and Mary,
the table of Joanna and Susannah

...gathered round a table where he could see people face to face, listen to their stories, share their laughter.



And here, we are gathered together because this is where Jesus has promised to be for those who want to meet him.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
All: **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts
All: **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise**



It is right to praise you, for you are the
One from whom we came
and the One to whom we will return.

You conceived the universe, wove the world
together and hold all life in your hand.



You watch us waking or sleeping
you keep every tear that we shed
you hear every prayer we make
you know both our best and our worst
and you will not let us go.

So, with rain, wind and sunshine
with all that moves in time with its Maker
we praise you.

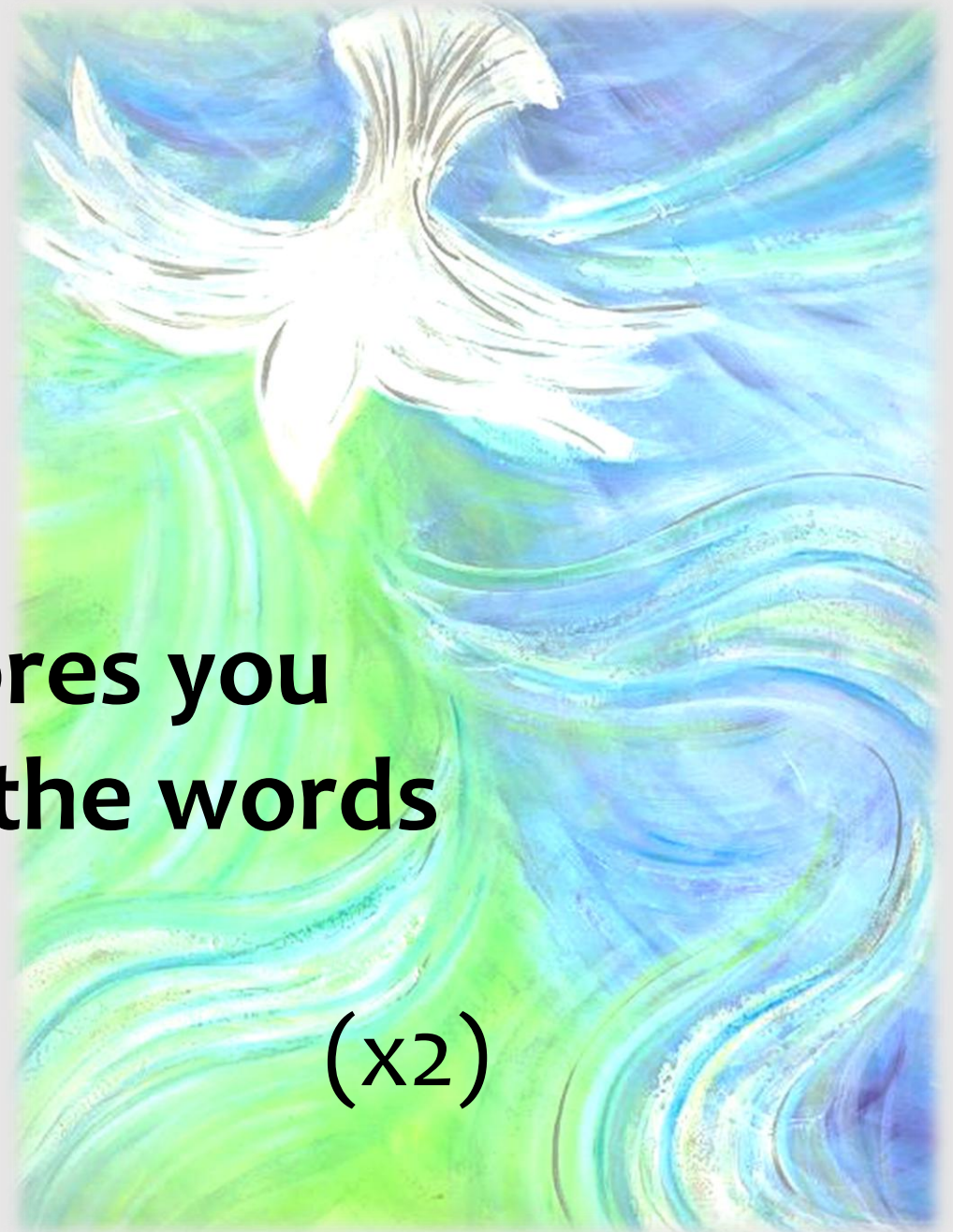
With angels and archangels, with the saints from
long ago, with our loved ones who are gathered
round your heavenly table,
we praise you.

With the church throughout the world,
with all who love Jesus and honour his name,
we praise you, singing the hymn of your
everlasting glory:

Argentinian Sanctus

**All: Holy, holy, holy
my heart, my heart adores you
my heart is glad to say the words
you are holy Lord.**

(x2)



So accept his invitation
and feel welcome at this table.



Jesus Christ
who here offers us a foretaste of eternal life
invites you to be his guests.

Prayer of Blessing

Yes, blessed is he...
who was born among us incognito,
who grew up without privilege or status,
who walked the way to heaven
through the back street of this world,

who told the deepest truths
in ordinary language,
who touched and healed,
blessed and disturbed
without fear or favour,
who showed inclusive
love in all its
unconditional glory;



who for all this, was crucified, died and was
buried, who, for all this and for all of us,
rose again; who, though high in heaven,
is present with us here and now.



Blessed is he in all his love and beauty.

God beyond holiness, as we do 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.



And let that same Spirit
stir our souls so that as
we share this sacrament,
we may recognise our
Lord and receive him
that he may be in us
and we in him for ever.
Amen.



The Breaking of the Bread

Among friends gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread and when he had
blessed it, he broke it and said

“Take this and eat it. It is my body. It is given for you.
Do this to remember me.”



Then later he took a cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks, he said,
“In this cup is the new relationship with God
made possible because of my death.
Take this all of you, to remember me”.



All who hunger and thirst for a better life,
for a deeper faith, for a better world,
here is the bread of life
feed on it with gratitude
here is the cup of salvation
drink from it and believe.

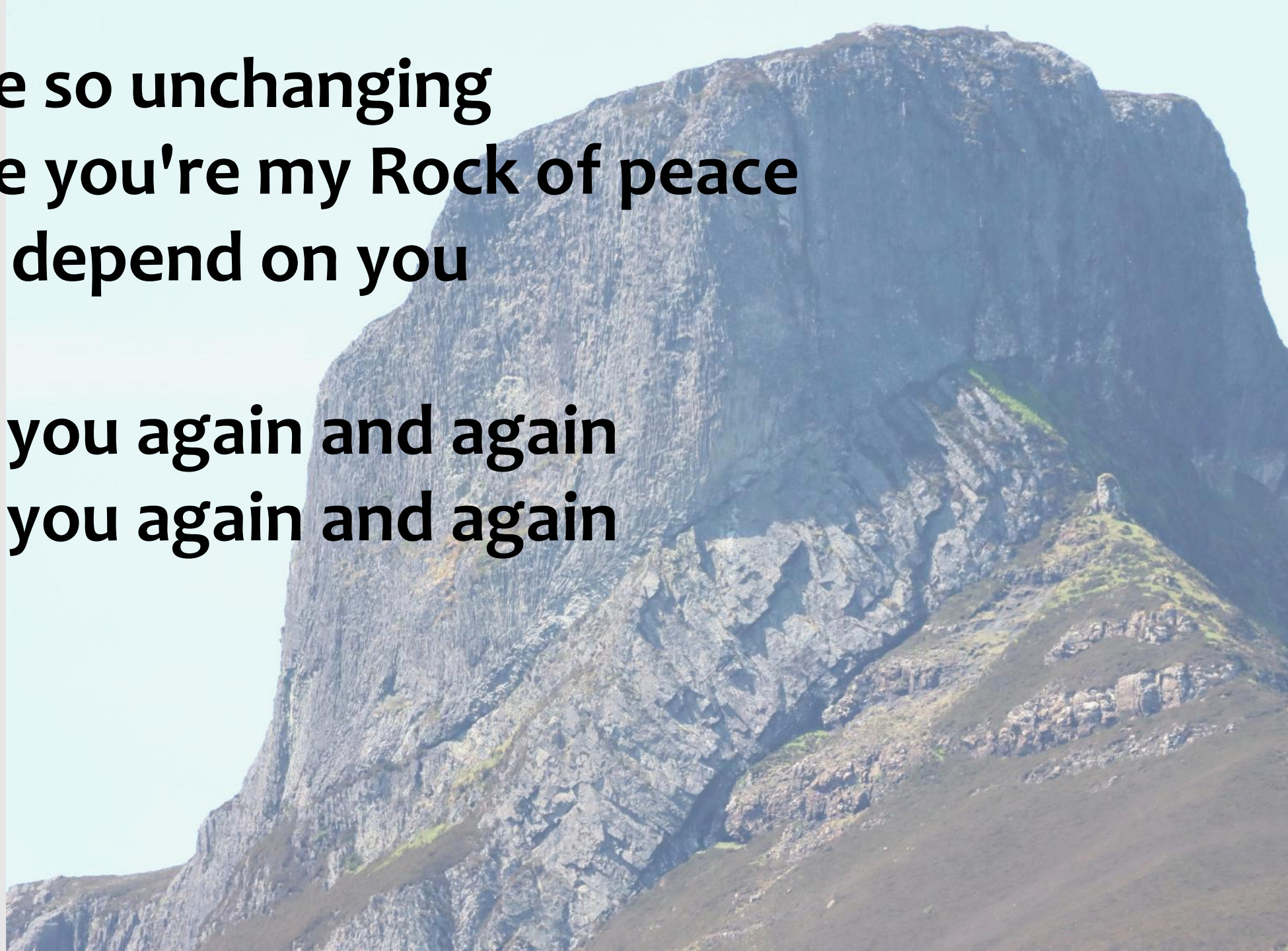
The gifts of God for the people of God.

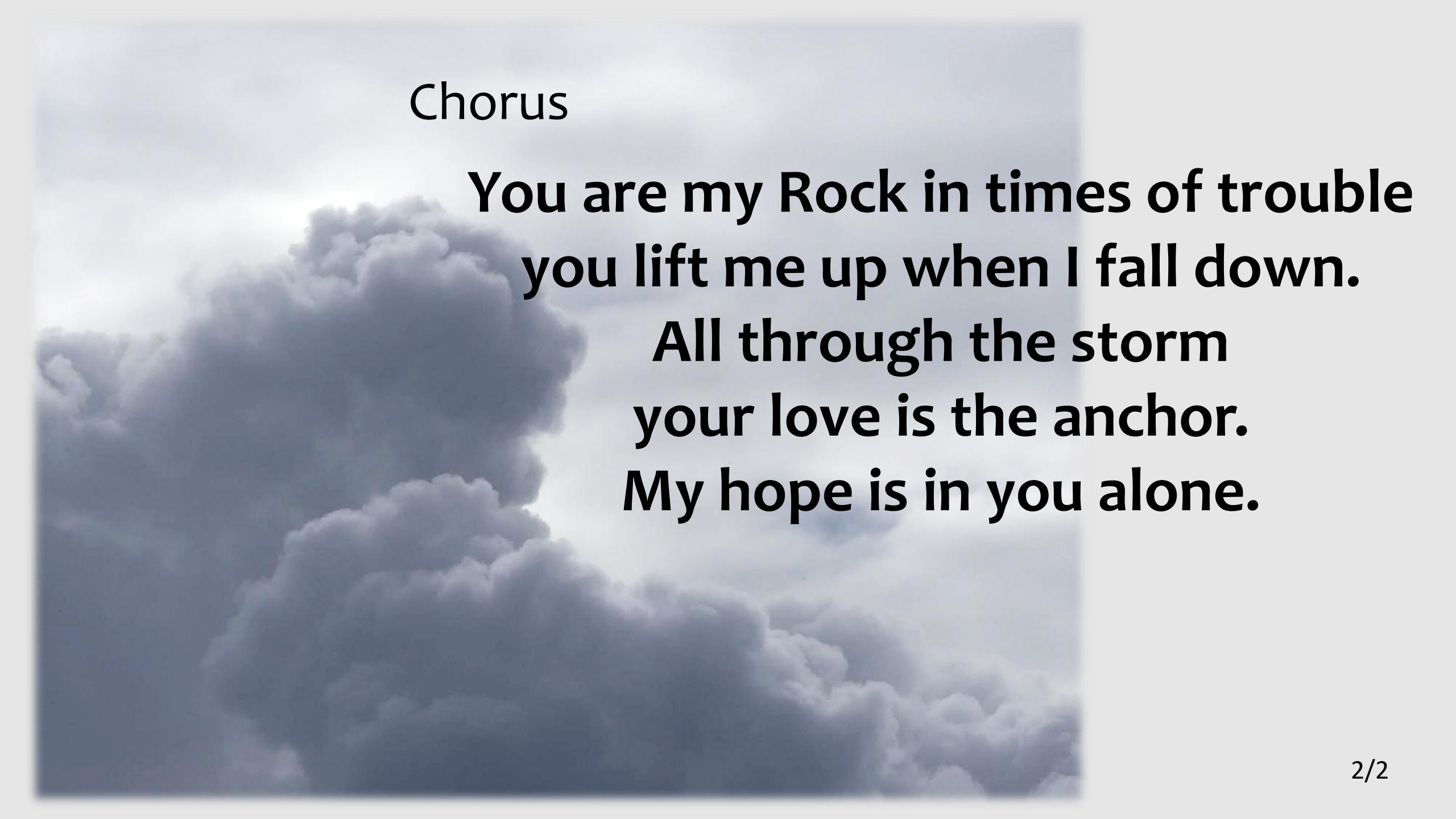
Sharing the bread and wine



**Faithful One so unchanging
Ageless One you're my Rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you**

**I call out to you again and again
I call out to you again and again**





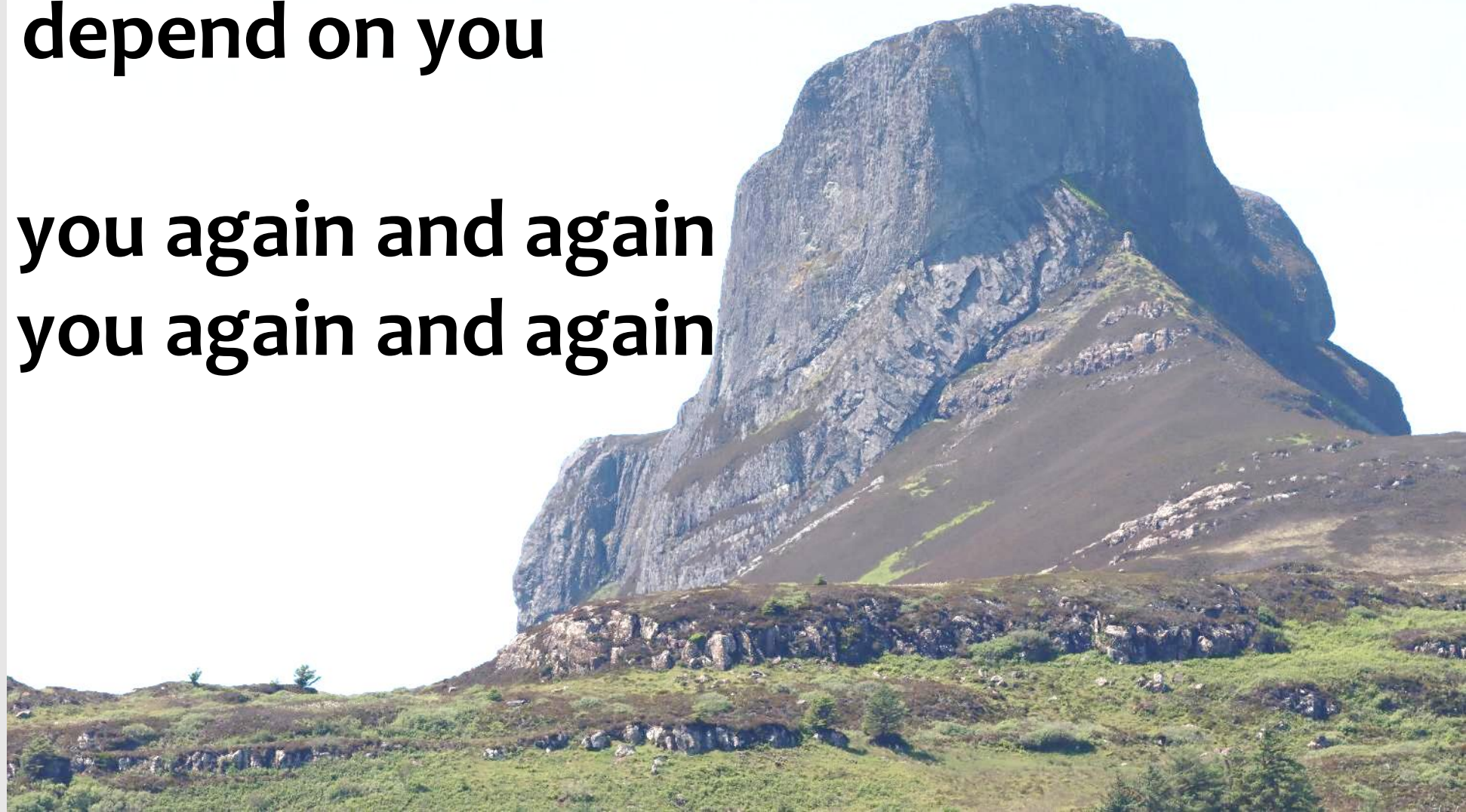
Chorus

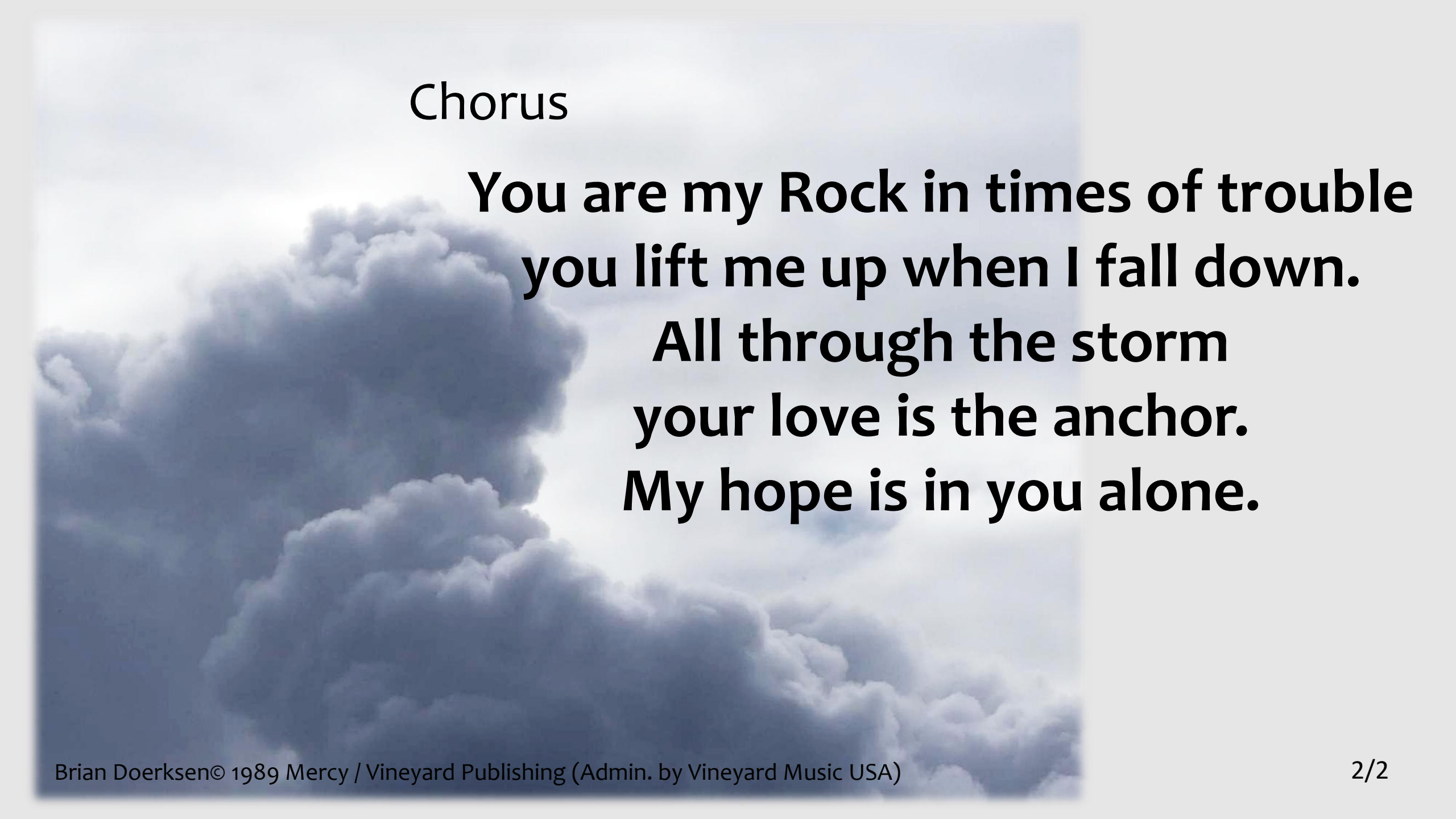
**You are my Rock in times of trouble
you lift me up when I fall down.**

**All through the storm
your love is the anchor.
My hope is in you alone.**

**Faithful One so unchanging
Ageless One you're my Rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you**

**I call out to you again and again
I call out to you again and again**





Chorus

**You are my Rock in times of trouble
you lift me up when I fall down.**

**All through the storm
your love is the anchor.
My hope is in you alone.**

**1 My Jesus my Saviour
Lord there is none like you
all of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your
mighty love.
My comfort my shelter
tower of refuge and strength
let every breath all that I am
never cease to worship you.**



Chorus

**Shout to the Lord
all the earth let us sing
power and majesty
praise to the King
mountains bow down
and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name**



**I sing for joy
at the work of your hands
forever I'll love you
forever I'll stand
nothing compares to the promise
I have in you**



**¹My Jesus my Saviour
Lord there is none like you
all of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your
mighty love.
My comfort my shelter
tower of refuge and strength
let every breath all that I am
never cease to worship you.**



Chorus

**Shout to the Lord
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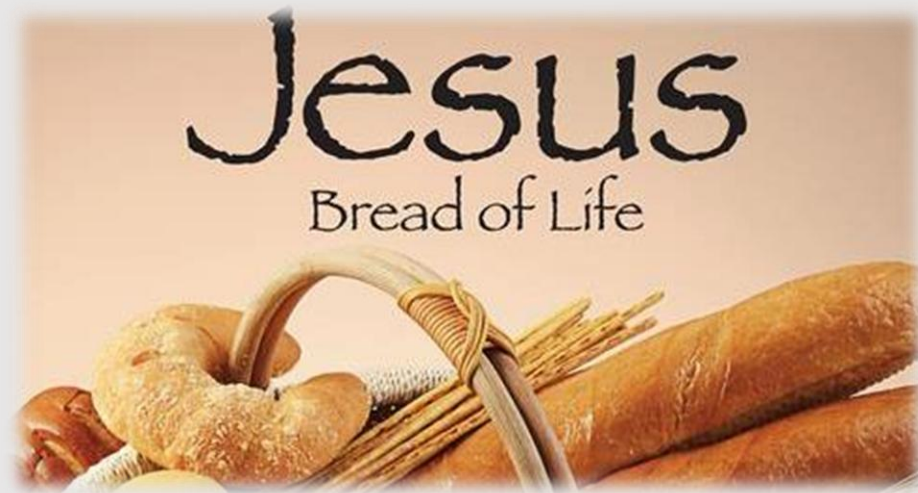


**I sing for joy
at the work of your hands
forever I'll love you
forever I'll stand
nothing compares to the promise
I have in you**



.Prayer after Communion

**In gratitude for this moment, this meal,
these people, we give ourselves to you.
Take us as we are to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.**



**Ask much of us,
expect much from us, enable much by us,
encourage many through us.**

**So Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth and
citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.**

Amen



The Peace

Not an easy peace
not an insignificant peace
not a half-hearted peace
but the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ
is with us now.

Let us share it with each other.....

28.12.61.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

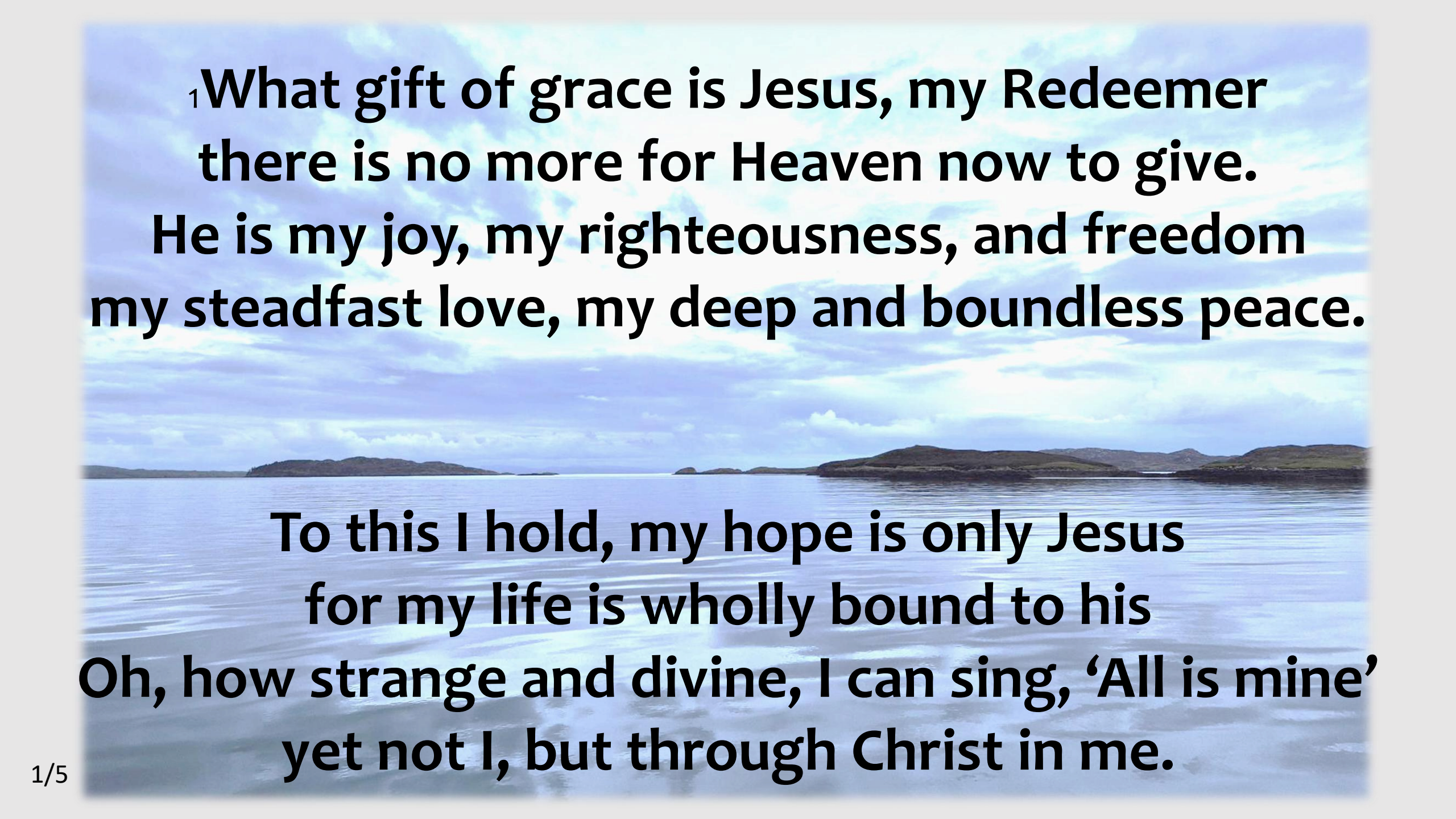


All: And also with you

Family News

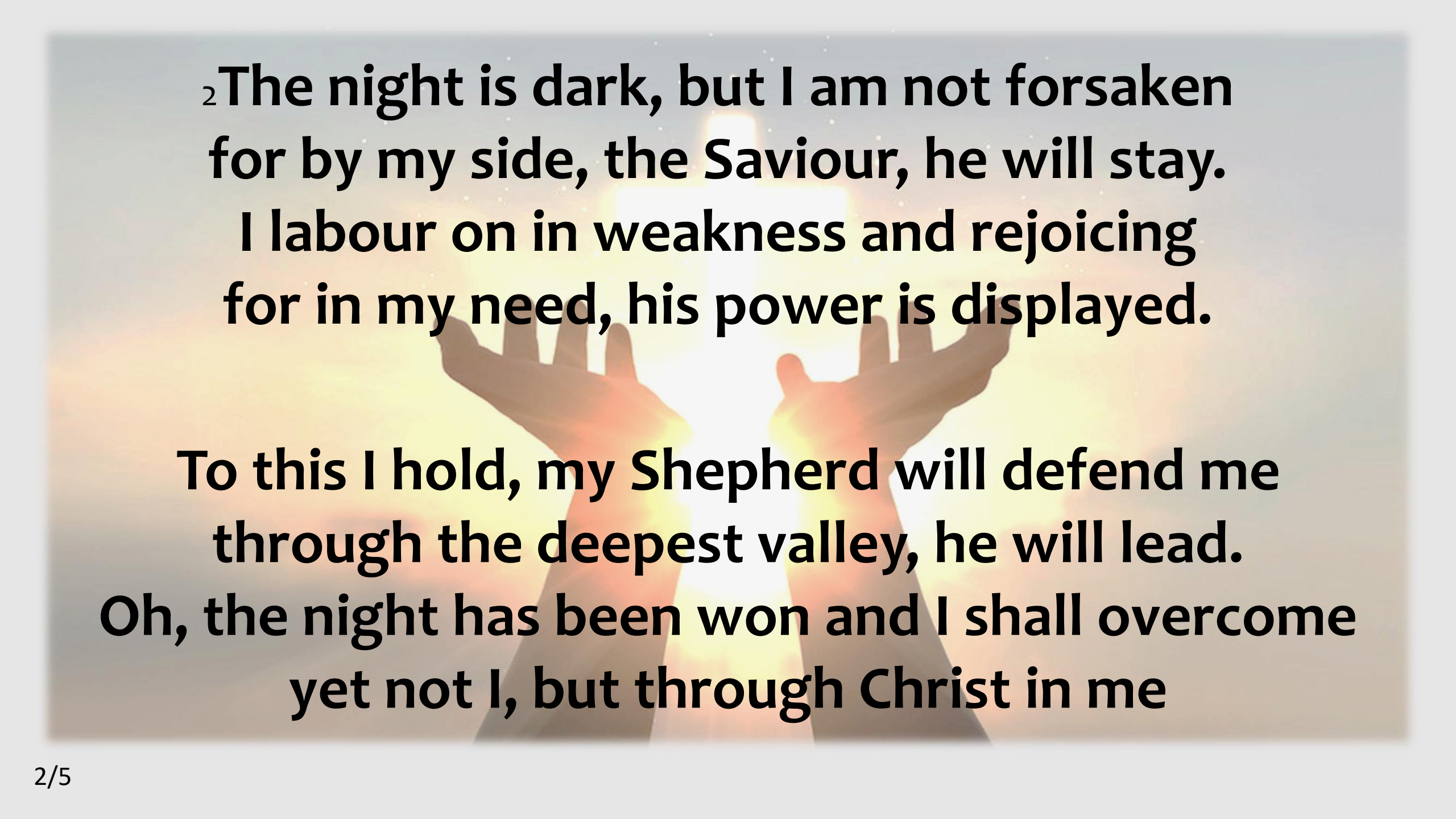
What's going on?





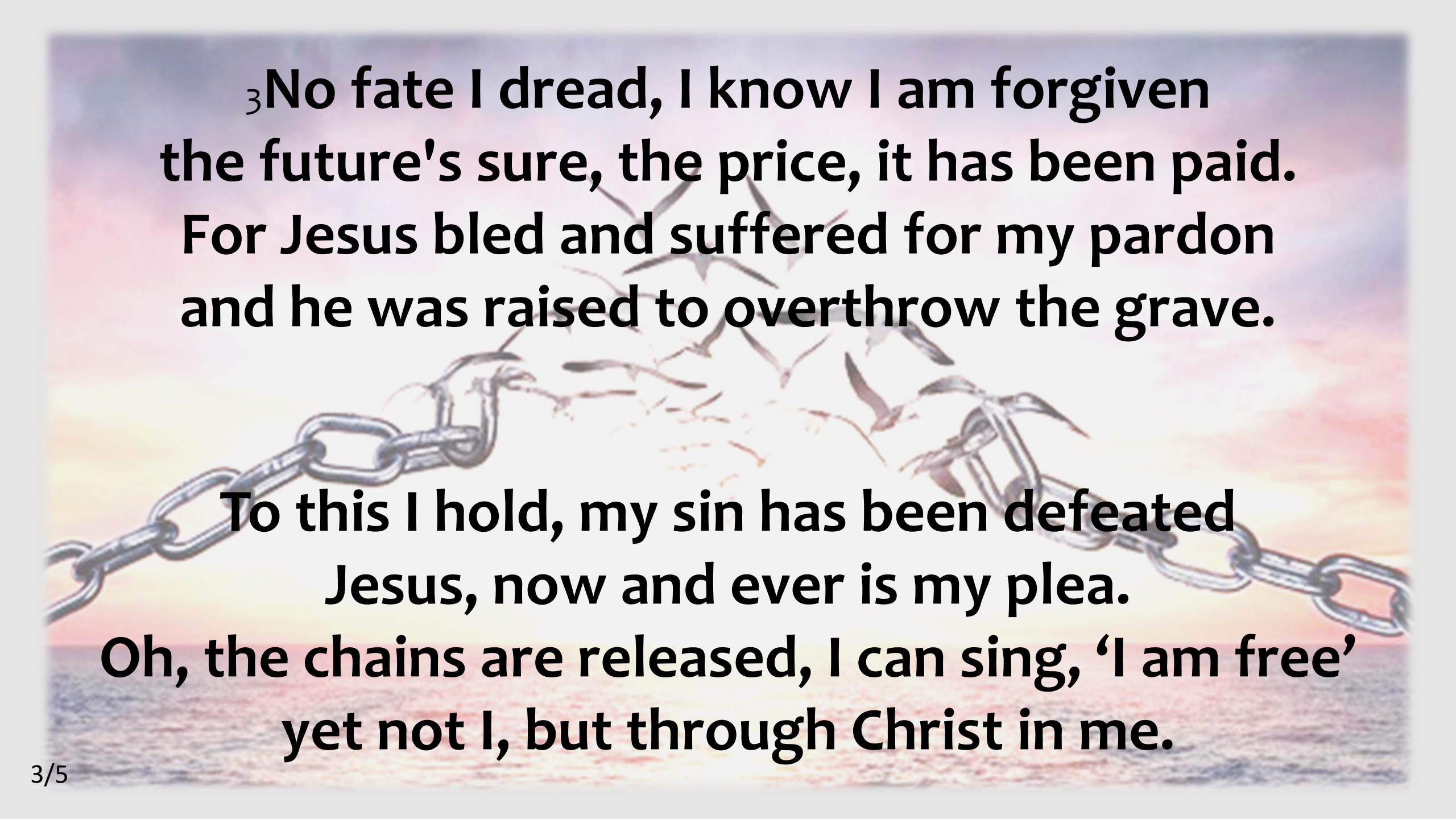
**¹What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
there is no more for Heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.**

**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**



**³No 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.**

**⁴With 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’**

‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’

‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me’

We say together

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hands
now we put our lives into yours.**

Take us, renew 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

The Blessing

