Sunday 8th November 2026

Christ Church with St Mary's

Service of Holy Communion

Theme : Remembrance

We say together all words in **bold**



Welcome and Introduction

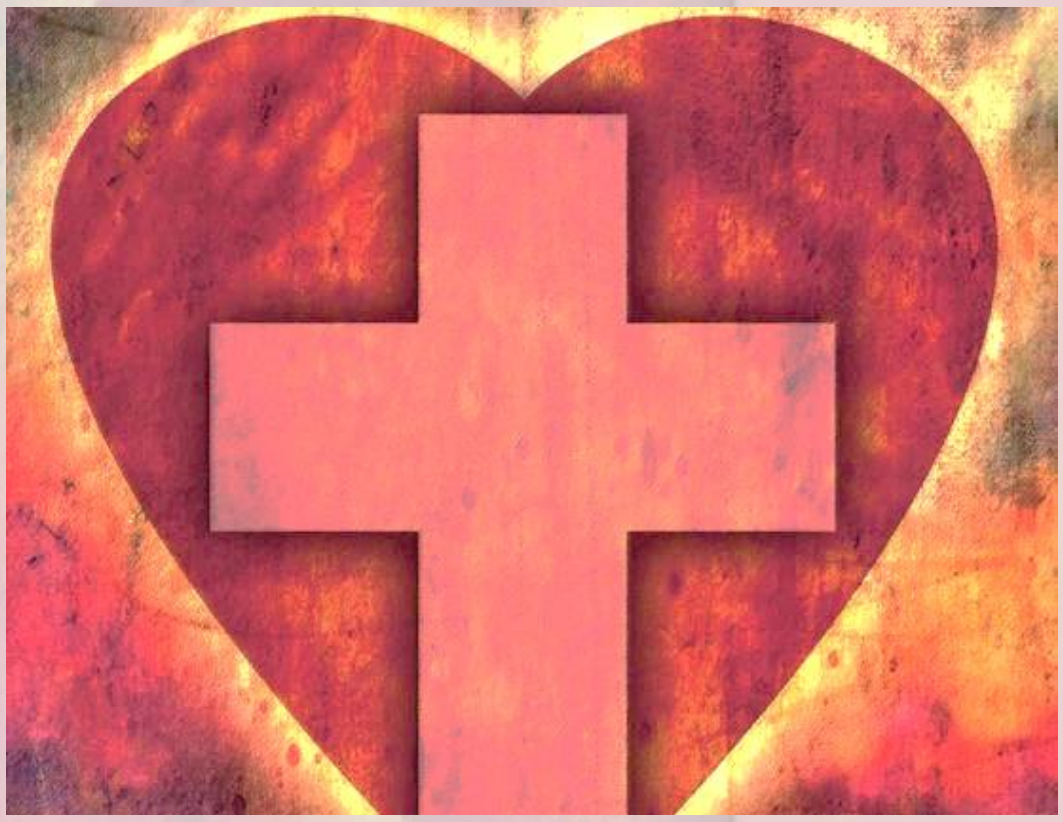


The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
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

1He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster
let him in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.



Christian carries his burden

2Who so beset him round
with dismal stories
do but themselves confound
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might
though he with giants fight
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.



3Since Lord thou dost defend
us with thy Spirit
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away
I'll fear not what men say
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan (1628-1688) Percy Dearmer Public Domain

3/3 Windows in Bunyan Meeting Chapel, Bedford



Offertory and thankyou prayer







Children's Talk – 'Remember, thank and hope'

Prayer with the children



Almighty God
to whom all hearts are open
all desires known and
from whom no secrets are hidden
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name
through Christ our Lord.
Amen

The spirit of the Lord fills the world
and knows our every word and deed.
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.



God of mercy,

We acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong we have
thought and said and done
and are mindful of all that
we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus who died for us
forgive us all that is past and help us
to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen

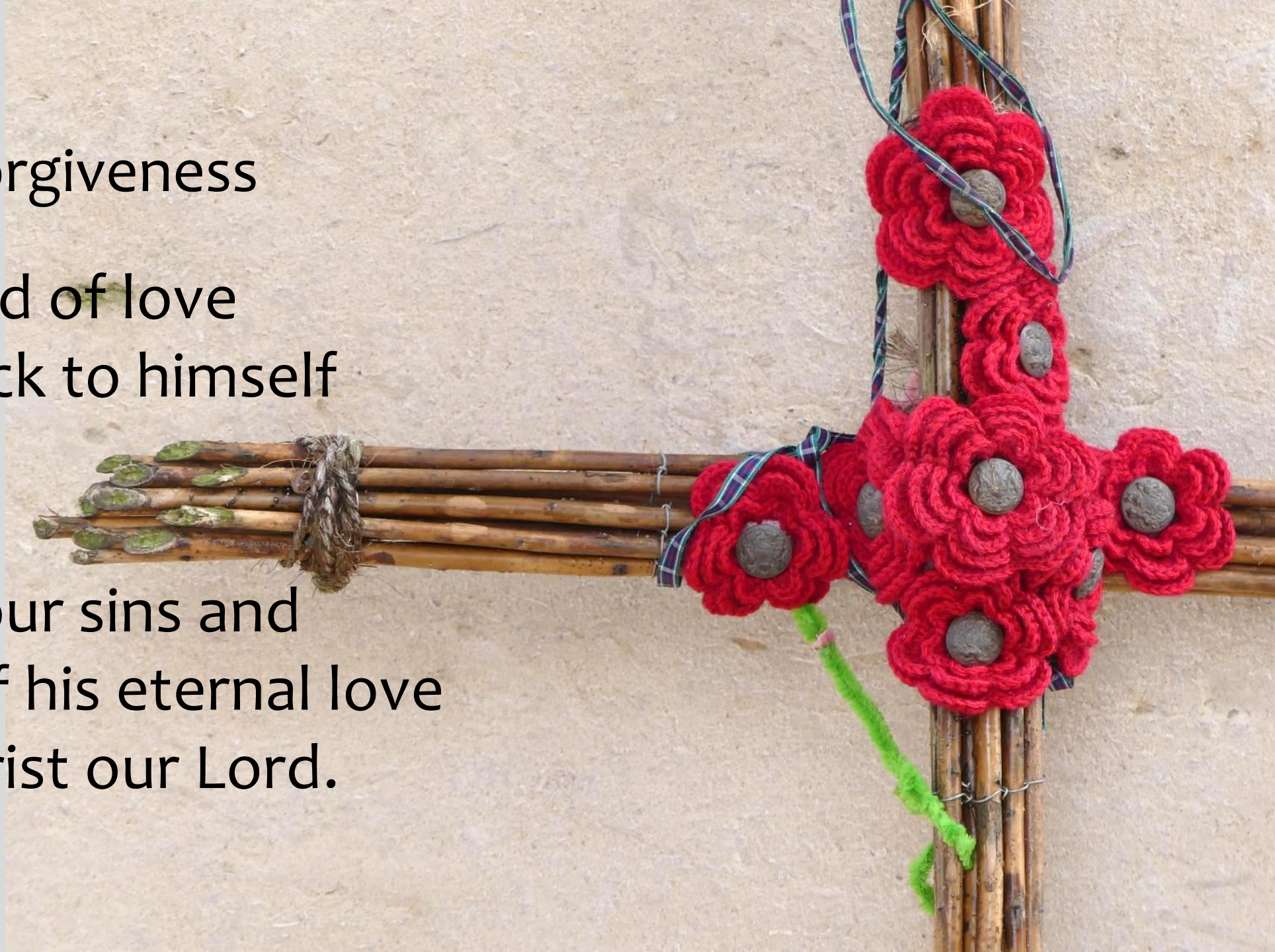


Words of Forgiveness

May the God of love
bring us back to himself

forgive us our sins and
assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, Heav'nly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.



Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world have mercy on us
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.



For you alone are the Holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest.



O God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

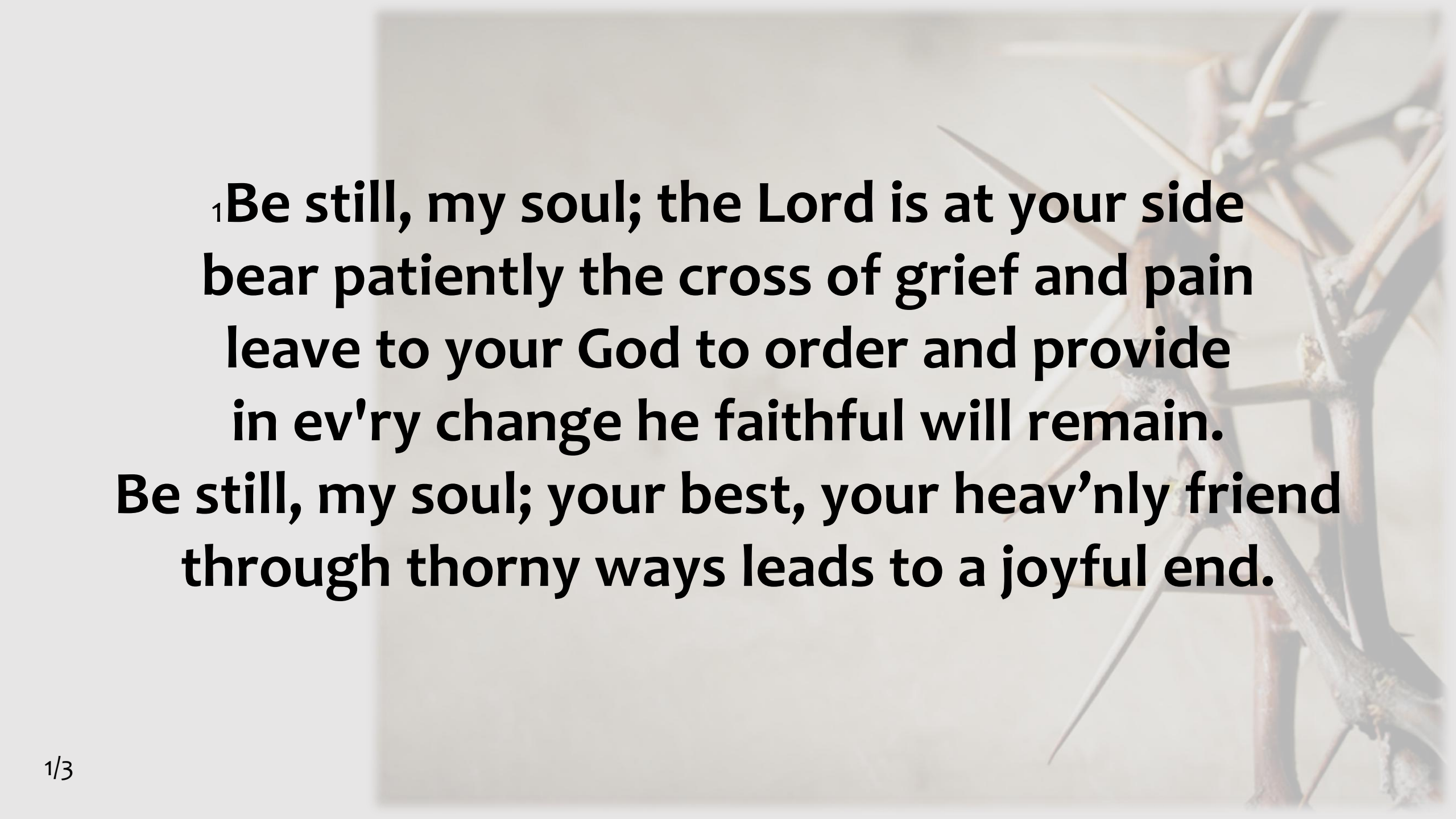
The Collect for today

1 Thessalonians 4 : 13 - 18

This is the word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God





1Be still, my soul; the Lord is at your side
bear patiently the cross of grief and pain
leave to your God to order and provide
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul; the tempests still obey
his voice, who ruled them once on Galilee.



3Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone
sorrow forgotten; love's purest joys restored.
Be still my soul; when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.



3/3 Katherina von Schlegel (b. 1697) trans. Jane L. Borthwick

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ …

R : Glory to you O Lord

Matthew 25 : 1 - 13

This is the Gospel of the Lord

R : Praise to you O Christ







Sermon – ‘Lest we forget- remembering, peace and hope’

The Creed



Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures:
he was buried
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the scriptures.
Afterwards he appeared to his followers
and to all the apostles.
This we have received and this we believe.
Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Final Response

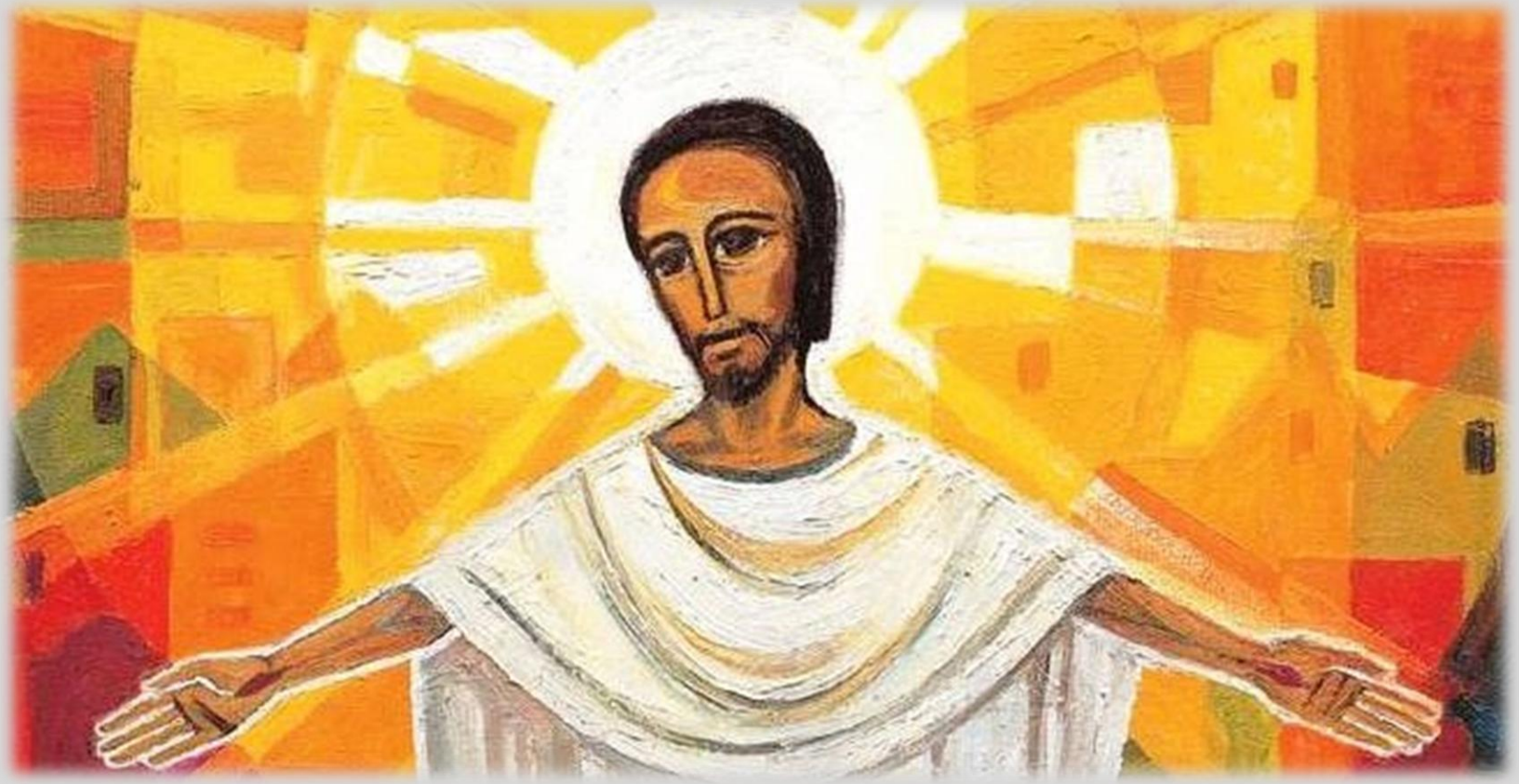
Merciful Father-

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

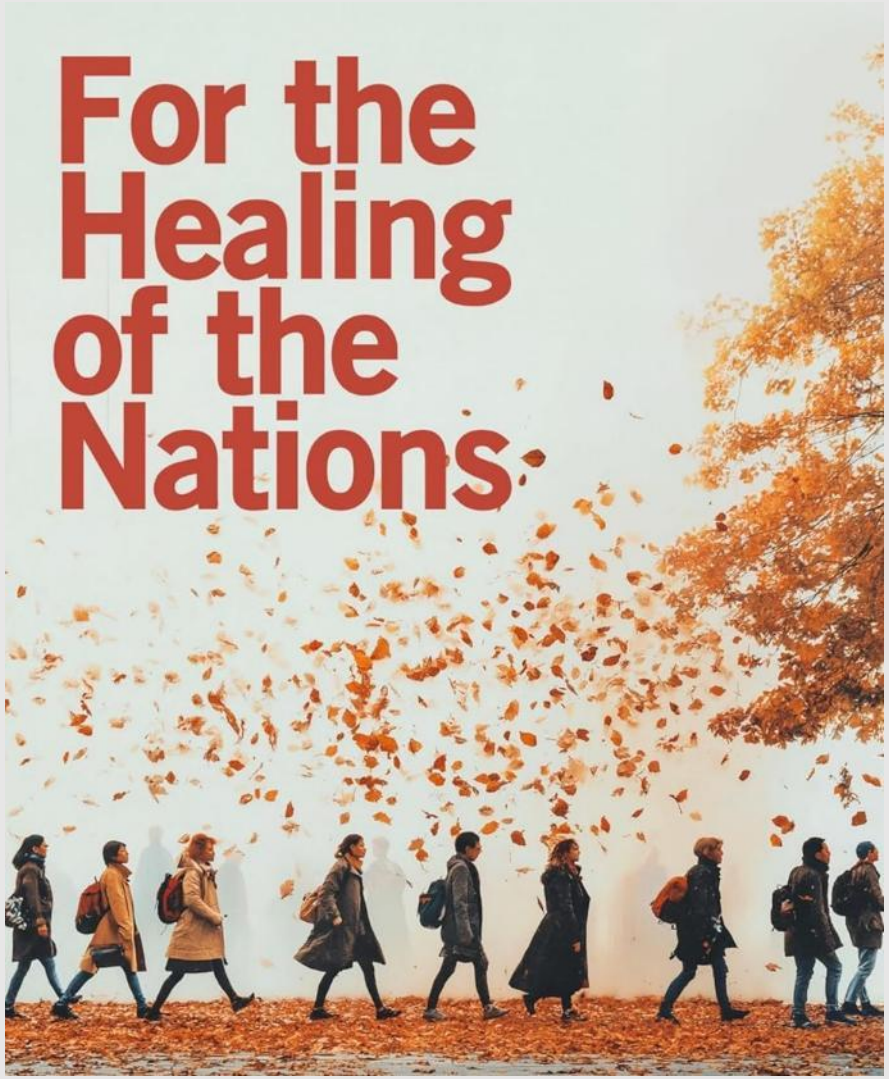


The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you



and also with you.



1For the healing of the nations
Lord, we pray with one accord
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

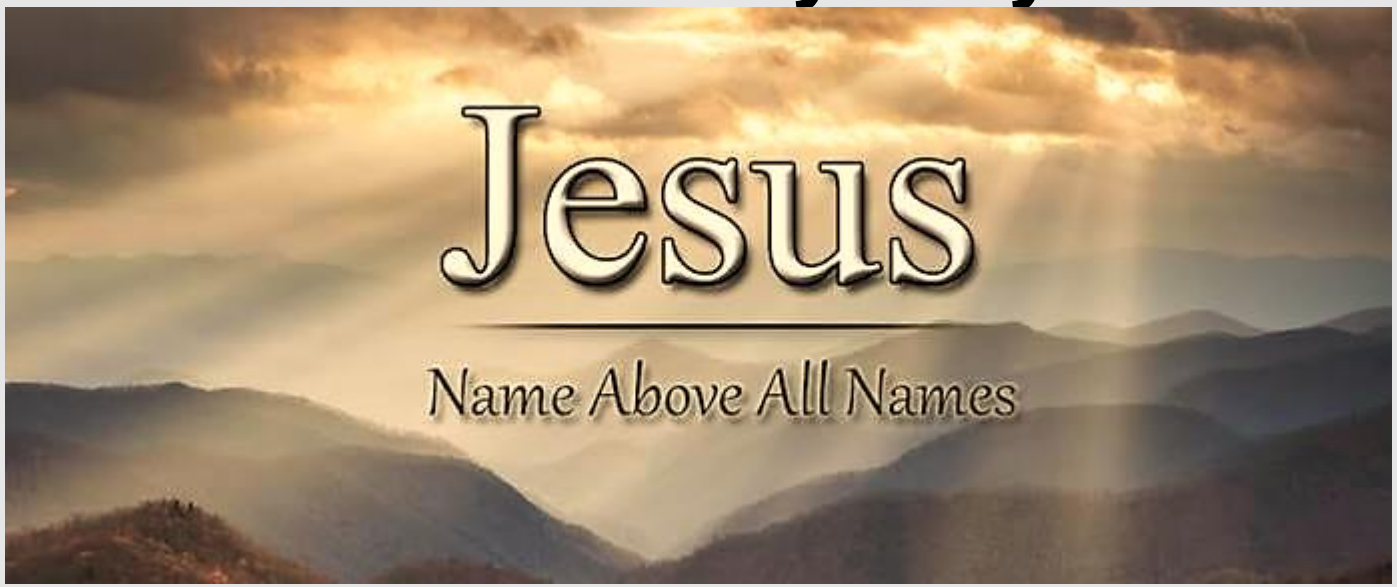


2Lead us forward into freedom
from despair your world release
that, redeemed from war and hatred
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through
care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3All that kills abundant living
let it from the earth be banned
pride of status, race, or schooling
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.



4. You, creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind
that our response and service
earth its destiny may find.



4/4 Fred Kaan (born 1929)

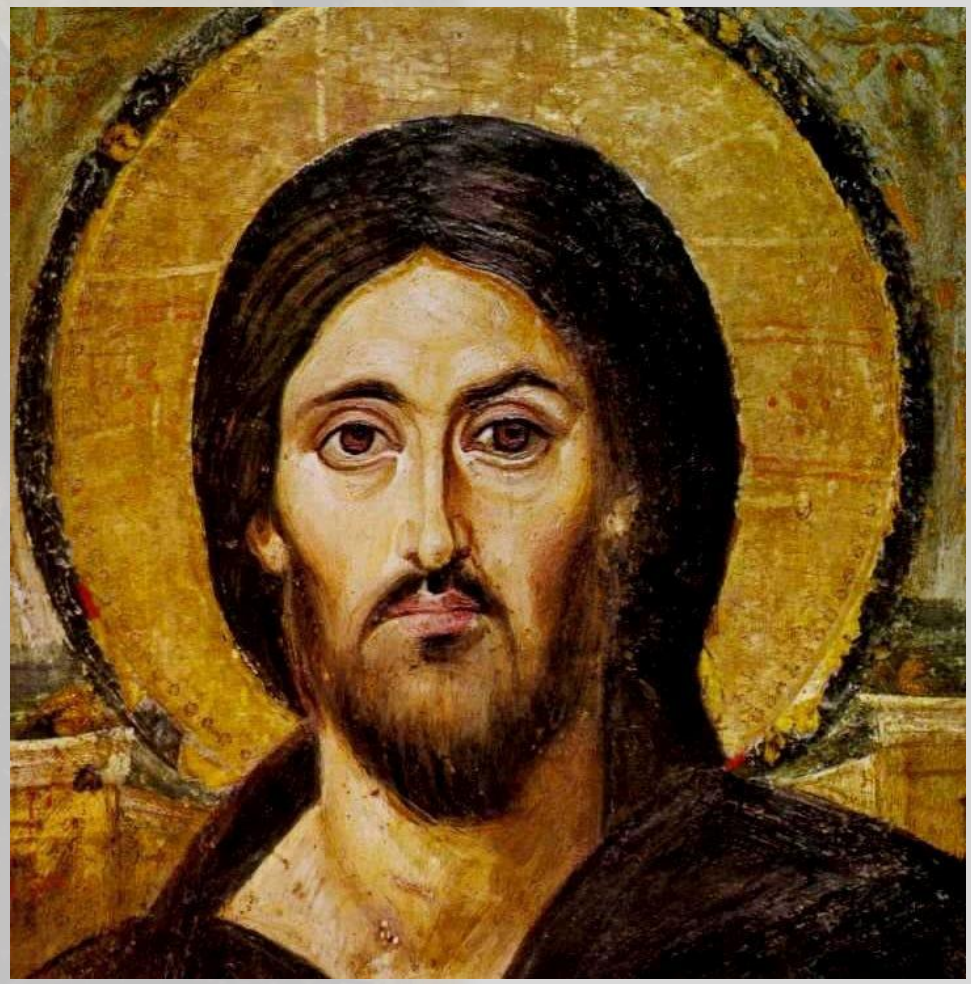
Wise and gracious God
you spread a table before us
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.
Amen



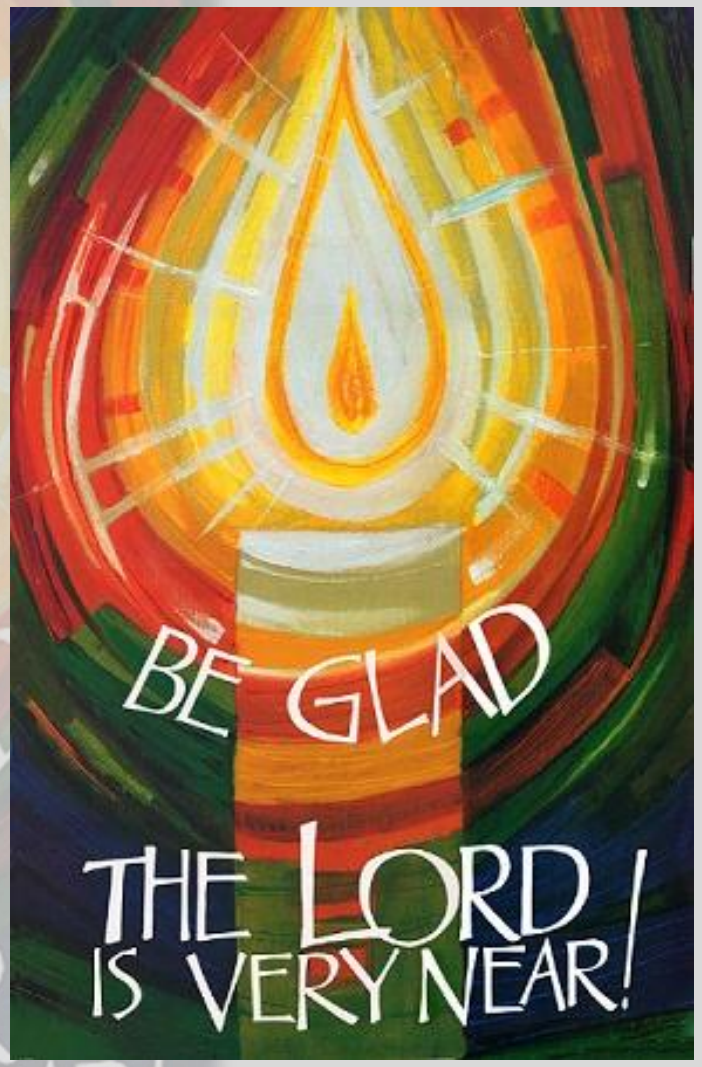
The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks
to the Lord our God.
It is right to give
thanks and praise.



It is indeed right
it is our duty and our joy
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise
because you are the source
of light and life.



You made us in your image
and called us to new life in him



Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

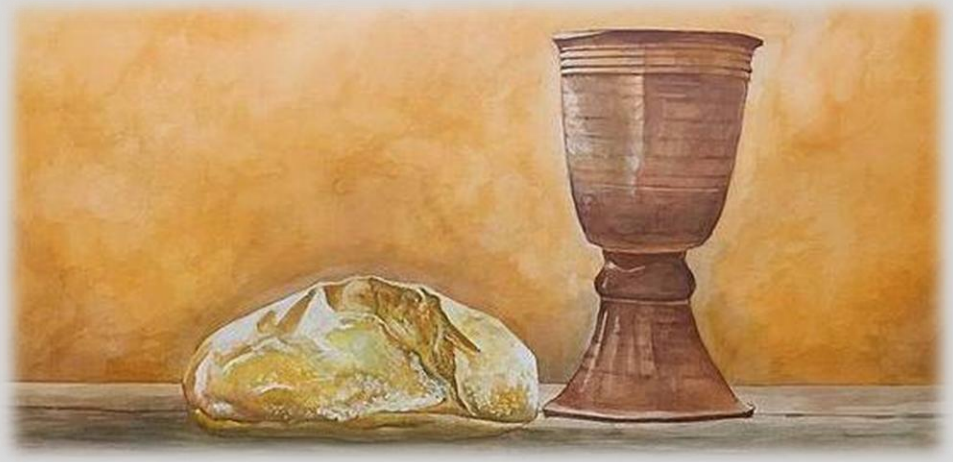
Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood



who, on the night when he was betrayed,
took bread and when he had given thanks
he broke it and said:
‘This is my body that is given for you
do this in remembrance of me’.



In the same way he took the cup also after supper saying
‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me’.

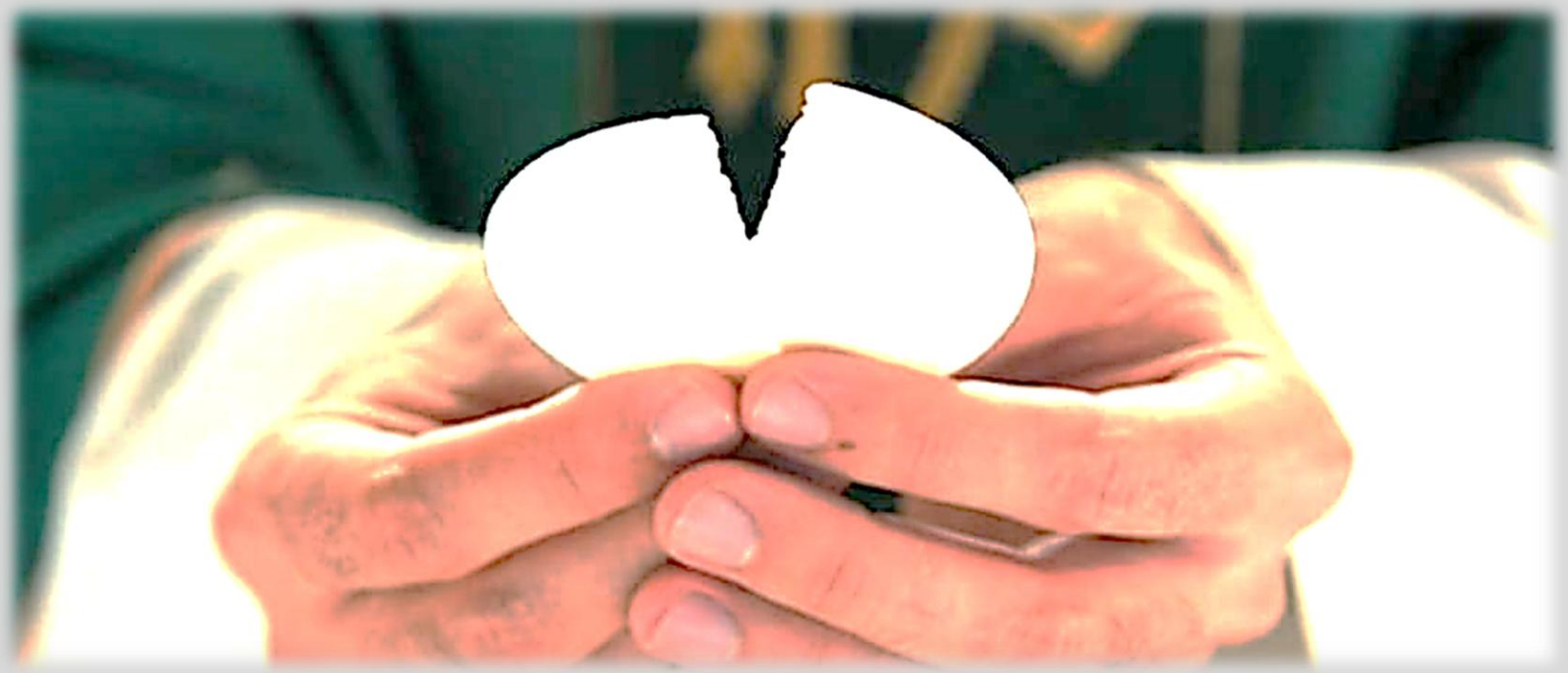


For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup
you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

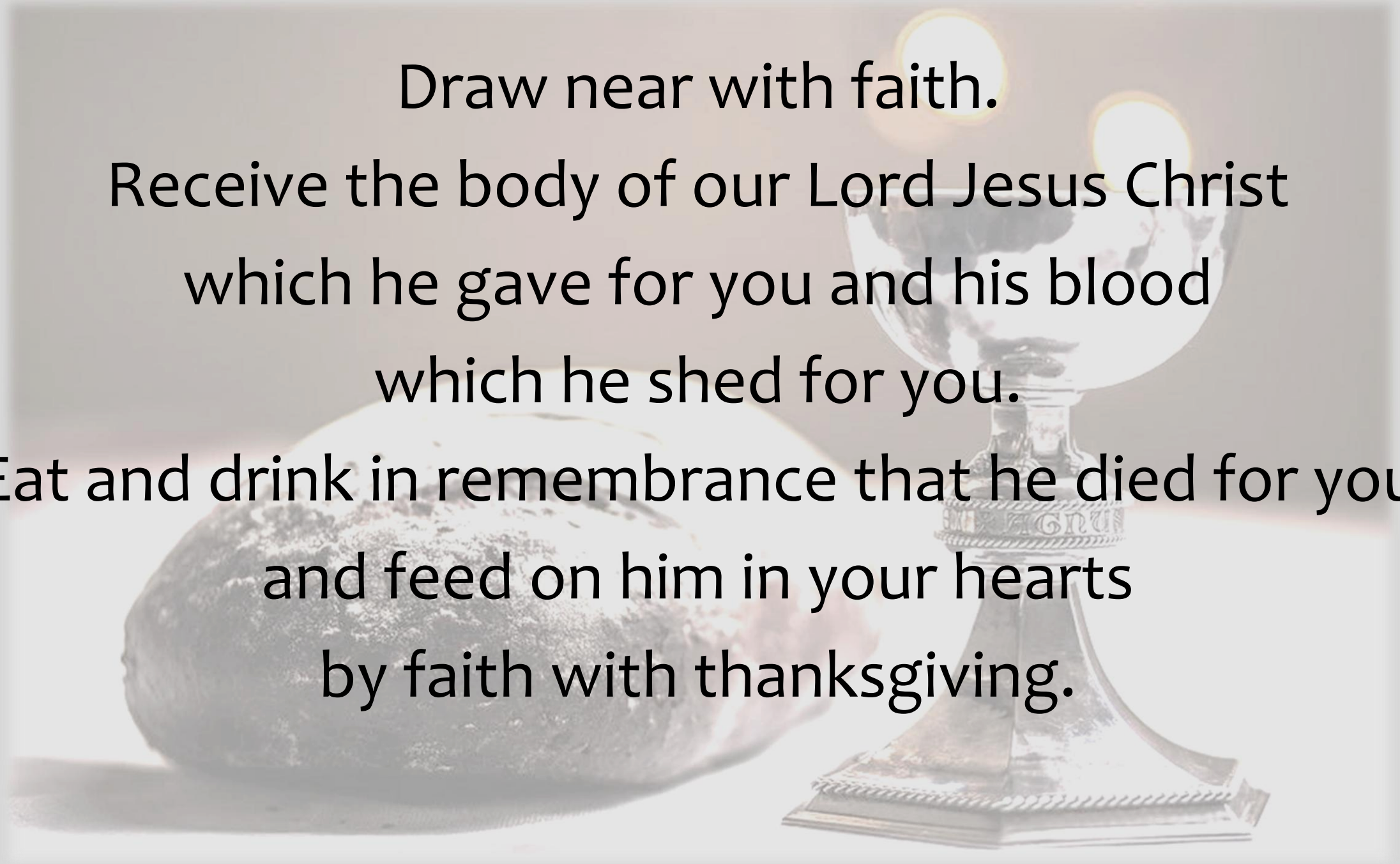
The Lord's Prayer

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.



Though we are many, we are one body
because we all share in one bread.



Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you and his blood

which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you

and feed on him in your hearts

by faith with thanksgiving.

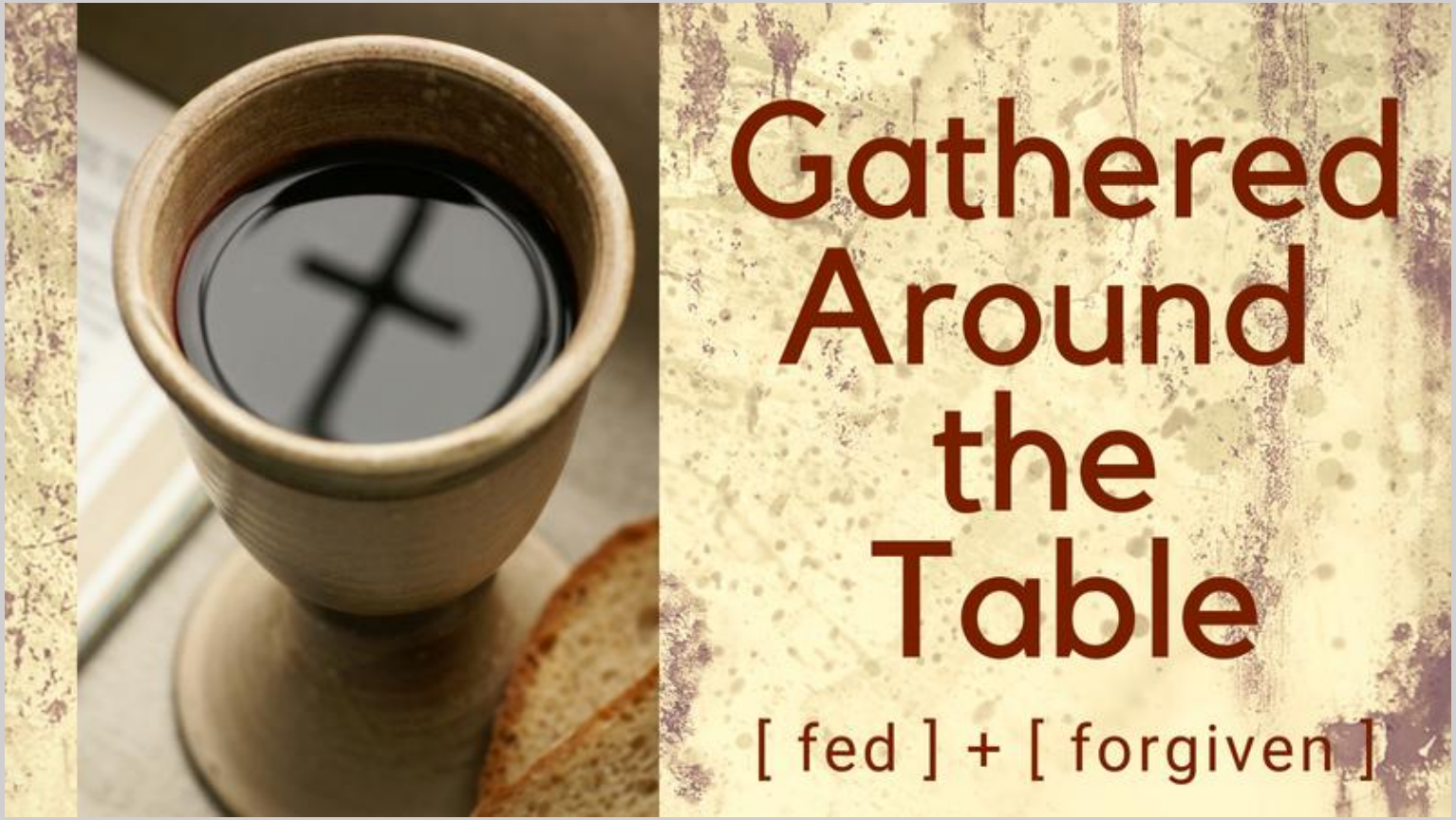
Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

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

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



Receiving the bread and wine



Anthem

‘So they gave their bodies’

Peter Aston



God of peace,
whose son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life
look with compassion on the anguish of the world
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations:
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

What is going on?

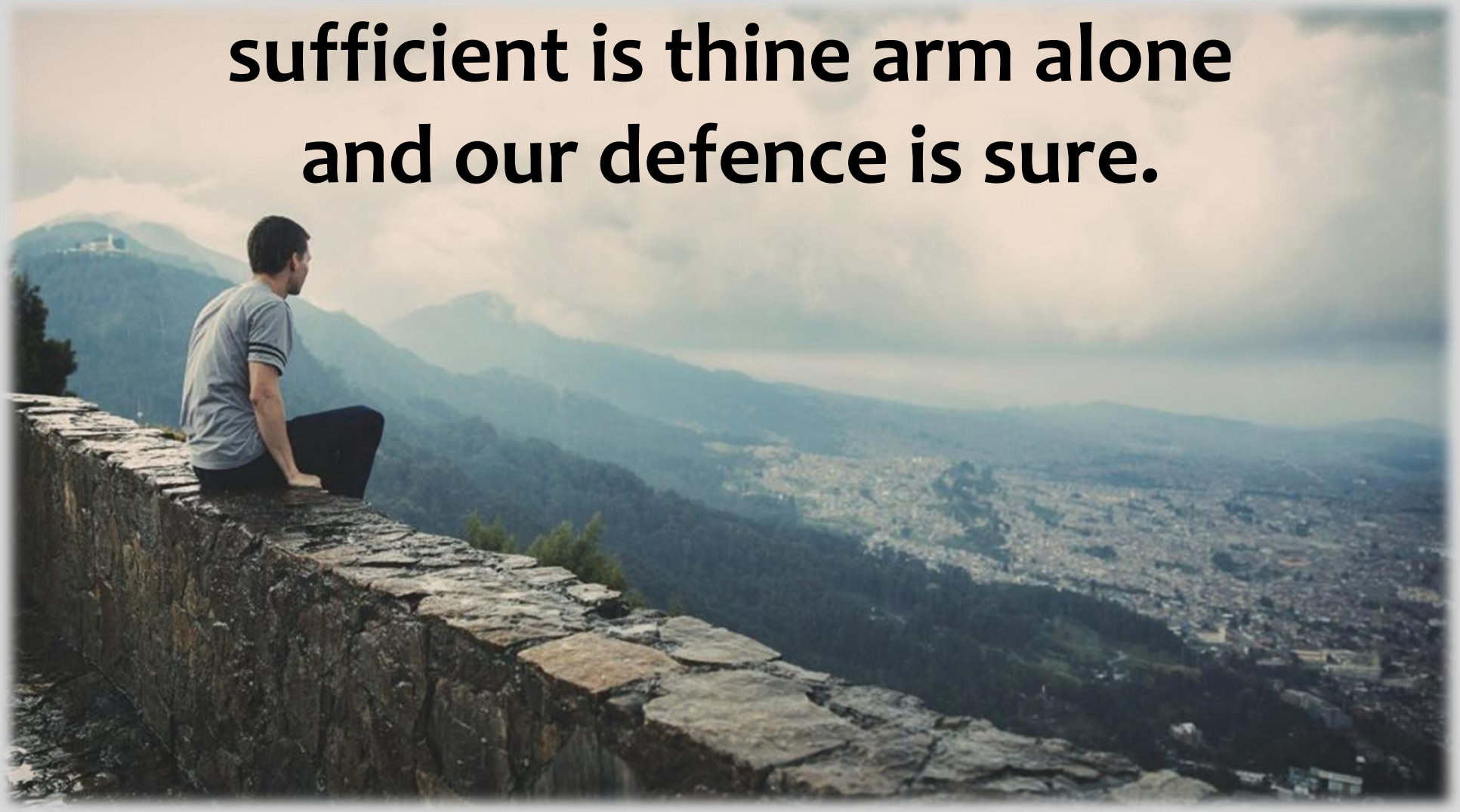
Family News



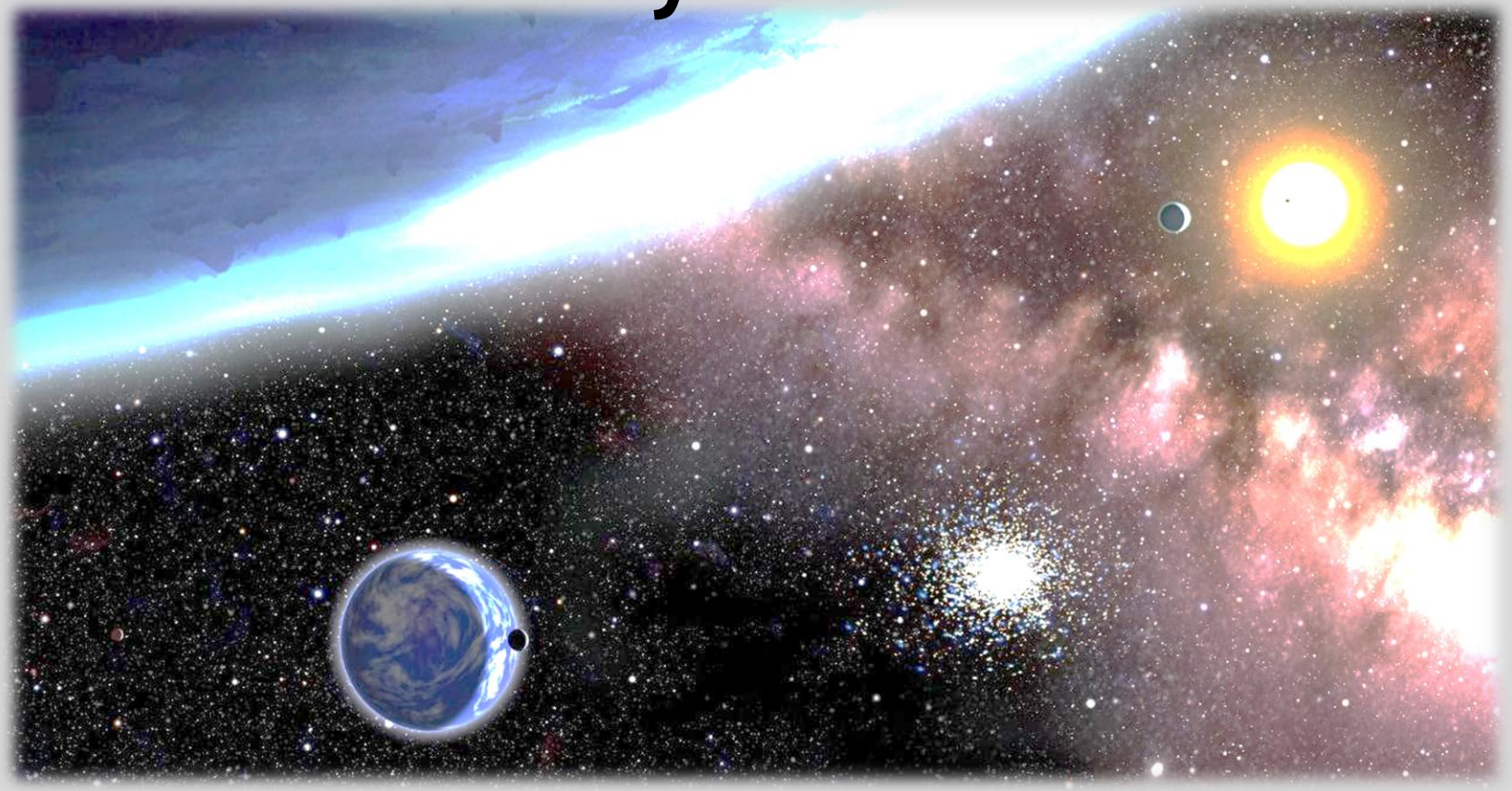
1 O God our help in ages past
our hope for years to come
our shelter from the stormy blast
and our eternal home.



2 Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure
sufficient is thine arm alone
and our defence is sure.



3Before the hills in order stood
or earth received her frame
from everlasting thou art God
to endless years the same.



At the War Memorial …. ..silence is kept





4A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.



5 **Time like an ever-rolling stream**
bears all its sons away
they fly forgotten as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.



Isaac Watts Based on Psalm 90

6Our God our help in ages past
our hope for years to come
be thou our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.



The Blessing



1God save our gracious King
long live our noble King
God save the King!
Send him victorious
happy and glorious
long to reign over us
God save the King!

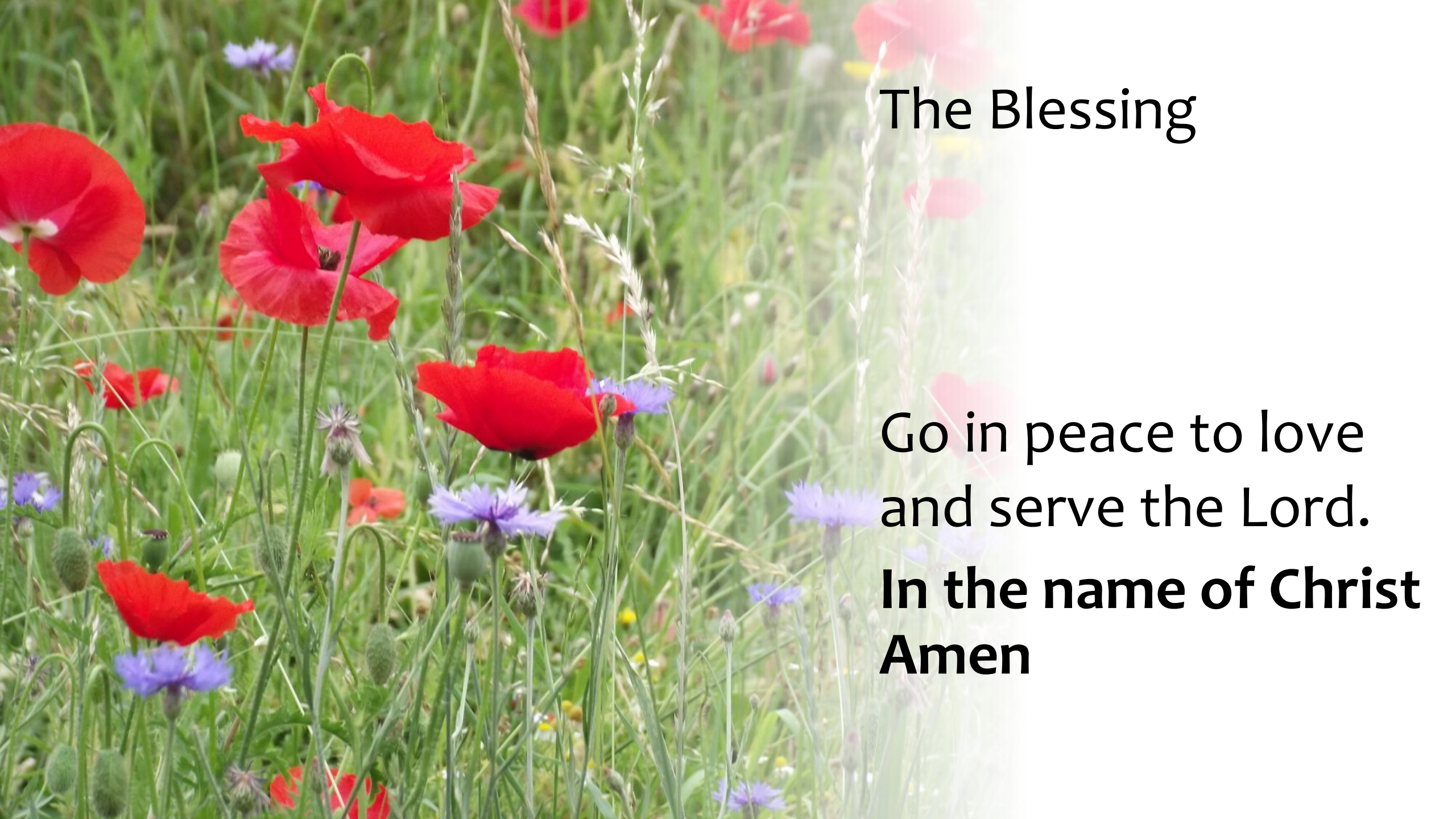


2 Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour
long may he reign!
May he defend our laws
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the King!



3Not in this land alone
but be God's mercies known
on ev'ry shore!
Lord make the nations see that all humanity
should form one family the wide world o'er.





The Blessing

Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ
Amen





Christ Church Organ

Organ Voluntary

‘O Mensch bewein BWV622’ - J S Bach