

EPHESIANS

THE SEARCH FOR OUR TRUE IDENTITY



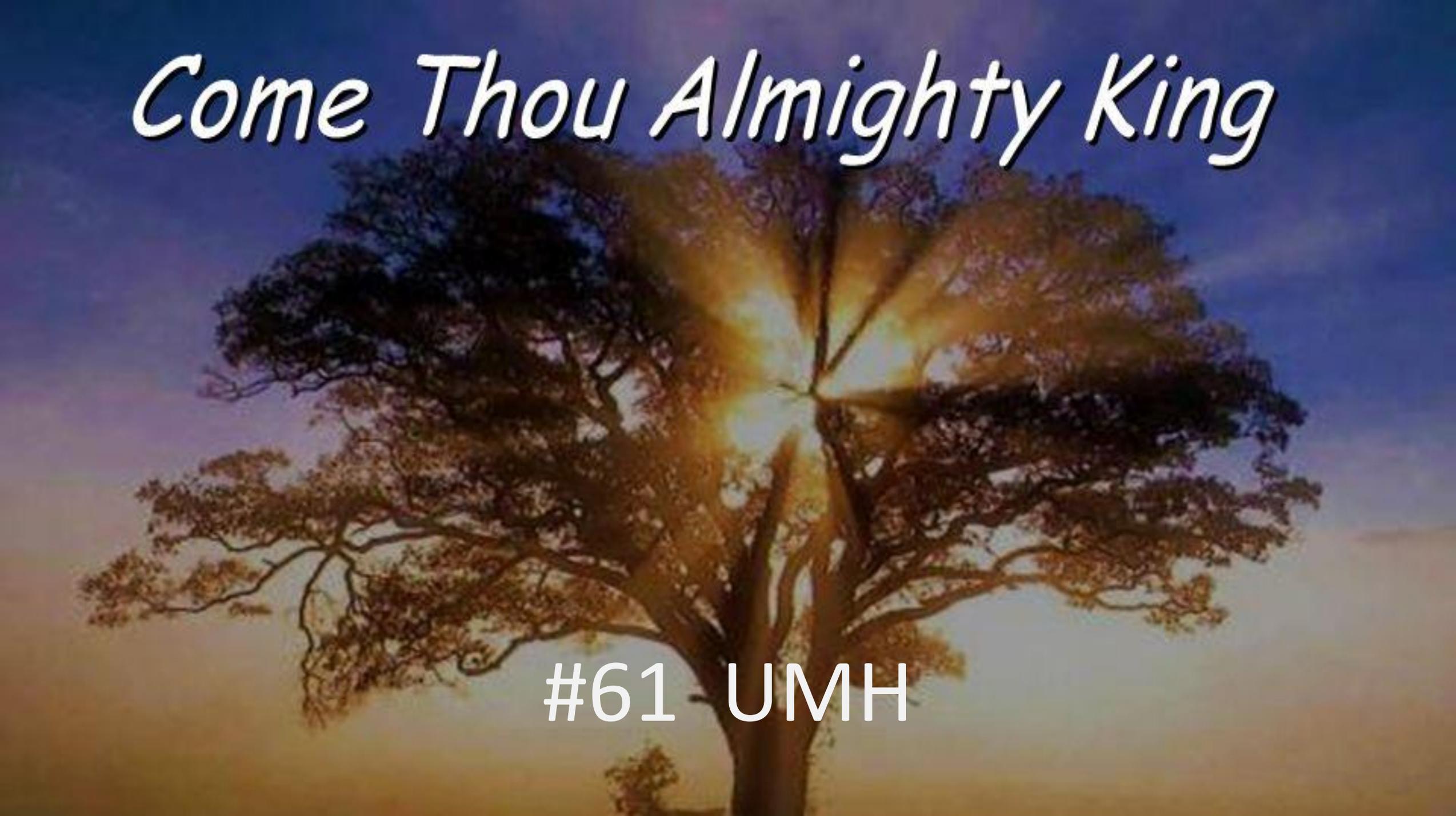
Jan 3,
2021

Pastor
Gary
Spraker

Oriskany Falls United Methodist Church

Come Thou Almighty King

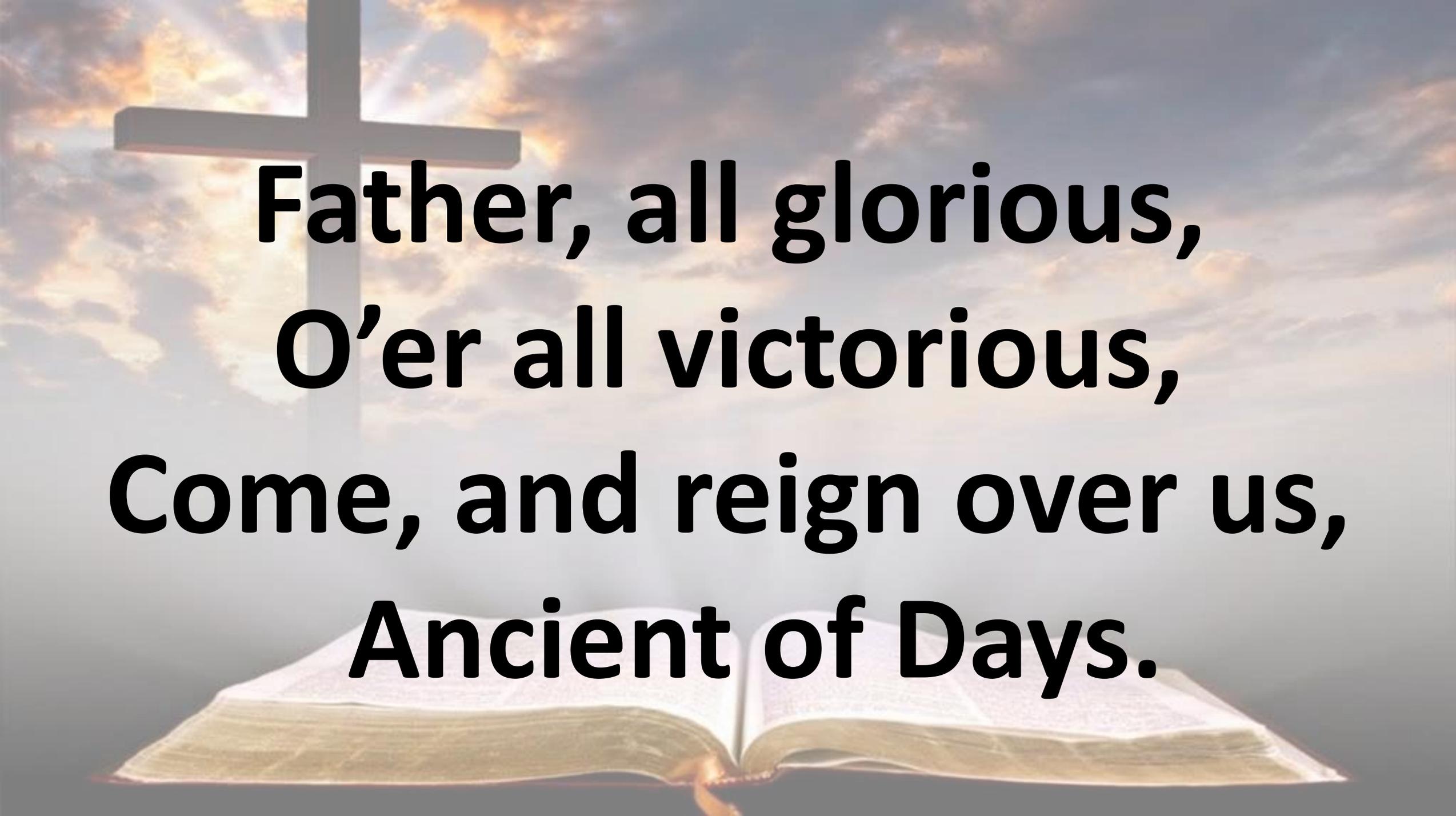
#61 UMH



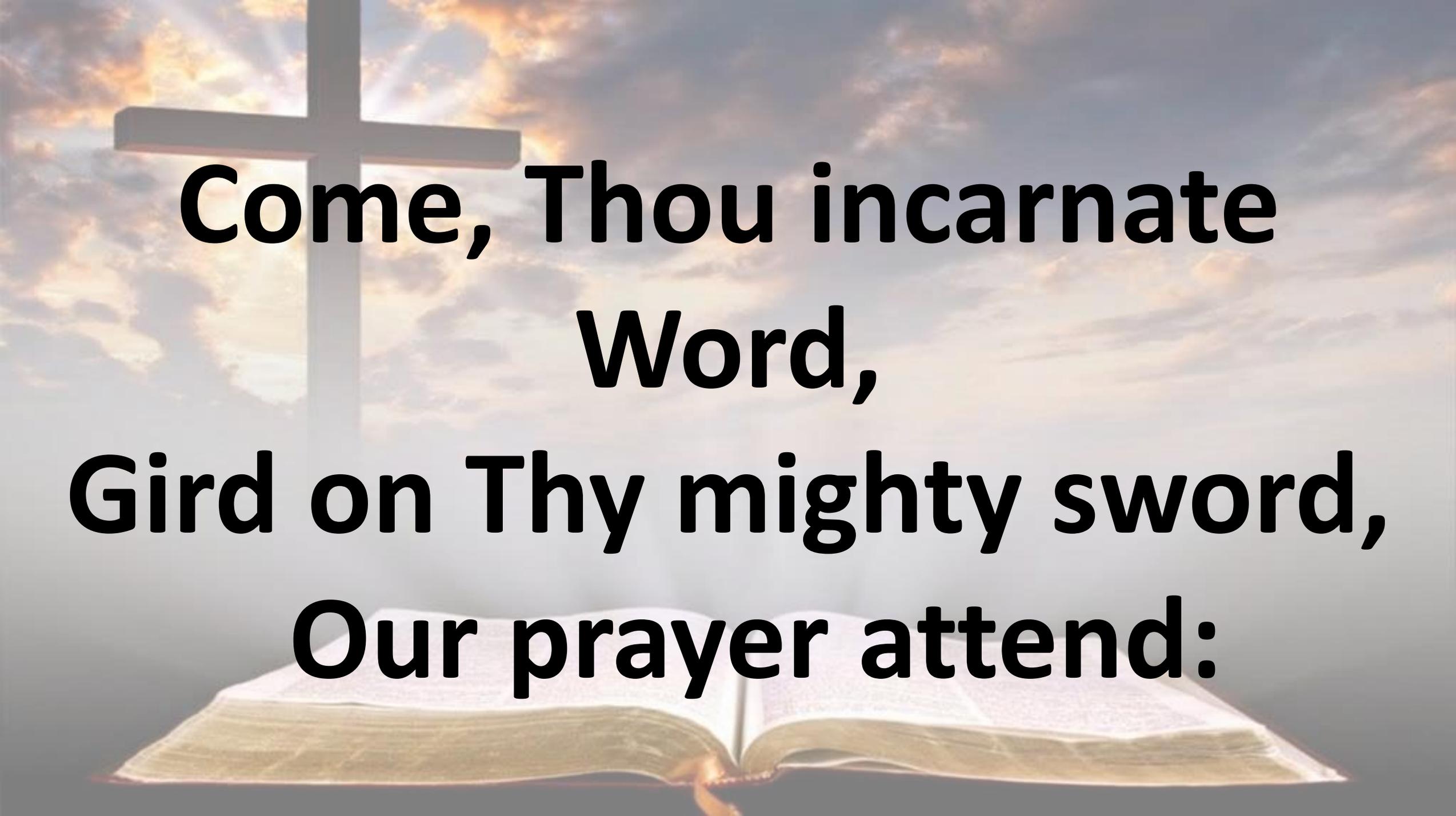


**Come, Thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.**

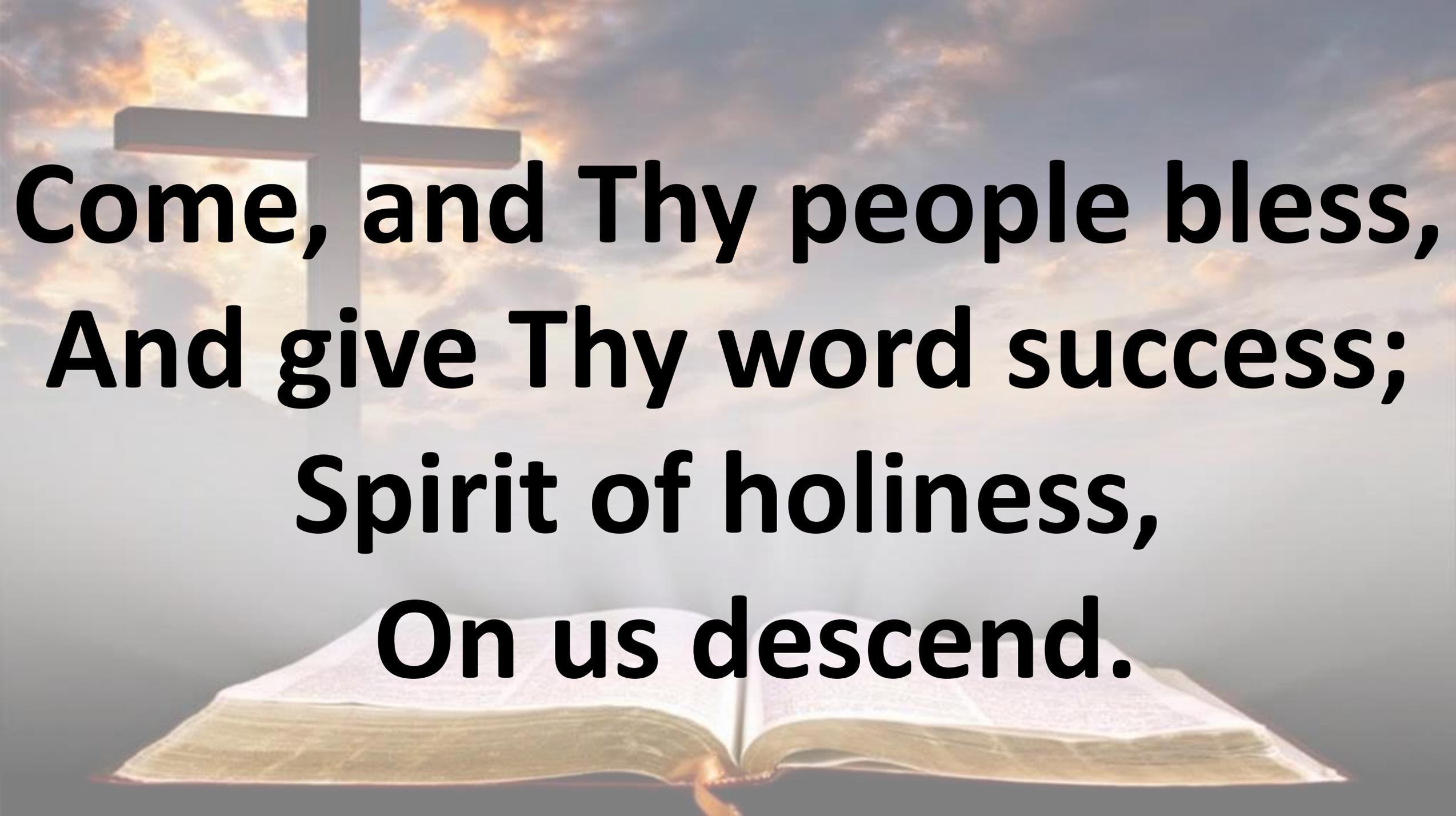




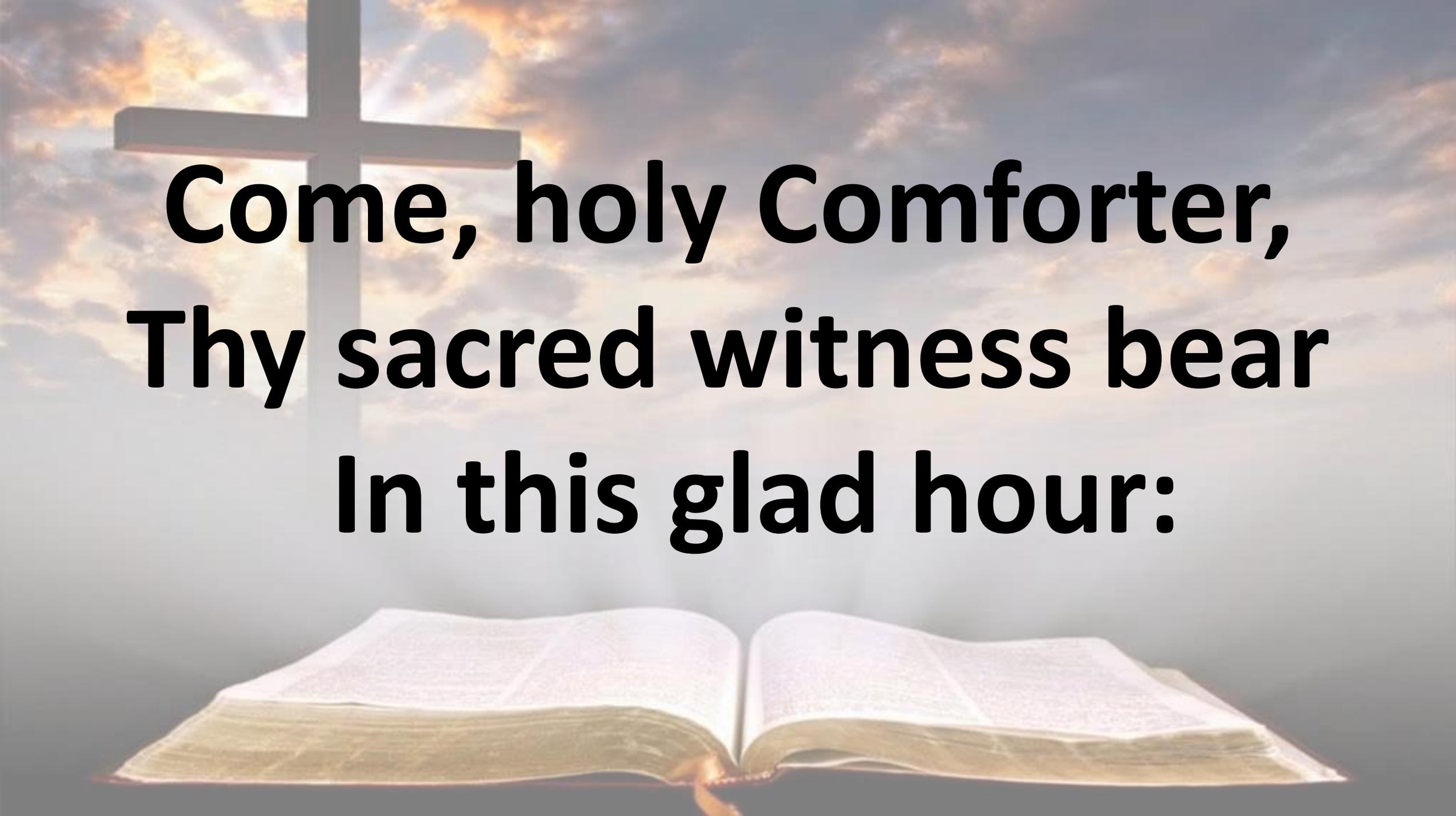
**Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.**



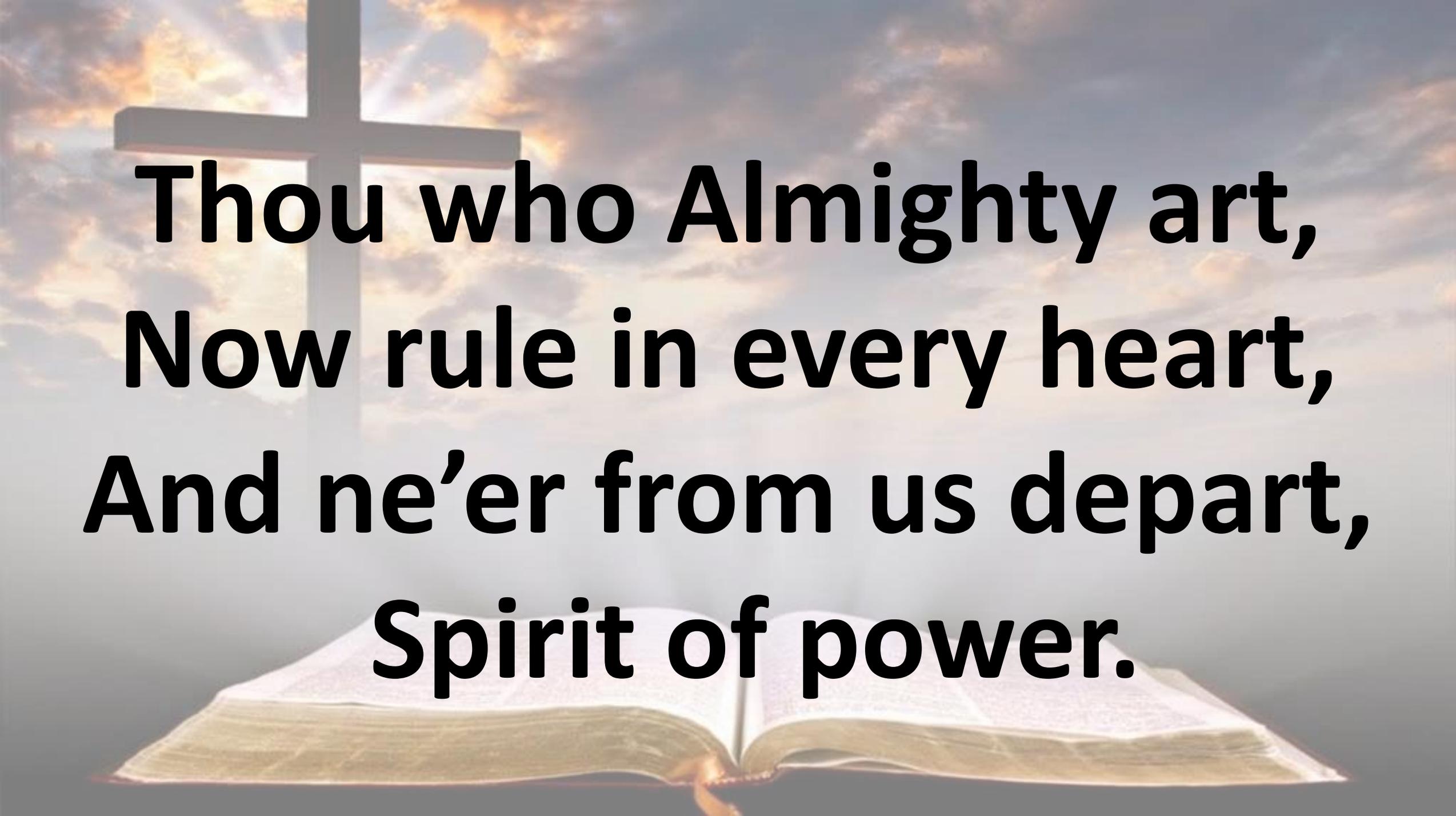
**Come, Thou incarnate
Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend:**



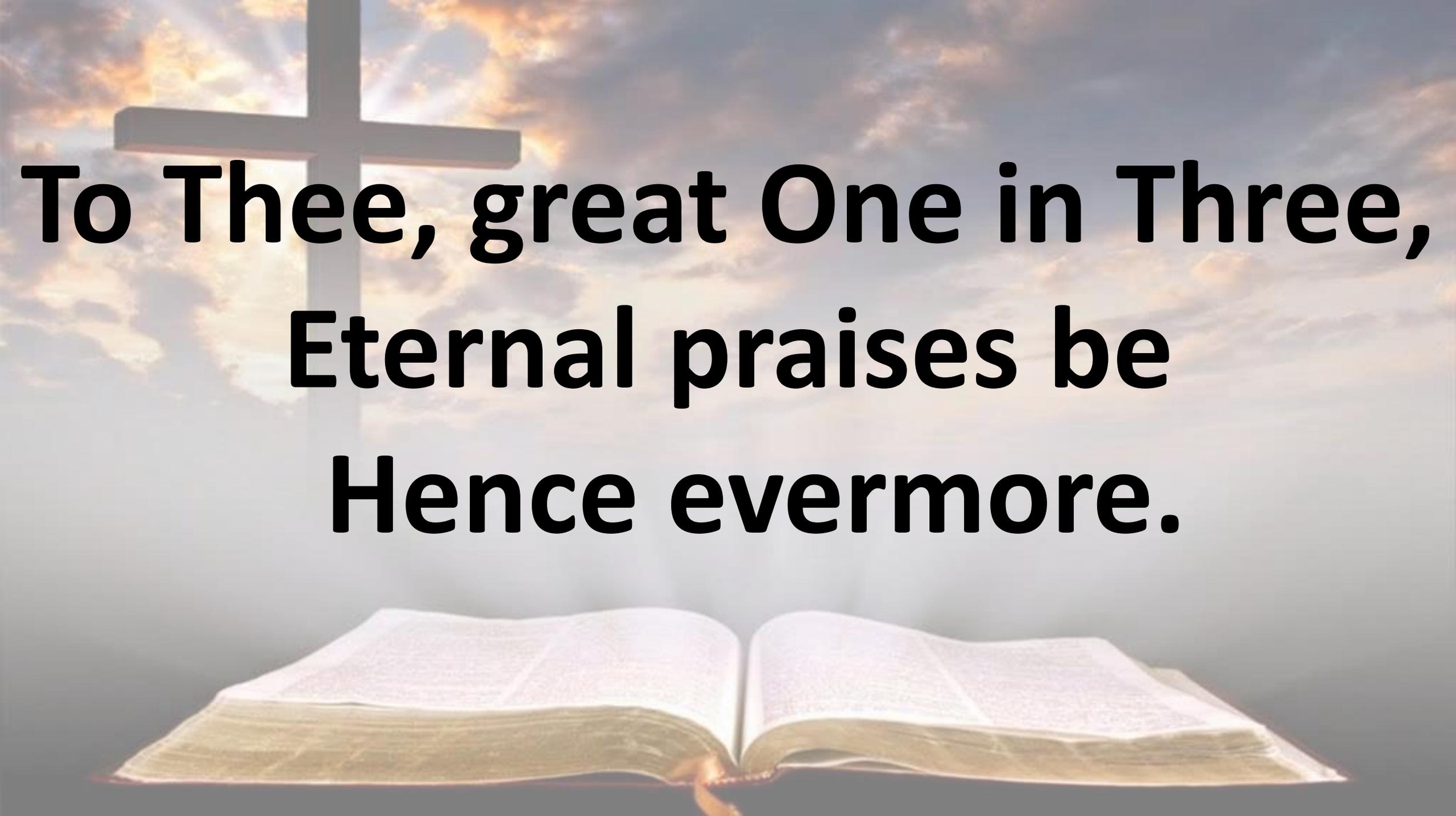
**Come, and Thy people bless,
And give Thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.**



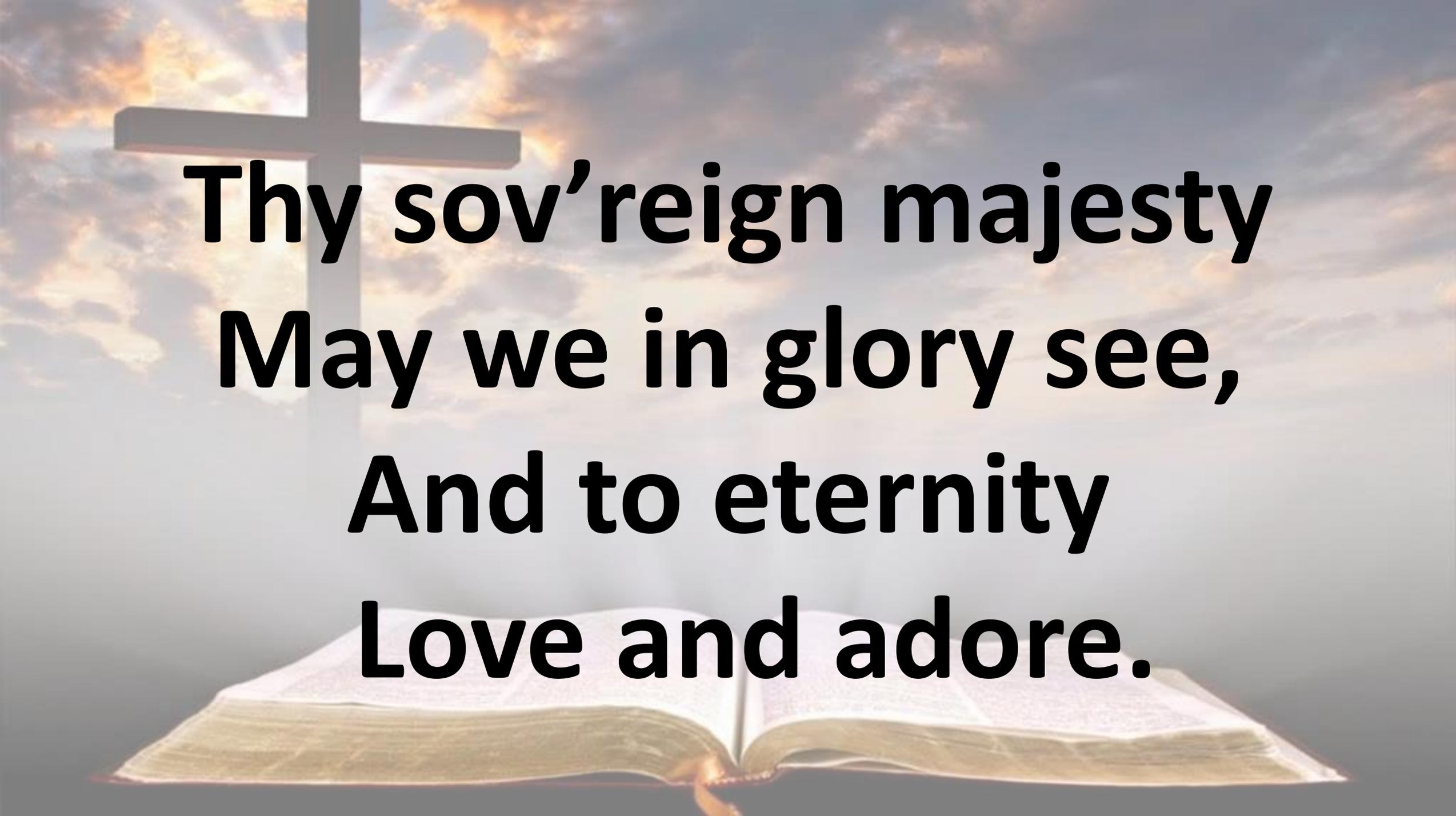
**Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour:**



**Thou who Almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.**



**To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore.**

The background of the image is a soft-focus sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow light breaking through light blue and white clouds. A large, semi-transparent grey cross is positioned in the upper left quadrant. At the bottom of the image, an open book with aged, yellowed pages is visible, with a small red ribbon bookmark protruding from the center. The text is centered over the image in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

**Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.**



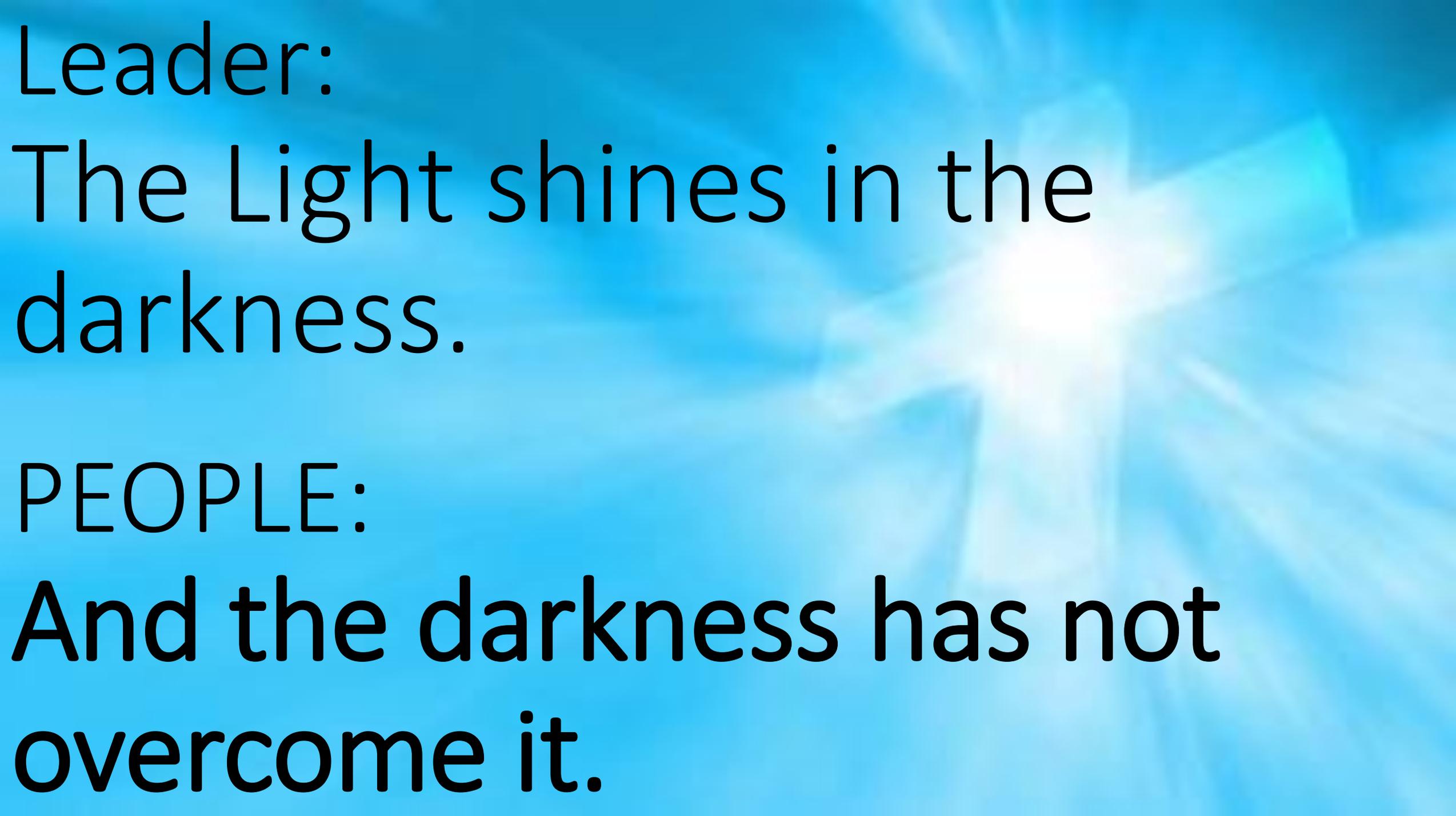
A CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:

The people who walked in
darkness have seen a Great
Light.

PEOPLE:

Those who lived in a land of
deep darkness – on them
light has shined.

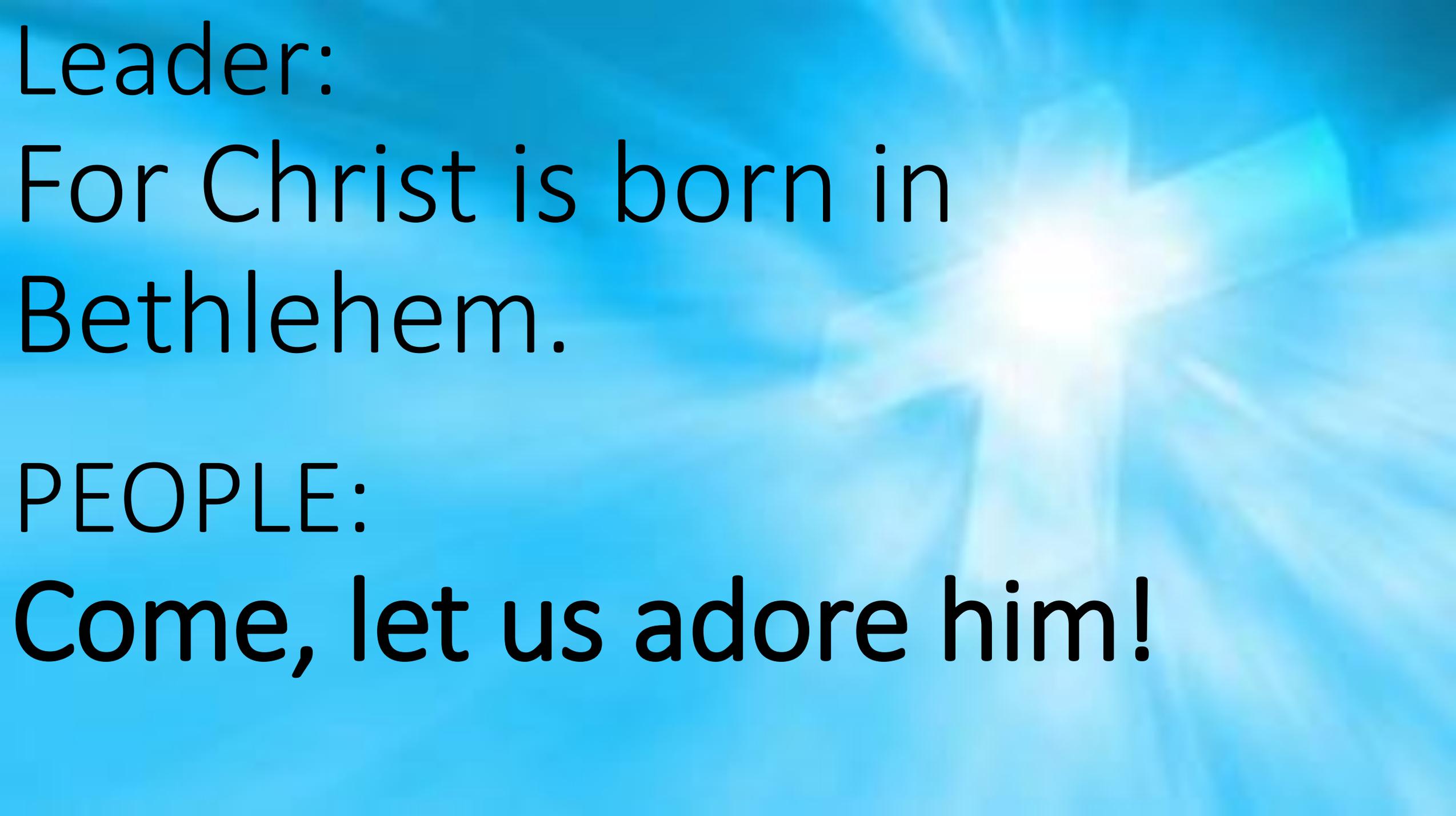


Leader:

The Light shines in the
darkness.

PEOPLE:

And the darkness has not
overcome it.

A bright white cross is centered on a blue background. The cross has a glowing, sunburst-like effect around it, with rays of light extending outwards. The background is a gradient of blue, darker at the edges and lighter towards the center.

Leader:

For Christ is born in
Bethlehem.

PEOPLE:

Come, let us adore him!

A bright sun shining through a window with light rays.

Leader:

Let us now Worship the Lord!

All:

Amen!



THIS WEEK

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



A person wearing a white, flowing robe stands waist-deep in a body of water. Their arms are raised high in the air, palms facing up. The water splashes around their legs, creating a misty spray. In the clear blue sky above, a white dove with its wings spread is visible, symbolizing the Holy Spirit. The overall scene is bright and evocative, suggesting a moment of spiritual joy or baptism.

Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People



THE LORD'S

OUR FATHER, WHO ART
IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE
THY NAME. THY KINGDOM
COME. THY WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US THIS DAY OUR
DAILY BREAD. AND FORGIVE
US OUR TRESPASSES AS

PRAYER

WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO
TRESPASS AGAINST US,
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER
US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE
IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE
POWER, AND THE GLORY,
FOR EVER. AMEN.



OFFERING TIME

“The offering is an act of worship”

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Amen



A large, ancient tree with thick, gnarled roots and dense green foliage stands in a lush green field. The tree's trunk is massive and textured, with roots spreading out across the ground. The background shows a rolling landscape with more trees and a clear sky.

How Firm a Foundation

**How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
in His excellent word!**



**What more can He say
than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?**



**“Fear not, I am with thee,
O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and
will still give thee aid;**



I'll strengthen thee, help thee,
and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous,
omnipotent hand."



**“When through the deep
waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of woe
shall not thee overflow;**



For I will be with thee,
thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee
thy deepest distress.”



**“When through fiery trials
thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient,
shall be thy supply;**



The flame shall not hurt
thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume,
and thy gold to refine.”



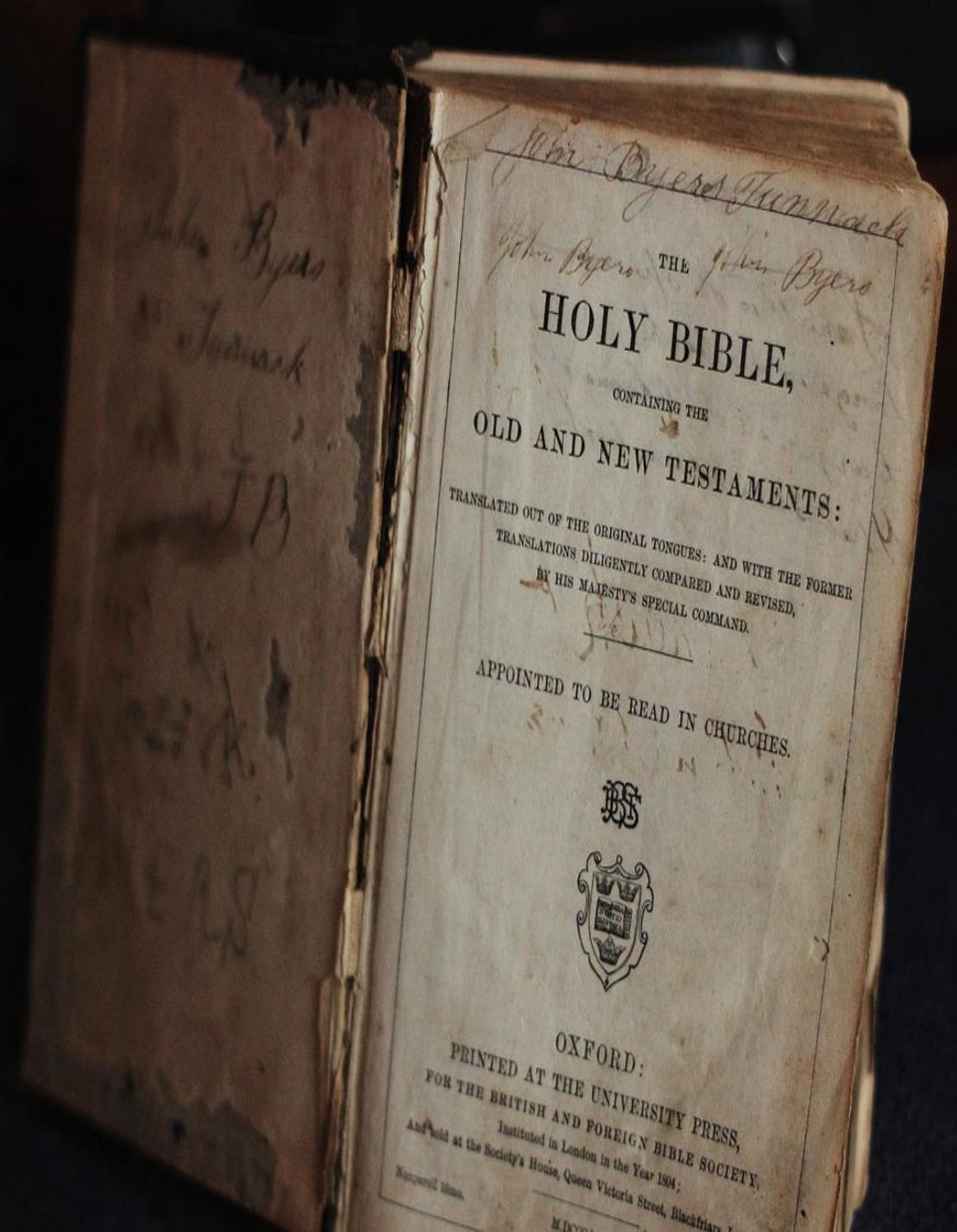
**“The soul that on Jesus
hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not
desert to his foes;**



That soul, though all hell
should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!"



OLD TESTAMENT:
JEREMIAH
31:7-14



THE
NEW TESTAMENT
OF
OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR
JESUS CHRIST,
TRANSLATED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL GREEK: AND WITH THE
BEST TRANSLATIONS DILIGENTLY COMPARED AND REVISED, BY
THE KING'S MAJESTY'S SPECIAL COMMAND.

Appointed to be read in Churches.

NEW TESTAMENT: EPHESIANS 1:1-14

Today's Message

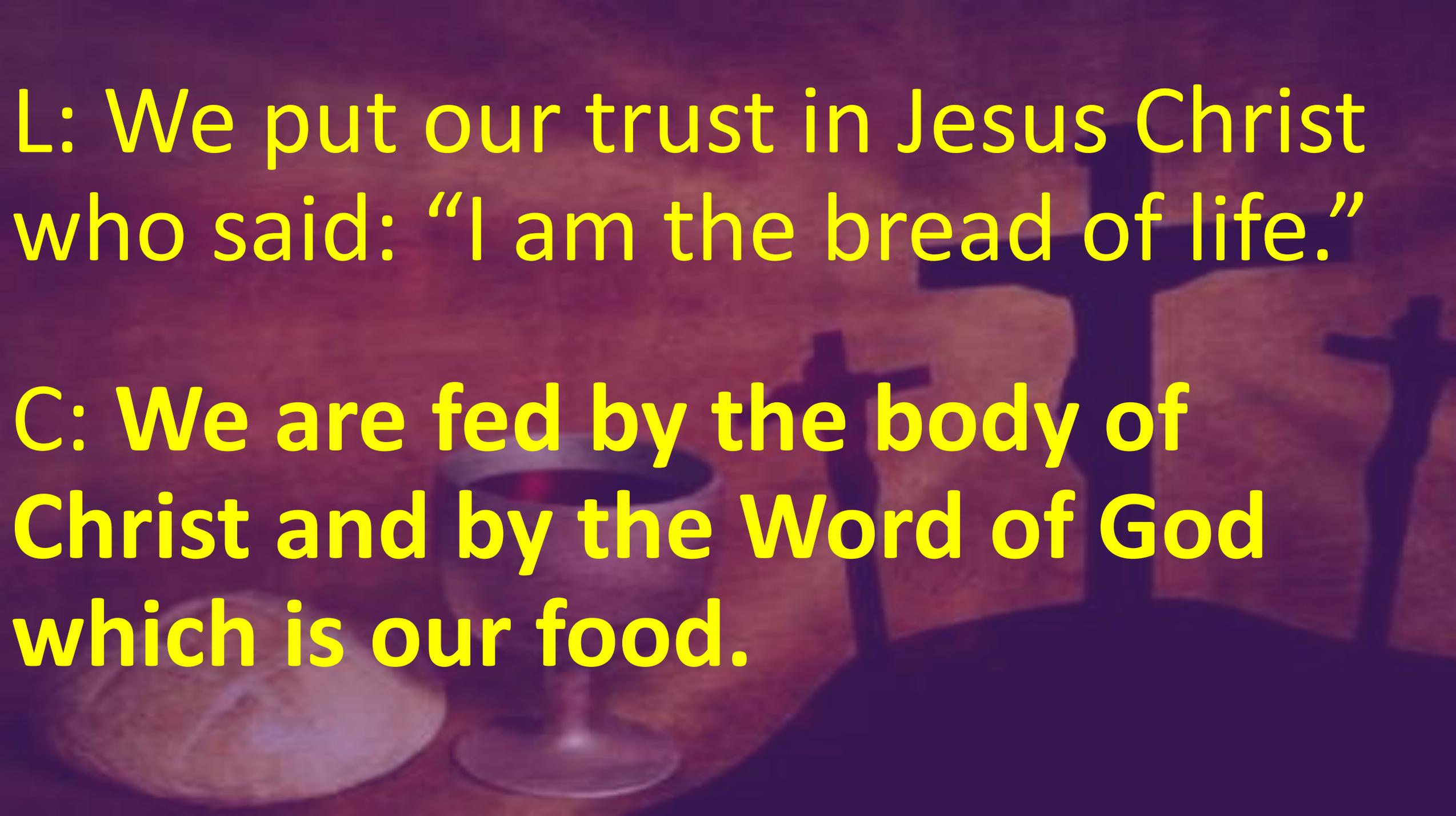
**MESSAGE SERIES FOR THE NEW YEAR,
FOR A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY 2021:
THE POWER OF DEEP AND ABIDING FAITH,
PART 2:
LIFE COACHING FROM PAUL IN EPHESIANS.**

Pastor Gary Spraker

HOLY COMMUNION

“DO THIS IN
REMEMBRANCE
OF ME.”



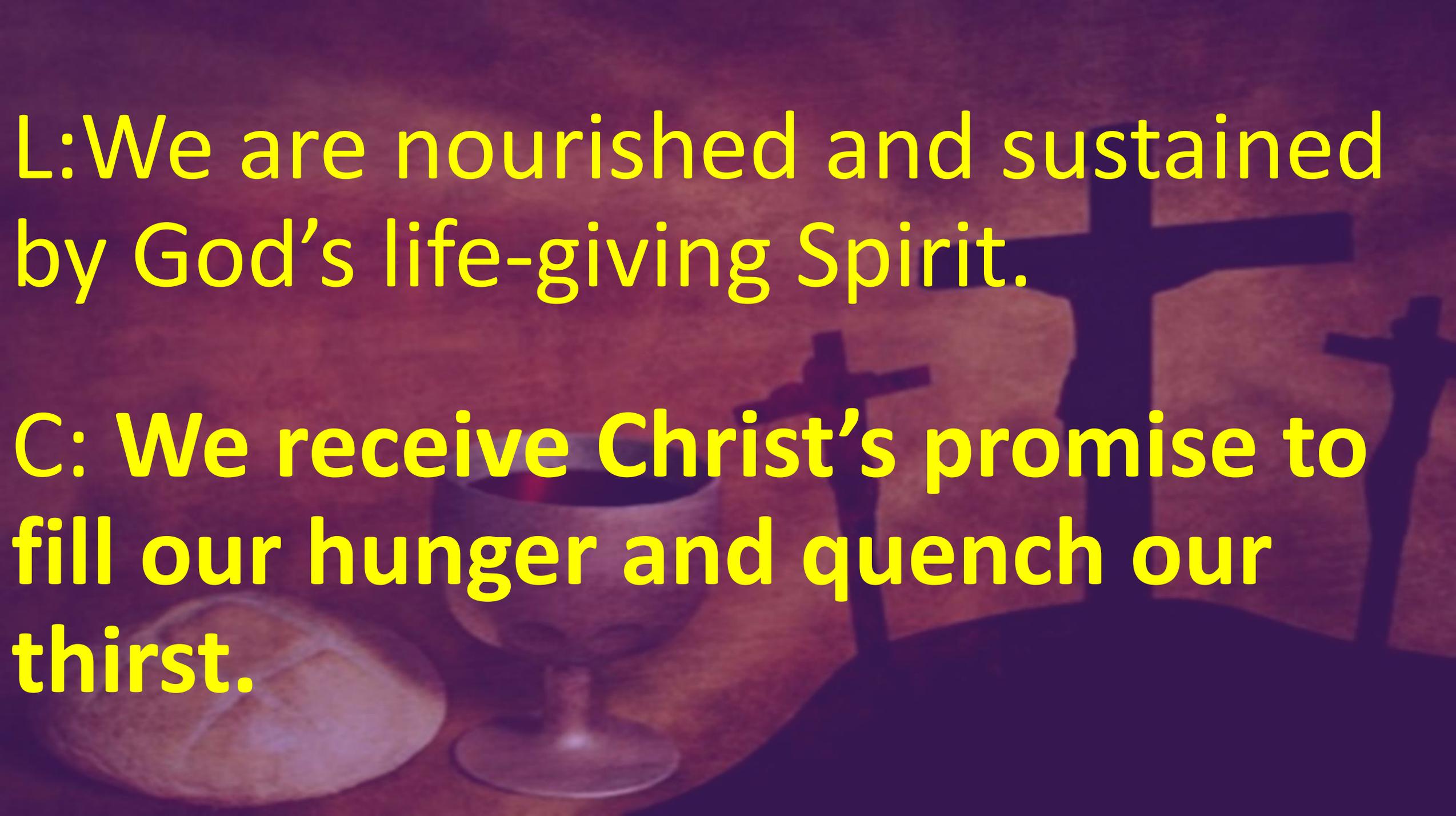


L: We put our trust in Jesus Christ who said: "I am the bread of life."

C: We are fed by the body of Christ and by the Word of God which is our food.

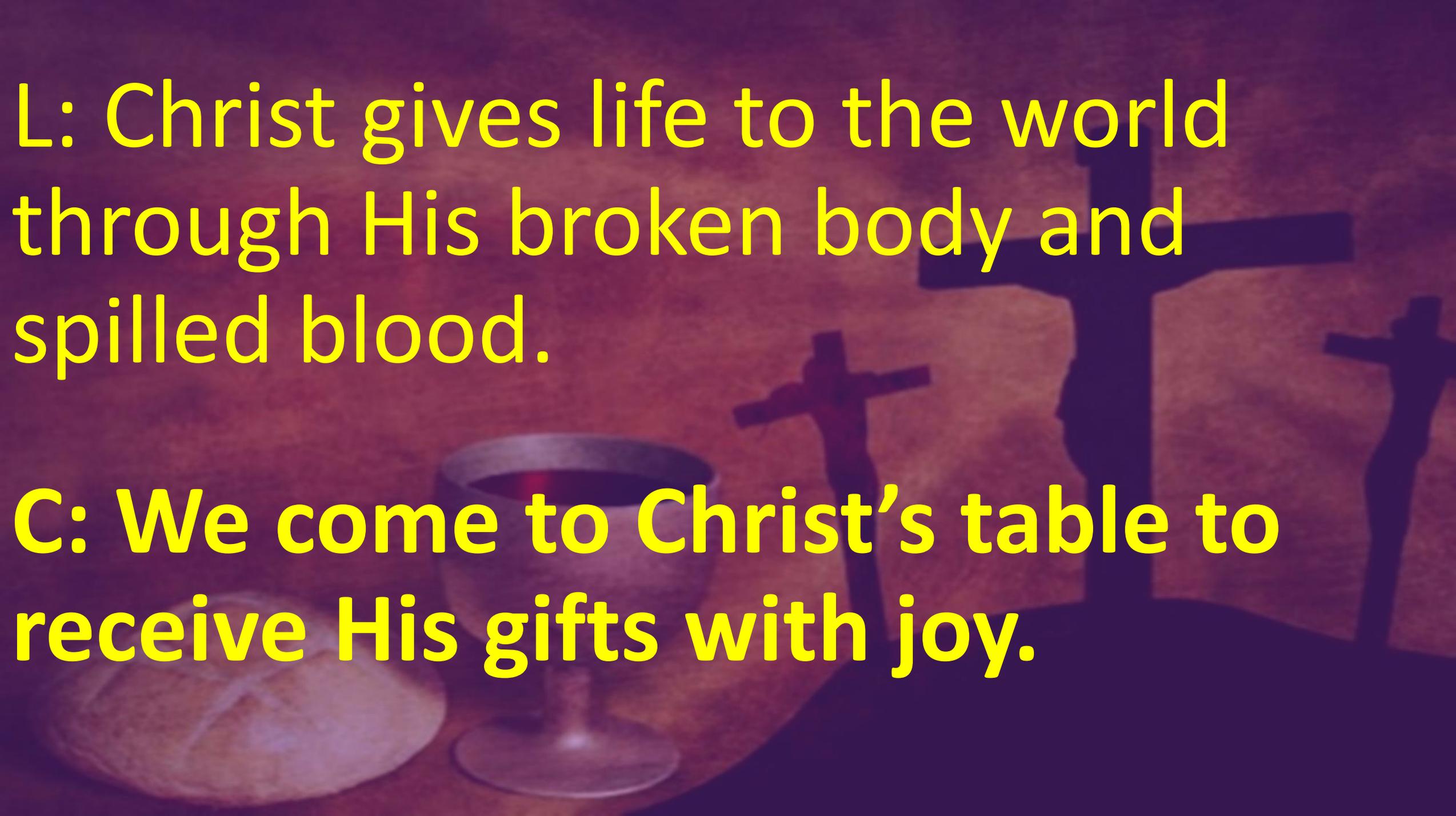
L: We are nourished and sustained by God's life-giving Spirit.

C: We receive Christ's promise to fill our hunger and quench our thirst.



L: Christ gives life to the world through His broken body and spilled blood.

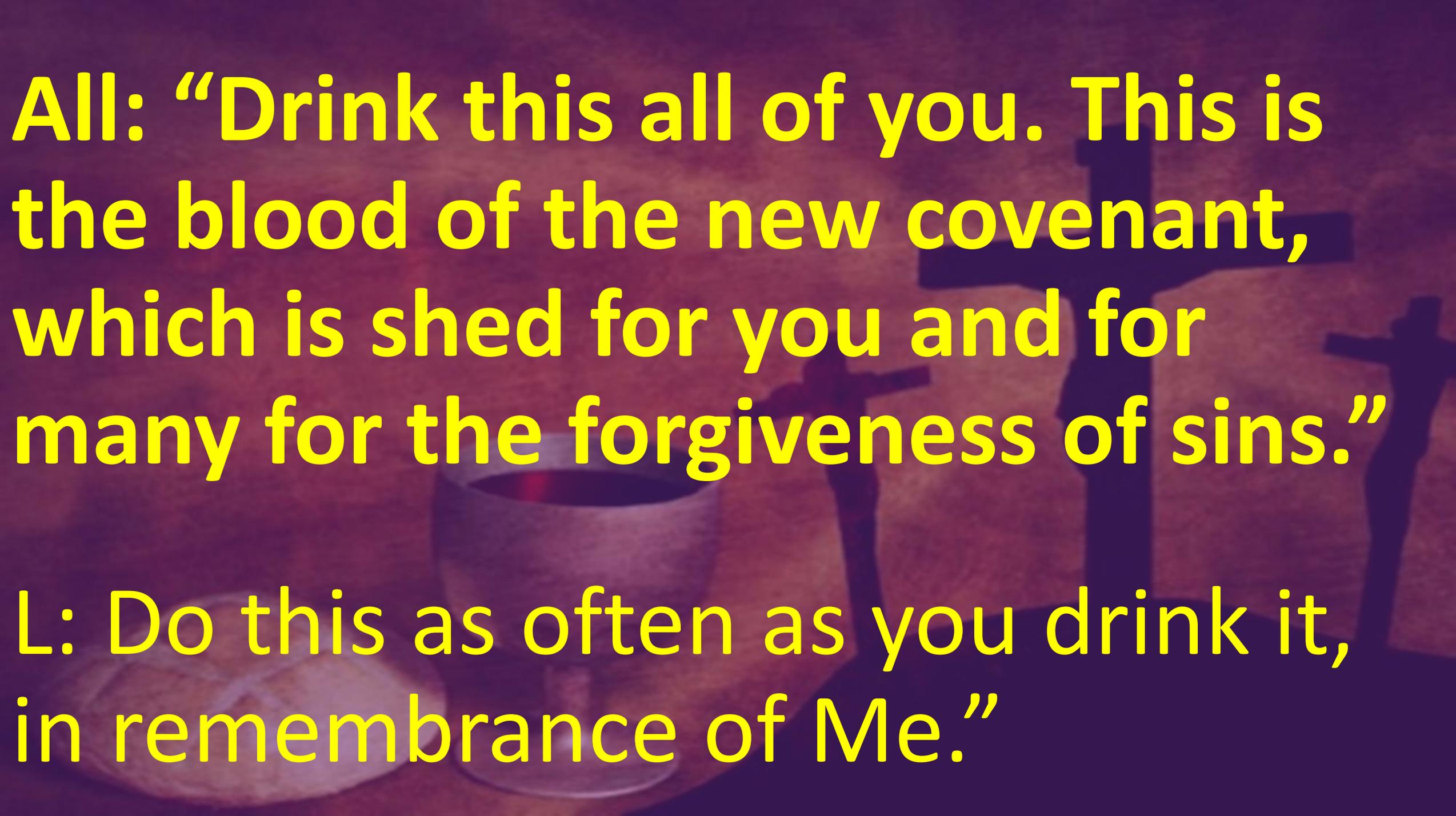
C: We come to Christ's table to receive His gifts with joy.



All: Christ is our living bread!
Thanks be to God!

L: In the same way He took the cup
and said:



A still life photograph of a chalice filled with red wine and a plate of bread on a wooden table. In the background, several wooden crosses are visible against a dark, textured wall. The lighting is warm and focused on the table.

All: “Drink this all of you. This is the blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

L: Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

L: Father, in obedience to Your Son Jesus Christ, we celebrate with this bread and this cup, His victory on the cross, lifting our hearts to you in joyful thanksgiving.



L: We praise You for Your whole creation, that through it we may see your glory; and we thank you, that as Jesus Christ, we die to sin and are raised to new life.



All:

Christ has died;

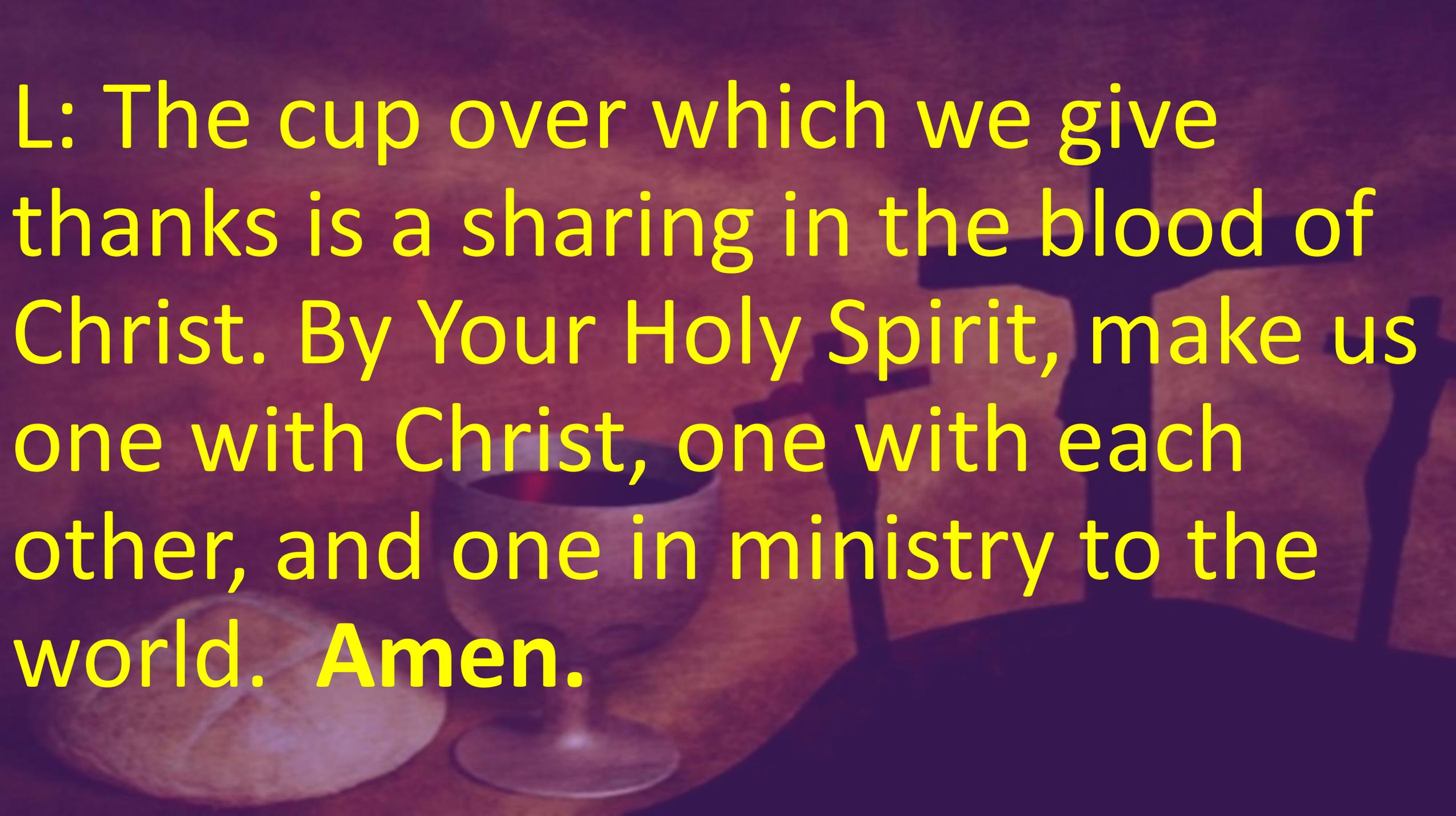
Christ is risen;

Christ will come again!

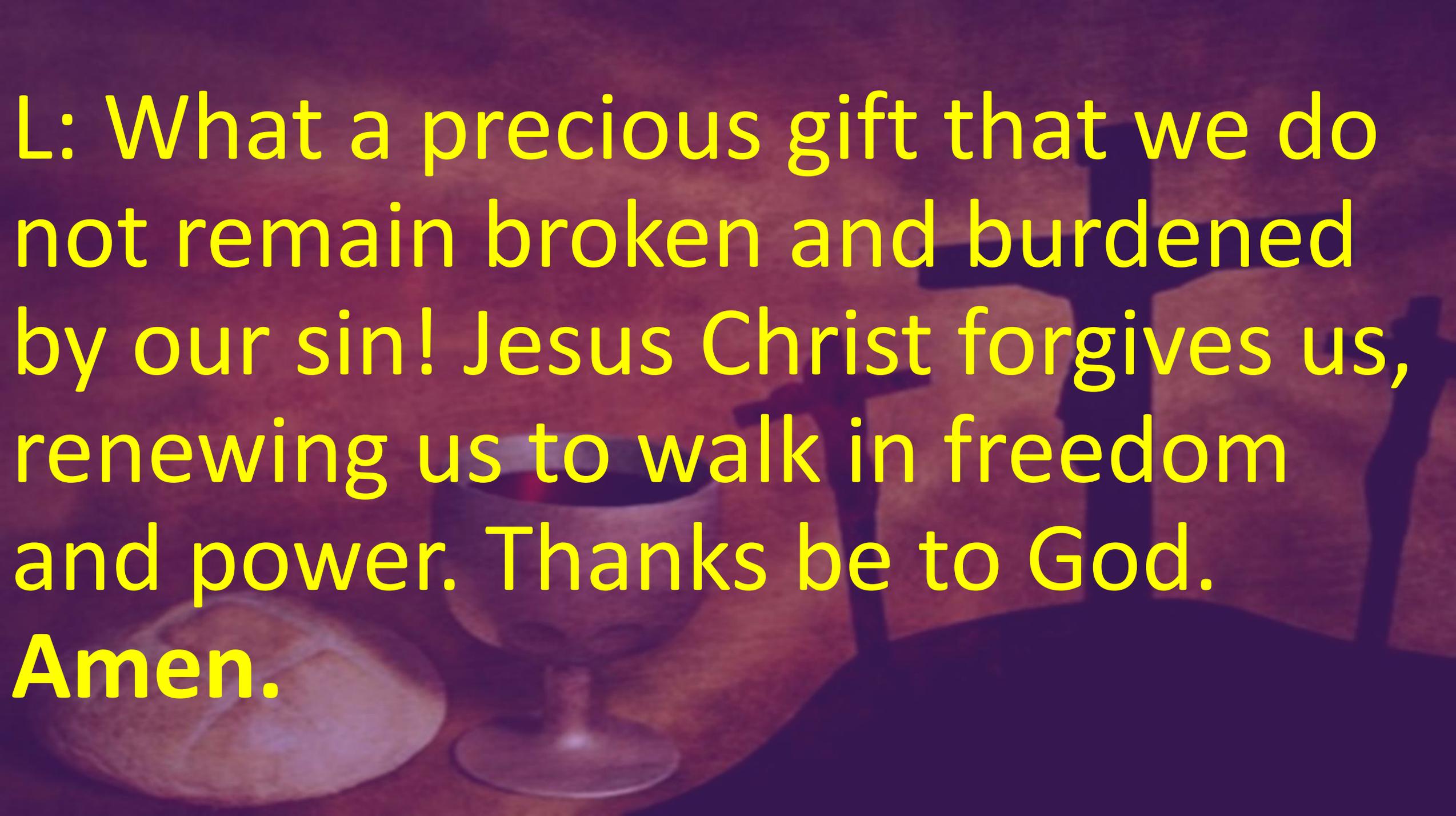


L: Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread, which we break, is a sharing in the body of Christ.

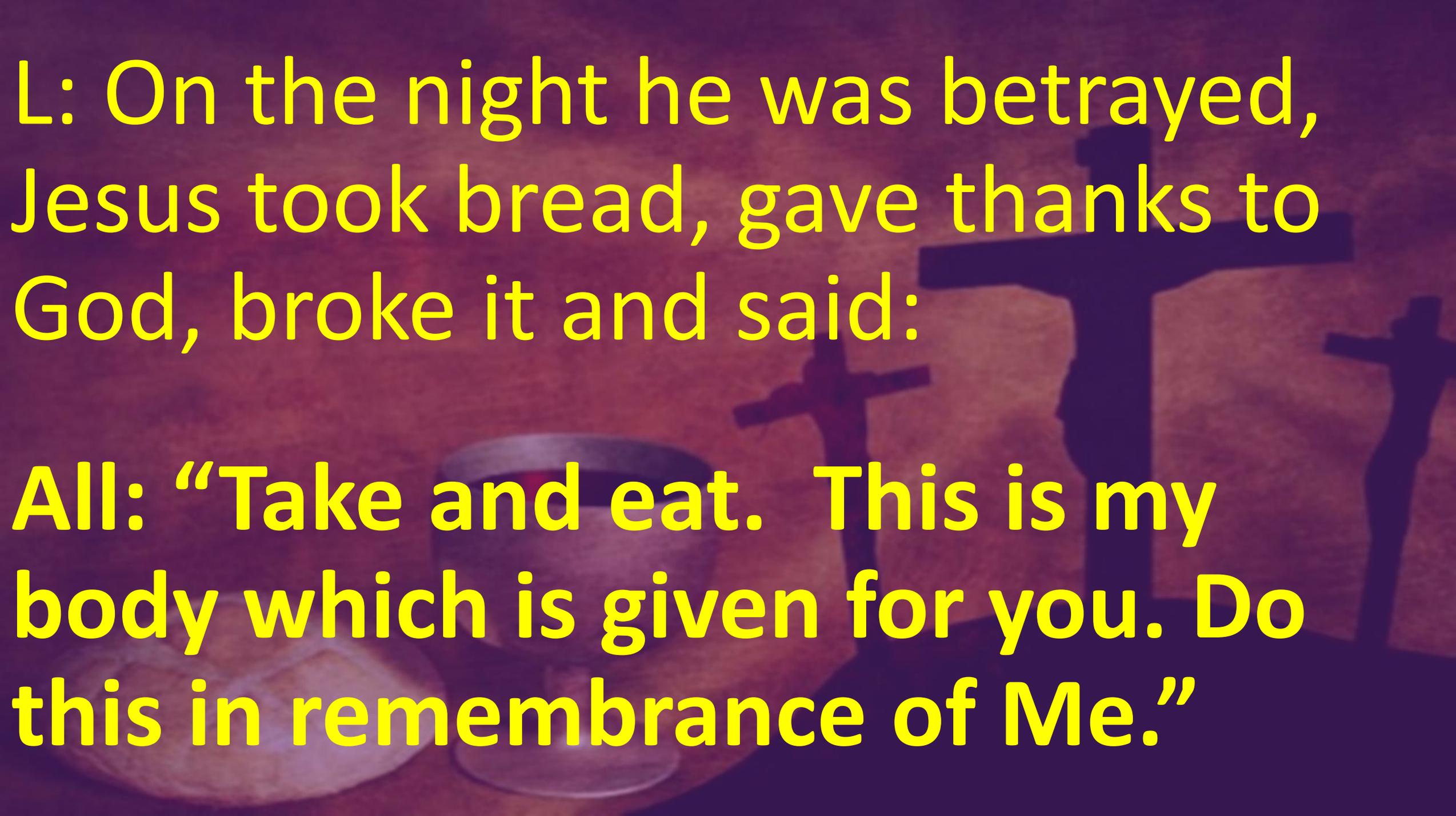


A photograph of a communion table. In the foreground, a silver chalice filled with red wine sits on a dark surface. To its left is a round, golden-brown loaf of bread. The background shows a wooden table and several wooden chairs with high backs, suggesting a church setting. The lighting is warm and soft.

L: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ. By Your Holy Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the world. **Amen.**

A still life image of a communion table. In the foreground, a round, golden-brown loaf of bread sits on a small, light-colored plate. To its right is a silver chalice filled with red wine. The background is dark and out of focus, showing the silhouettes of wooden chairs. The overall lighting is warm and soft, creating a solemn and reverent atmosphere.

L: What a precious gift that we do not remain broken and burdened by our sin! Jesus Christ forgives us, renewing us to walk in freedom and power. Thanks be to God.
Amen.

A religious scene with a chalice and bread on a table, and crosses in the background. The text is overlaid on the image.

L: On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to
God, broke it and said:

All: “Take and eat. This is my
body which is given for you. Do
this in remembrance of Me.”

Come to the Table

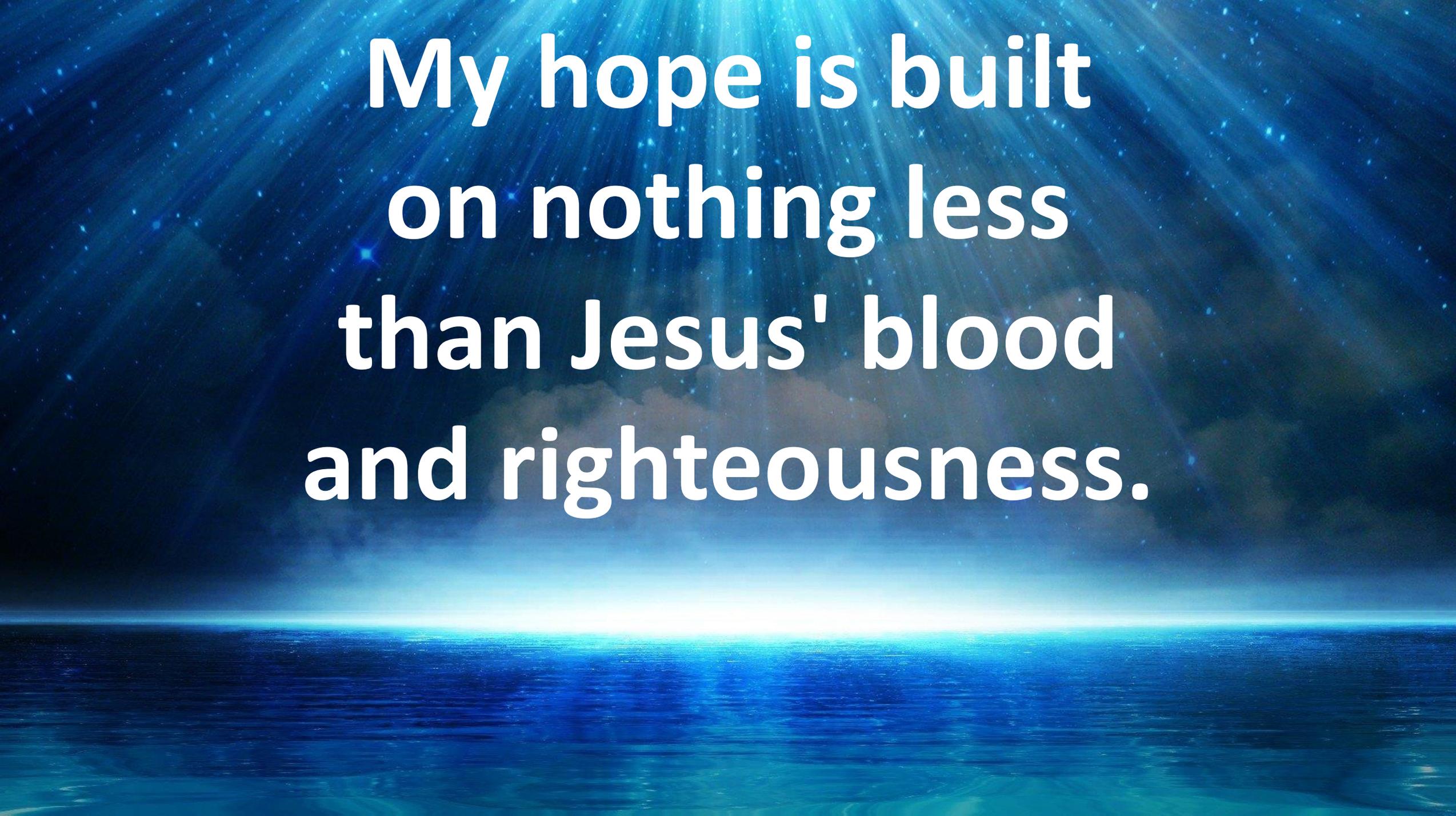


A stack of large, moss-covered rocks in a misty, forested landscape. The rocks are stacked in a somewhat haphazard manner, with some larger flat stones on top and smaller, more angular rocks at the base. The background is a soft, hazy forest with trees and a misty atmosphere. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, browns, and greys.

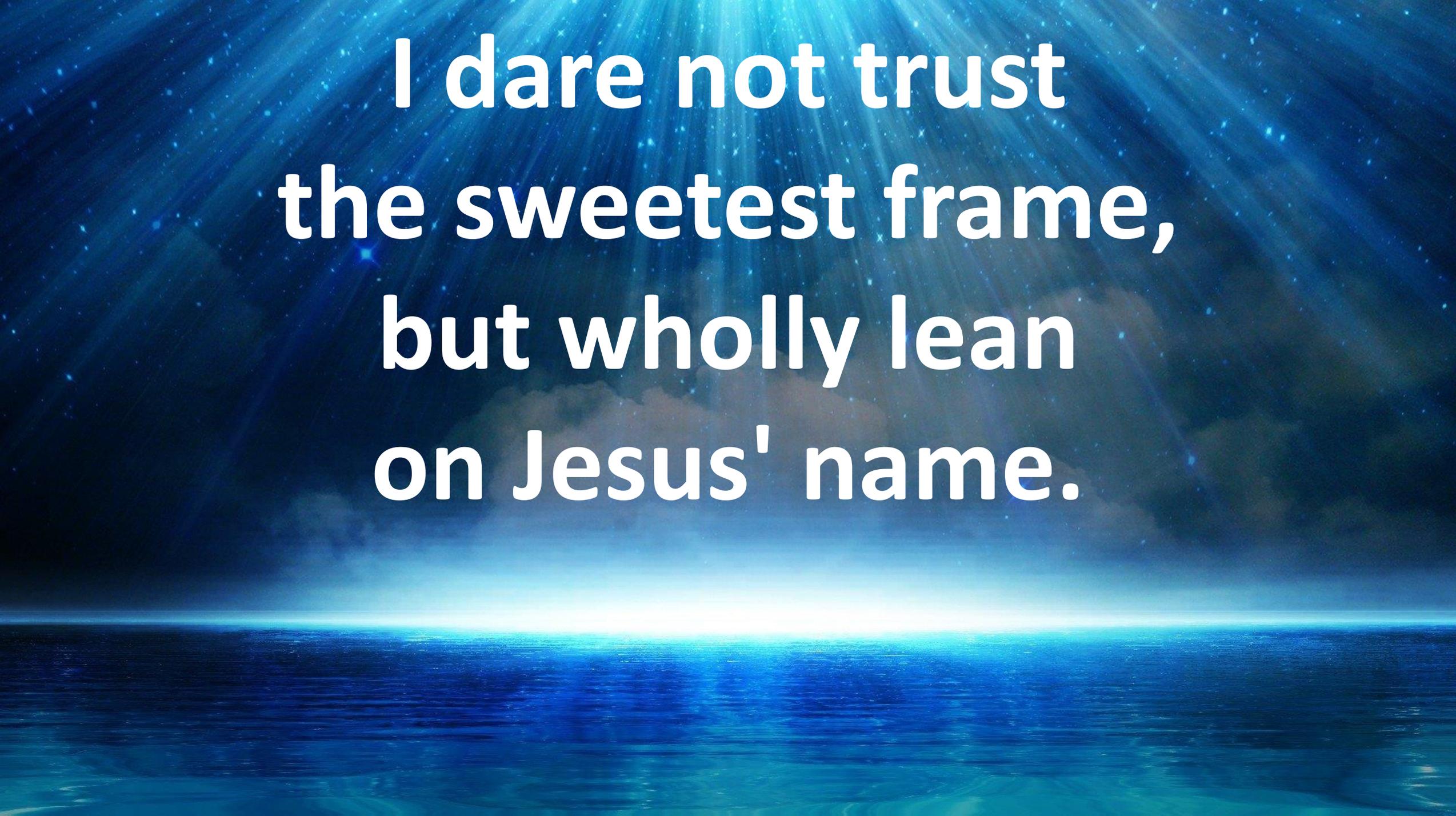
My Hope is Built

on Nothing Less

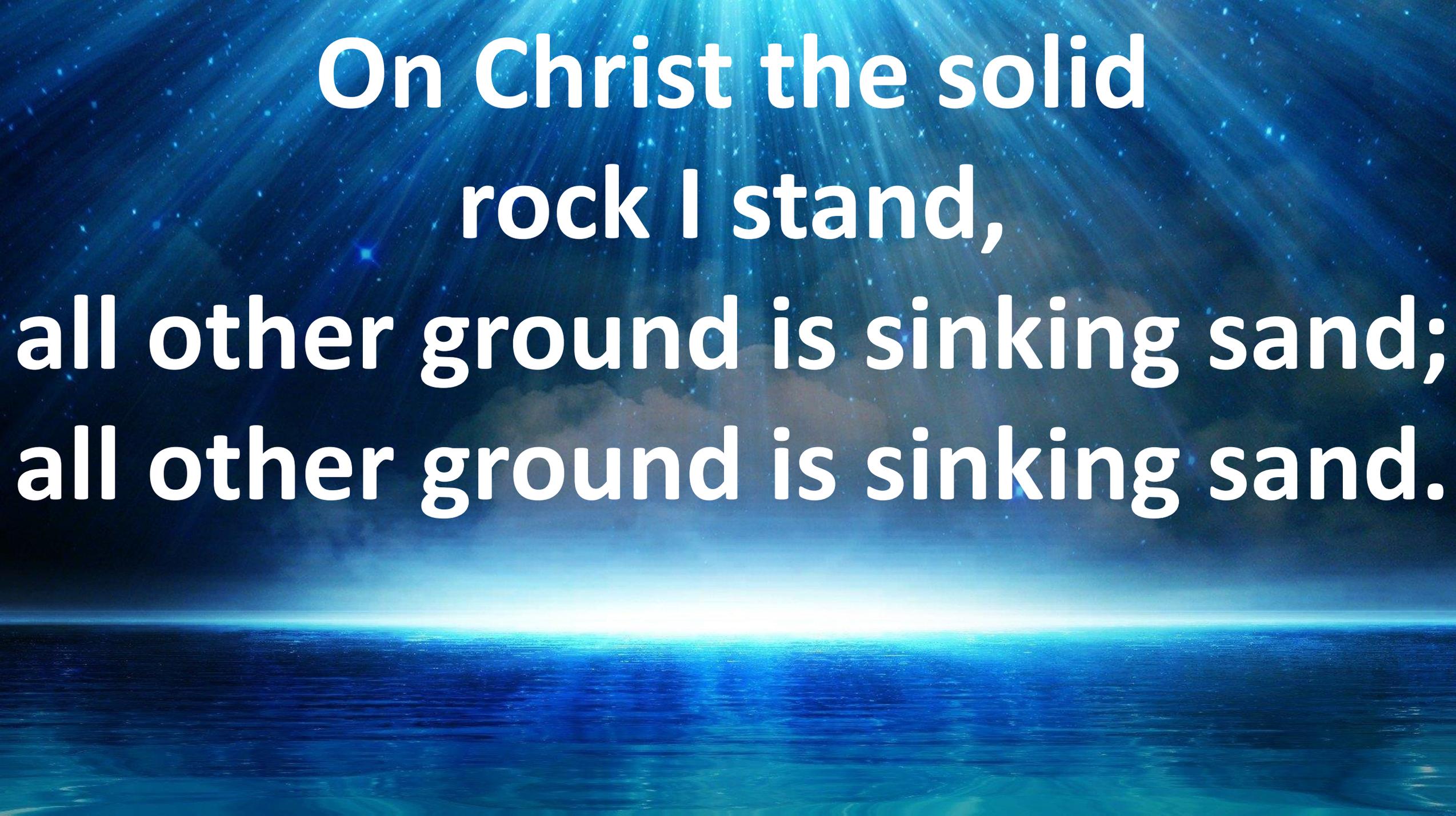
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**My hope is built
on nothing less
than Jesus' blood
and righteousness.**



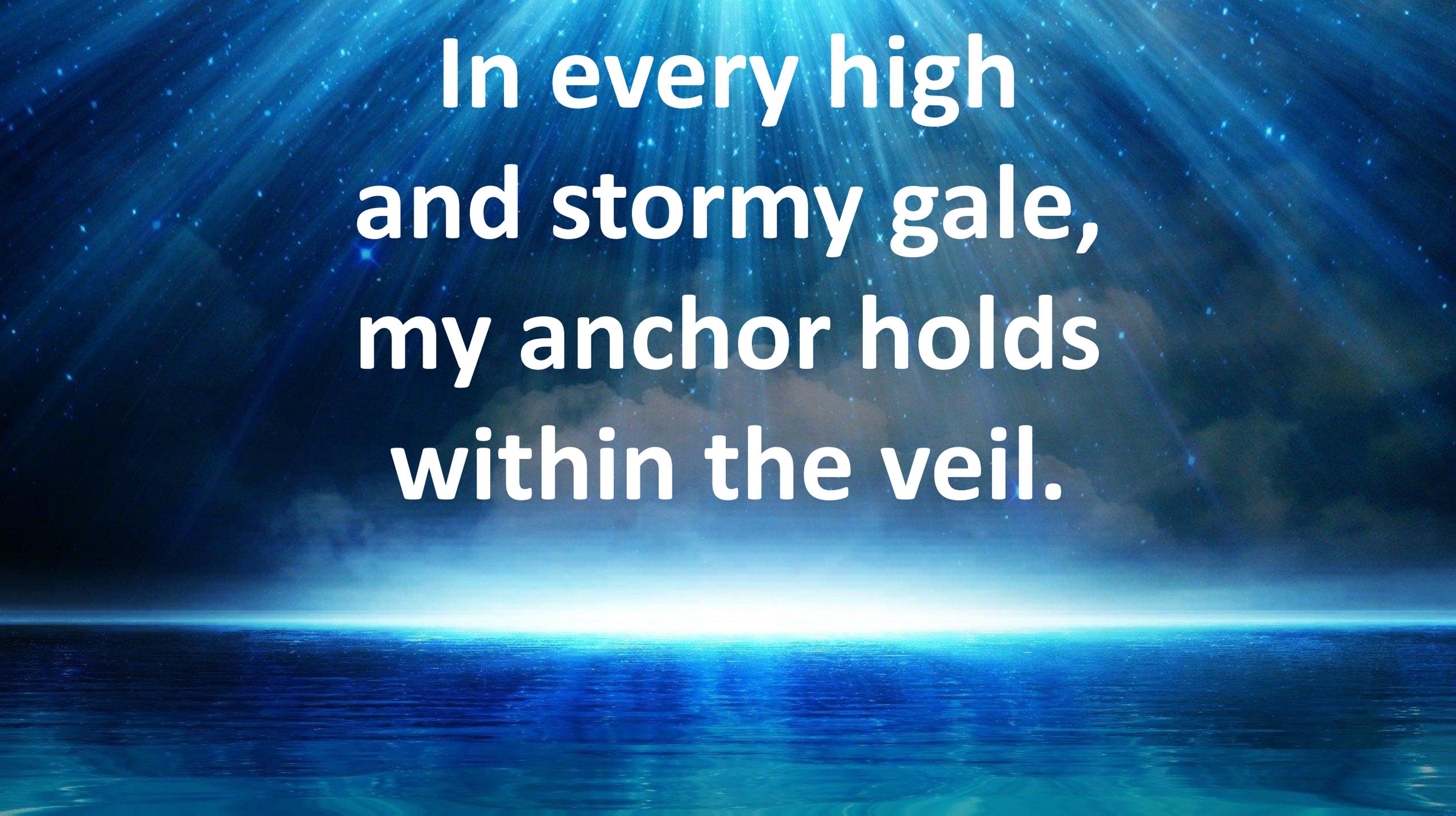
**I dare not trust
the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean
on Jesus' name.**



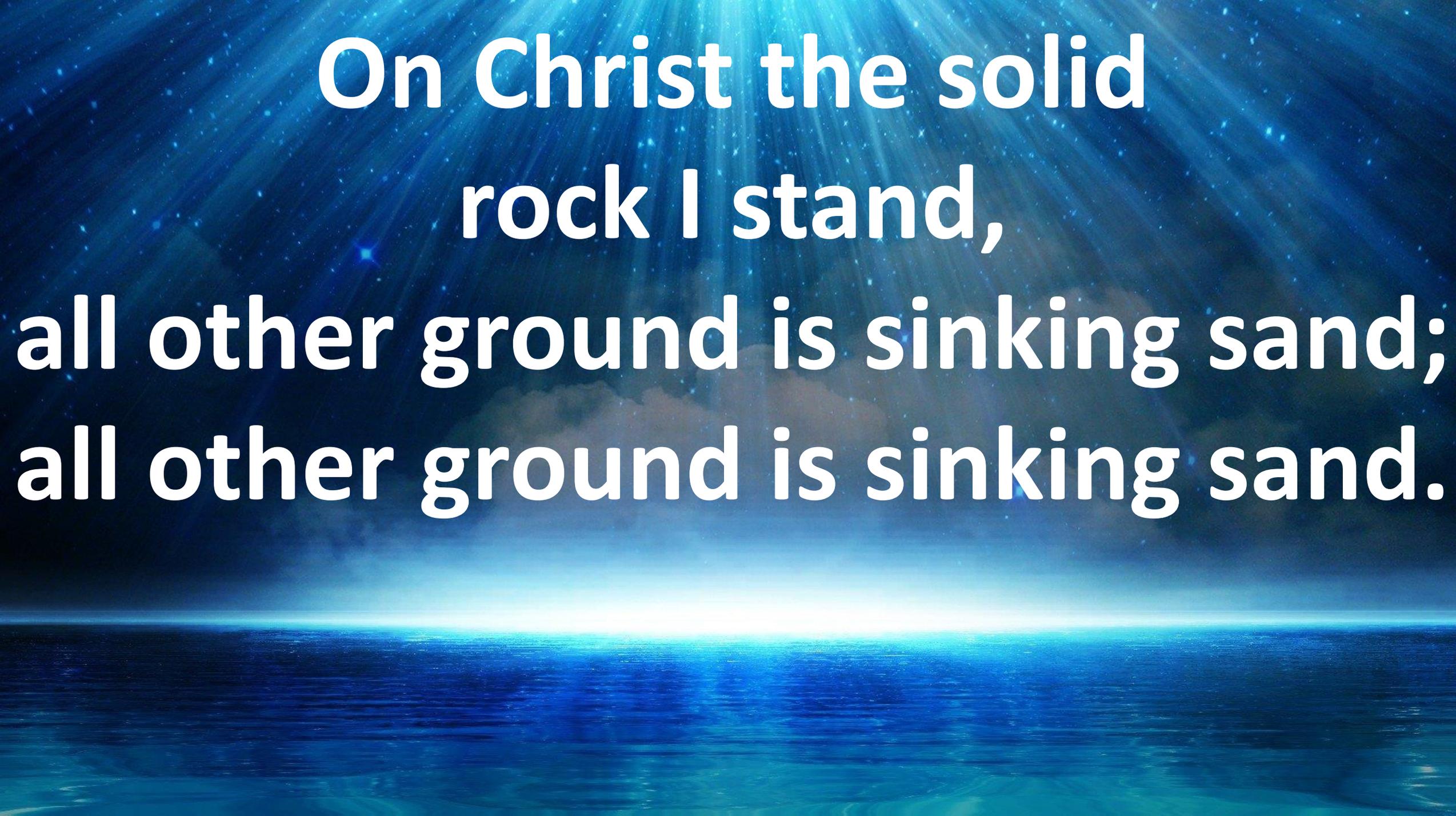
**On Christ the solid
rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**



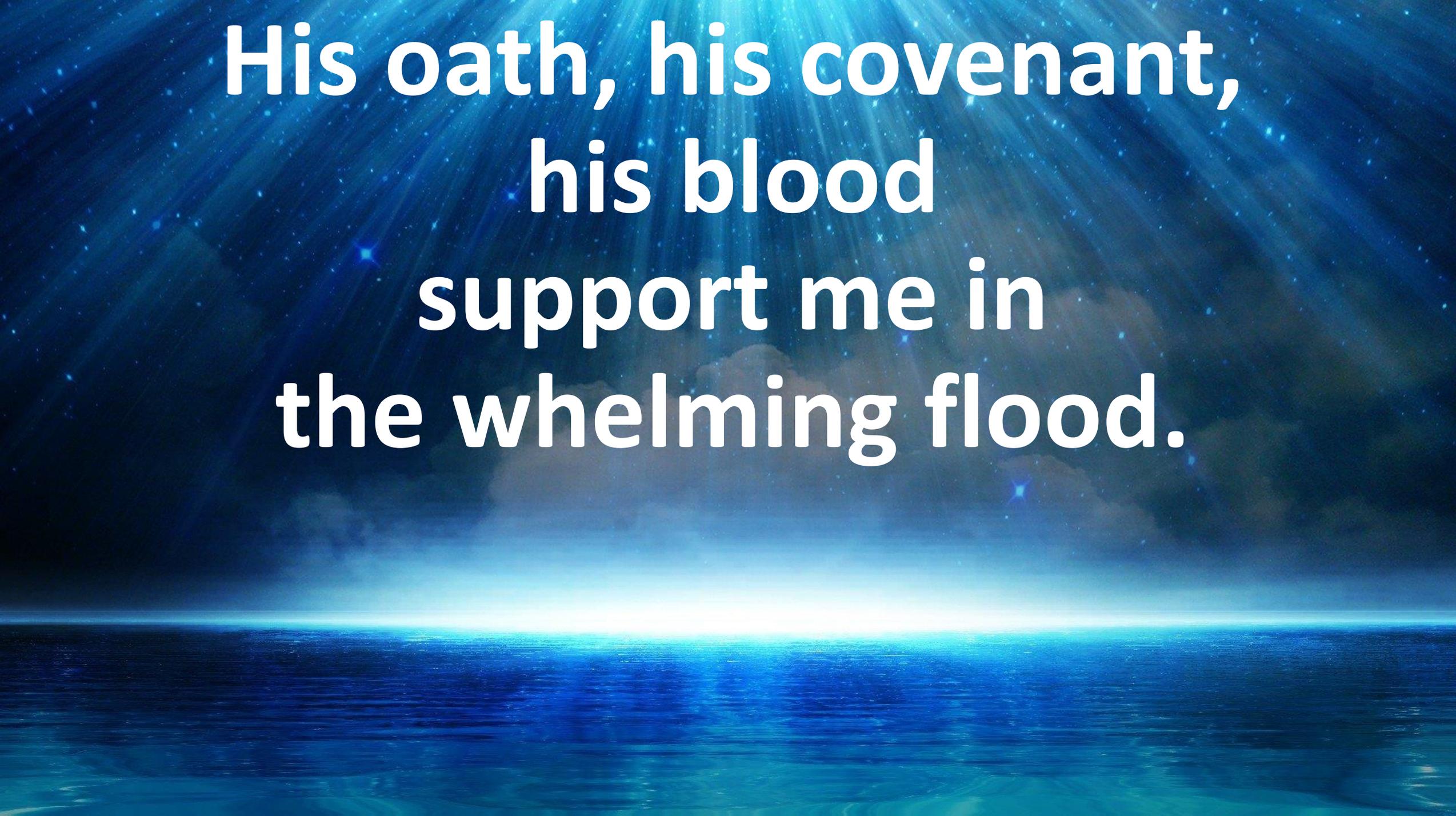
When Darkness veils
his lovely face,
I rest on his
unchanging grace.

A serene ocean scene with a bright horizon and sunbeams filtering through a blue sky. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

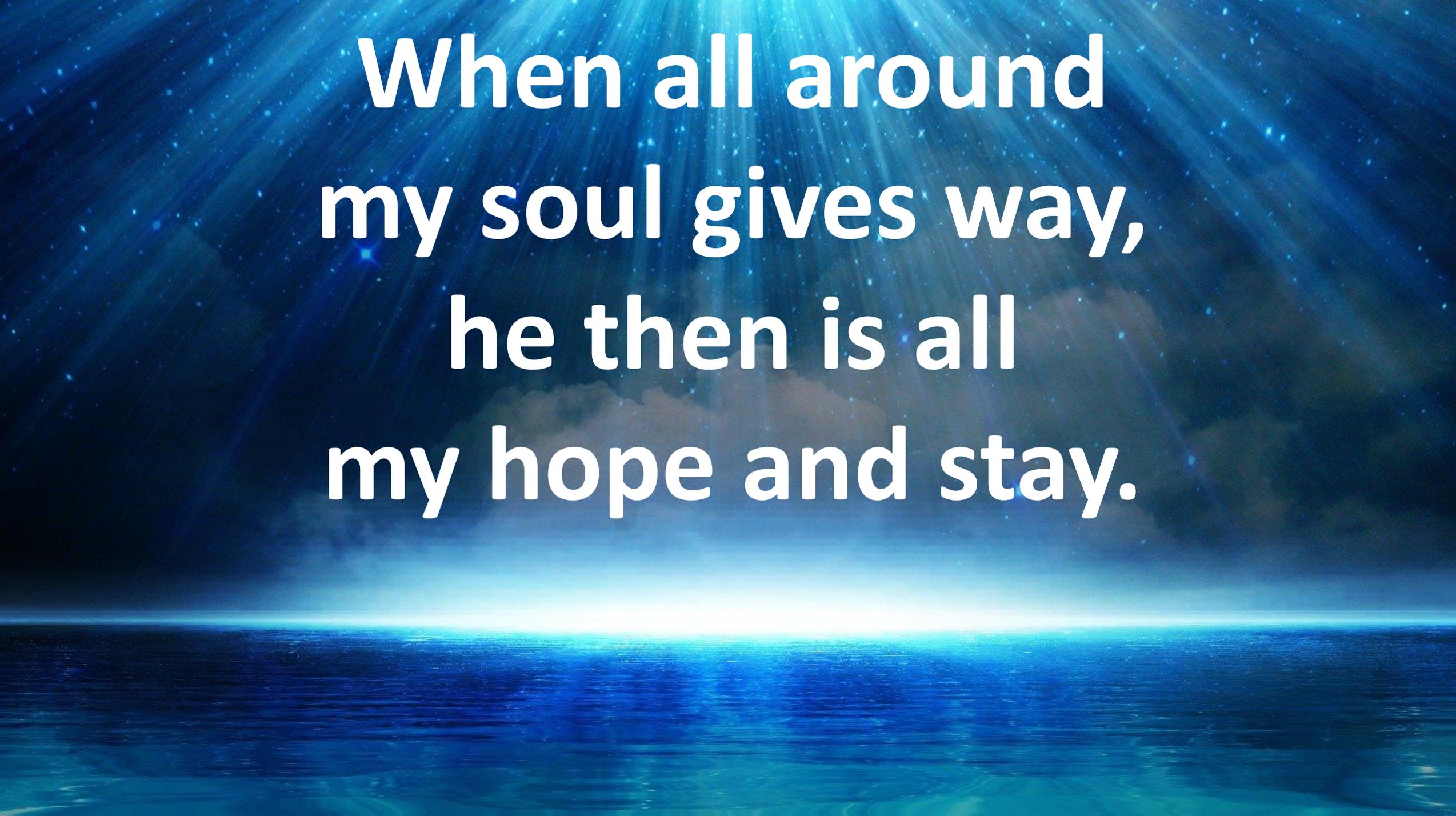
**In every high
and stormy gale,
my anchor holds
within the veil.**



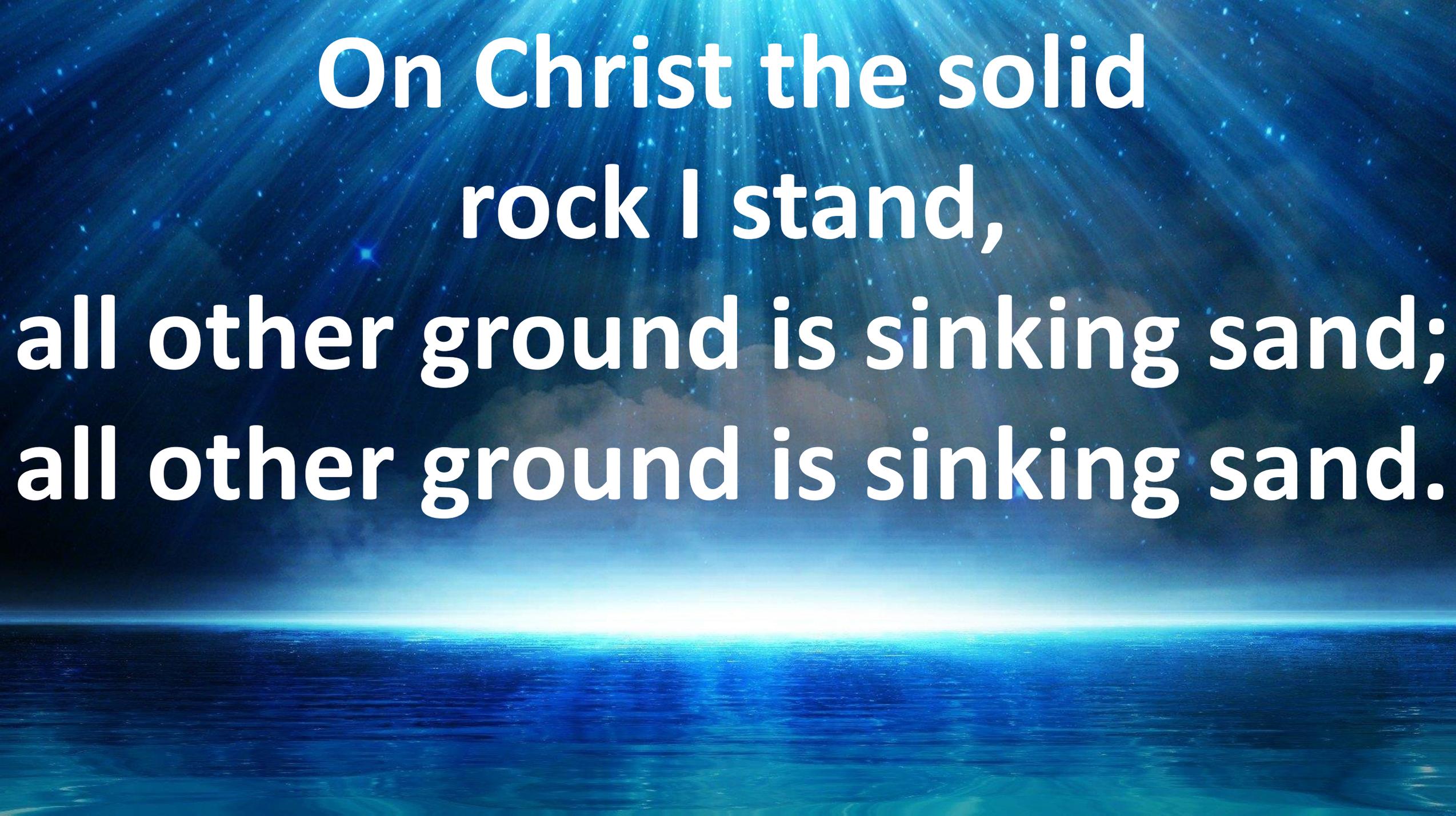
**On Christ the solid
rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**



**His oath, his covenant,
his blood
support me in
the whelming flood.**

The background is a deep blue gradient, transitioning from a dark, starry sky at the top to a bright, glowing horizon line over a body of water. Light rays emanate from the top, creating a sense of divine light. The water in the foreground is dark blue with subtle ripples. The text is centered and written in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

When all around
my soul gives way,
he then is all
my hope and stay.



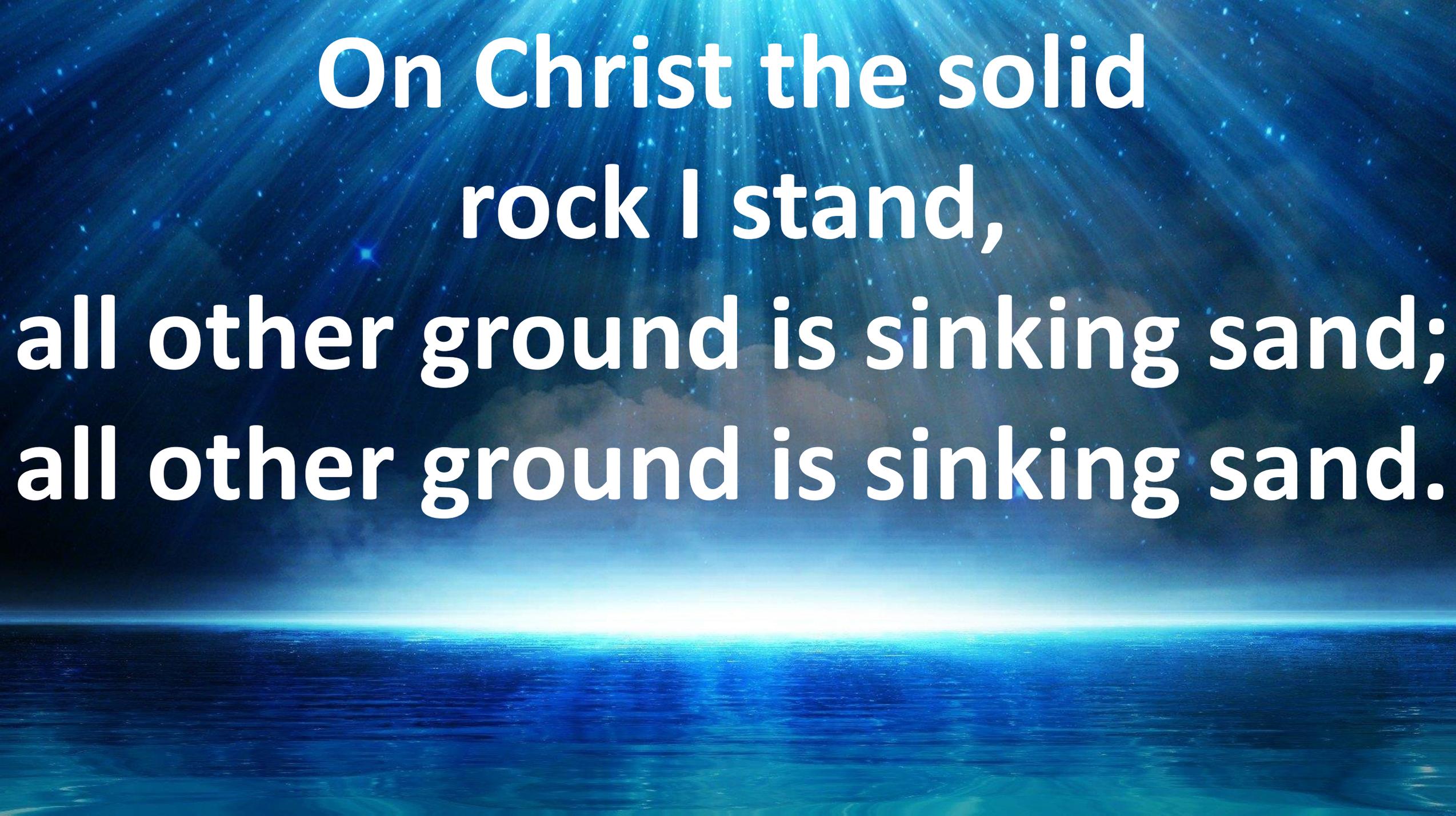
**On Christ the solid
rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

The background features a deep blue sky with numerous light rays emanating from the top, creating a sense of divine light. Below the sky, a bright, glowing horizon line stretches across the width of the image, suggesting a sunrise or sunset over a body of water. The water in the foreground is dark blue with subtle ripples, reflecting the light from the horizon.

**When he shall come
with trumpet sound,
O may I then
in him be found!**

The background features a deep blue sky with numerous light rays emanating from the top center, creating a sense of divine light. Below the sky, a bright, glowing horizon line stretches across the width of the image, suggesting a sunrise or sunset over a body of water. The water in the foreground is dark blue with subtle ripples and reflects the light from the horizon.

**Dressed in his
righteousness alone,
faultless to stand
before the throne!**



**On Christ the solid
rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

May the coming year be one of increased riches of grace—
hearing His voice more clearly,
knowing His heart more deeply,
resting in His love more fully,
trusting His care more completely,
walking His pathway more peacefully,
knowing His presence more intimately,
blessed by His goodness more abundantly.