



WELCOME!
Asbury United Methodist Church
Open Doors with Loving Hearts
September 20, 2026



PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG



“SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT”
UMH 334

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

Words: Doris Akers; 1962

334

There's a sweet,
sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's
the Spirit of the Lord;

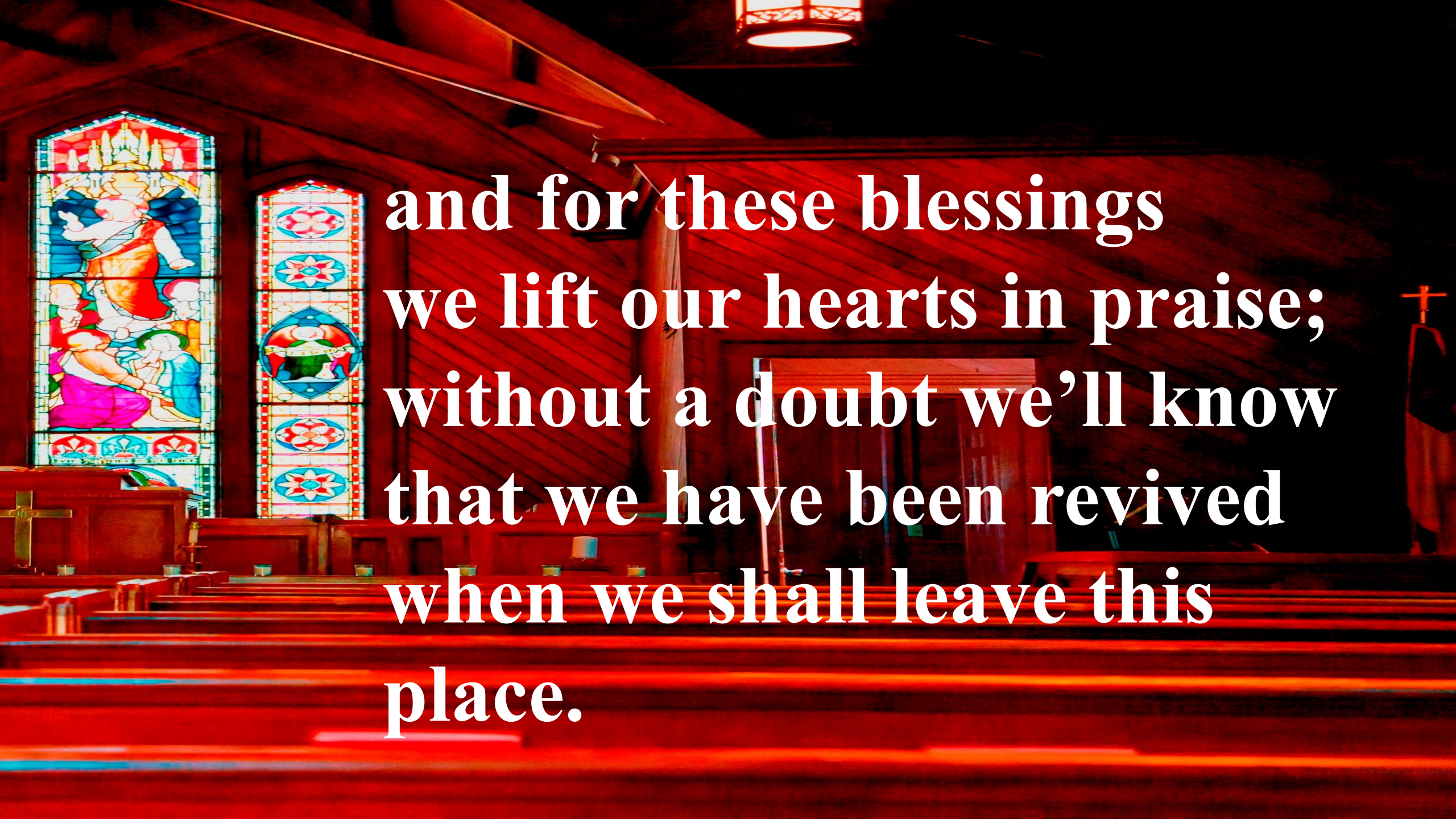


there are sweet expressions
on each face, and I know
they feel the presence of the
Lord.

A photograph of a church interior with wooden pews and stained glass windows. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image. The background shows a church interior with wooden pews, a large stained glass window on the left depicting a religious scene, and a smaller stained glass window next to it. The church has a wooden ceiling and walls.

Refrain

Sweet Holy Spirit,
sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us,
filling us with your love;

A photograph of a church interior, featuring wooden pews, a wooden altar, and two large stained glass windows. The left window depicts a religious scene with figures in colorful robes. The right window has a geometric pattern. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

and for these blessings
we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived
when we shall leave this
place.

GATHERING SONG



“WE HAVE COME INTO THIS HOUSE”

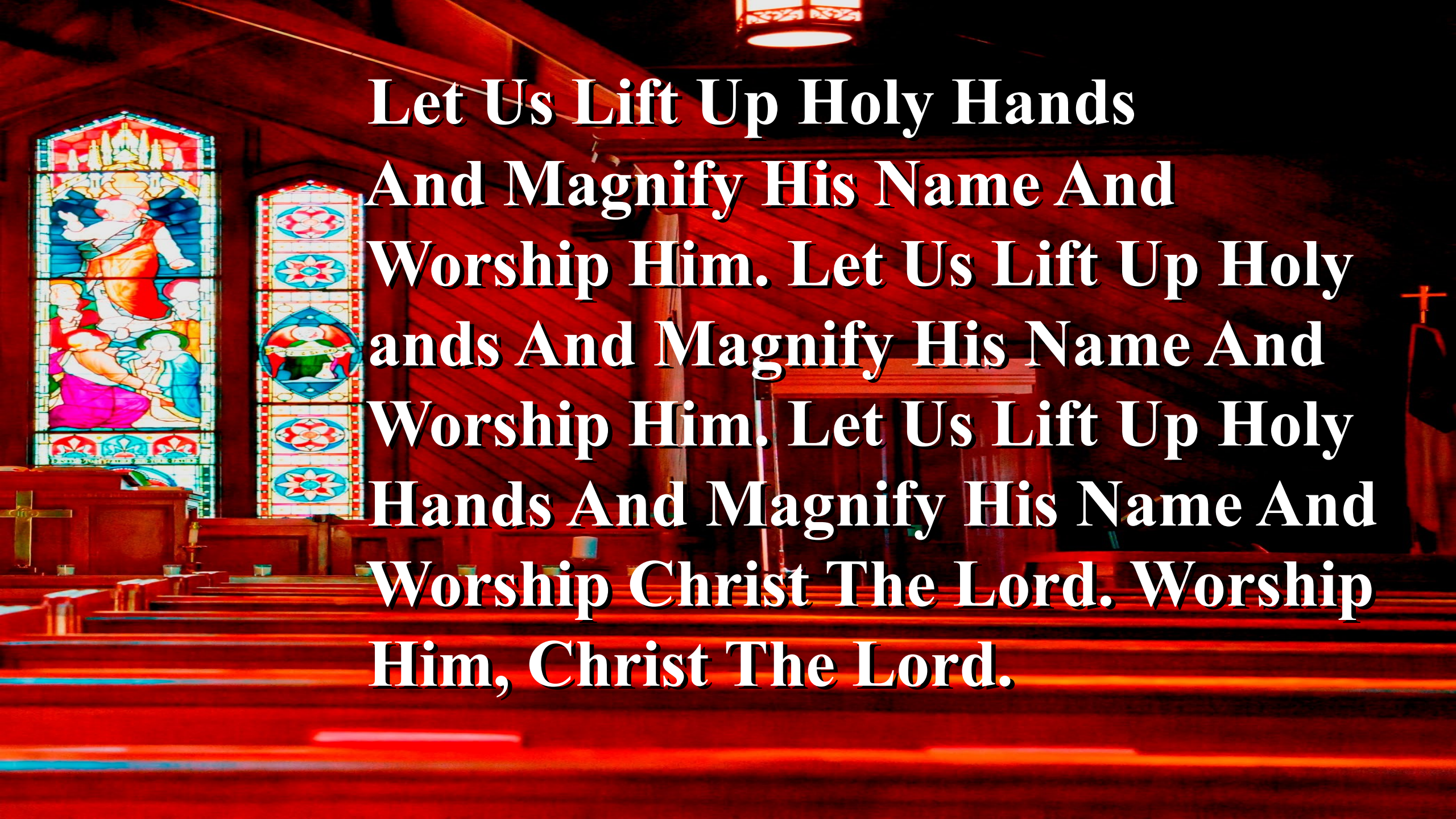
WE HAVE COME INTO THIS HOUSE

WORDS: Bruce Ballinger

**We Have Come Into His House
And Gathered In His Name To
Worship Him. We Have Come Into
His House And Gathered In His
Name To Worship Him. We Have
Come Into His House And Gathered
In His Name To Worship Christ The
Lord. Worship Him, Christ The Lord.**

A photograph of a church interior, featuring wooden pews, a large stained glass window on the left depicting a religious scene, and a wooden altar area. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, white font with a black outline.

**Let's Forget About Ourselves
And Magnify His Name And
Worship Him. Let's Forget About
Ourselves And Magnify His Name
And Worship Him. Let's Forget
About Ourselves And Magnify His
Name And Worship Christ The
Lord. Worship Him, Christ The Lord.**

A photograph of a church interior, viewed from the back of the sanctuary looking towards the altar. The pews are dark wood and arranged in rows. On the left, there is a large, colorful stained glass window depicting a religious scene, possibly the Resurrection. To its right is a smaller, narrower stained glass window with geometric patterns. The altar area is visible in the background, featuring a cross and a large, ornate wooden structure. The lighting is warm, and the overall atmosphere is solemn and reverent.

**Let Us Lift Up Holy Hands
And Magnify His Name And
Worship Him. Let Us Lift Up Holy
ands And Magnify His Name And
Worship Him. Let Us Lift Up Holy
Hands And Magnify His Name And
Worship Christ The Lord. Worship
Him, Christ The Lord.**



“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.**



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Family of God, who are you?

People: We are disciples formed in the image of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Family of God, how does Jesus form you?

People: By loving us and showing us how to love.

Leaders: Family of God, how does the Holy Spirit empower you?



People: By loving us and inspiring us to love others as Christ loves us.

Leader: Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

People: We come to worship God, who shows us how to love and calls us to boldly love God and neighbor, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world. Amen



OPENING SONG
“LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS”
UMH 133

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887

133

1. What a fellowship, what a joy
divine, leaning on the everlasting
arms; what a blessedness, what a
peace is mine, leaning on the
everlasting arms.



Refrain:

Leaning, leaning,
safe and secure from all
alarms; leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting
arms.



2. O how sweet to walk in
this pilgrim way, leaning on
the everlasting arms; O
how bright the path grows
from day to day, leaning on
the everlasting arms.

(Refrain)

3. What have I to dread,
what have I to fear, leaning
on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my
Lord so near, leaning on the
everlasting arms. *(Refrain)*





OPENING PRAYER



Almighty, all-merciful God, through Christ Jesus, you have taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies. As we gather for worship and as we are sent from this place, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. Help us to encounter each person in light of the love and grace you have shown us in Christ.

Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT



Birthday/Anniversary



Asbury UMC Choir



OFFERING

Praising God with Our Gifts

Open Doors with Loving Hearts

“OFFERTORY RESPONSE”



**All Things Come Of Thee, O Lord,
And Of Thine Own Have We Given
Thee. Amen.**



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, open our ears to hear Your Word and our hearts to receive it. As the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, teach us what it means to love You completely and our neighbors as ourselves. Do not allow Your Word merely to inform us; let it transform us. Give us courage to practice what we hear, so that our compassion, generosity, justice, and mercy become evidence of Christ among us. Speak, Lord. Your people are listening. Amen.



SCRIPTURE

**LEVITICUS 19: 9-18; MARK 12: 28-34;
JOHN 13:34-35**

Leviticus 19:9 ‘When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the Lord your God. 11 ‘You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another. 12 And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

13 ‘You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning. 14 You shall not curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shall fear your God: I am the Lord. 15 ‘You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. 16 You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

17 ‘You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely [b]rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. 18 You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord. 19 ‘When you pick the food of your land at gathering time, do not pick all the way to the corners of your field. And do not gather the food left on the ground there after you have picked.

Mark 12: 28 ‘Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, [i]perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the [j]first commandment of all?”’

29 Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. ’This is the first commandment. 31 And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

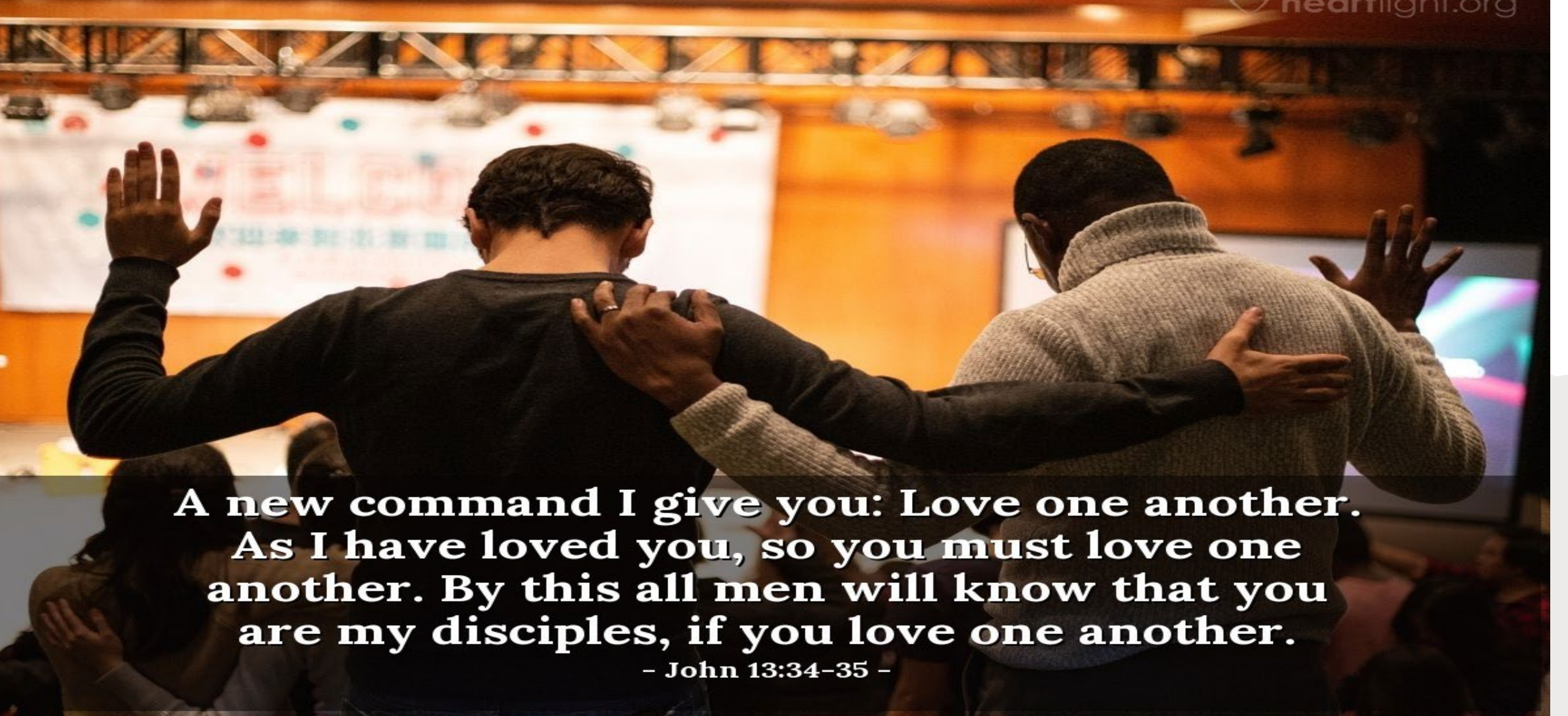
There is no other commandment greater than these.”

32 So the scribe said to Him, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He. 33 And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

34 Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” But after that no one dared question Him.

A red decorative graphic consisting of a vertical line and a stylized flame or leaf shape on the left side of the text.

John 13: 34-35 ‘. 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.’”

A photograph of two men from behind in a church setting. The man on the left has his hands raised in prayer. The man on the right is placing his hands on the shoulders of the first man. In the background, there is a large screen displaying the word 'WELCOME' and other text. The scene is lit with warm, orange-toned lights.

**A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one
another. By this all men will know that you
are my disciples, if you love one another.**

- John 13:34-35 -

Love That Can Be Seen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: With hope for God's mercy and trust in God's love, let us admit the truth of our lives, first in silent prayer.

Silent Prayer

There are times, O God, when our greatest sin is not what we do but what we fail to do. For those times when we have not spoken up;

A red decorative graphic consisting of a vertical line and a curved shape, resembling a stylized flame or a drop, located in the top-left corner of the image.

for those times when we have not acted; for those times when we have not responded: forgive us. Give us courage to name what is wrong when we see it. Give us confidence to do what is hard. Give us grace to reach out when that is frightening or uncomfortable. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: New every morning is God's love for us,
and so we are bold to proclaim the Good News:

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



The Lord's Prayer

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 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 forever. Amen.

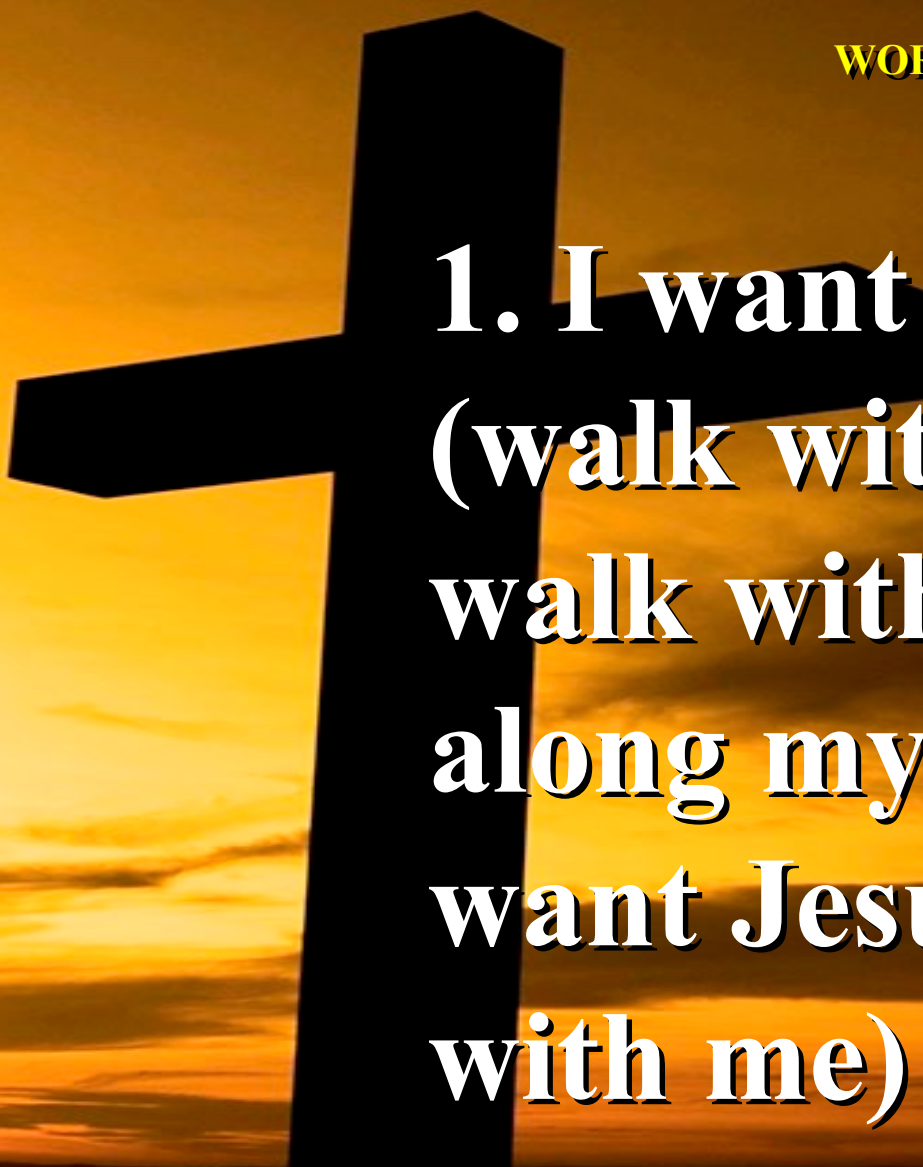


CLOSING SONG
“I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME”
UMH 521

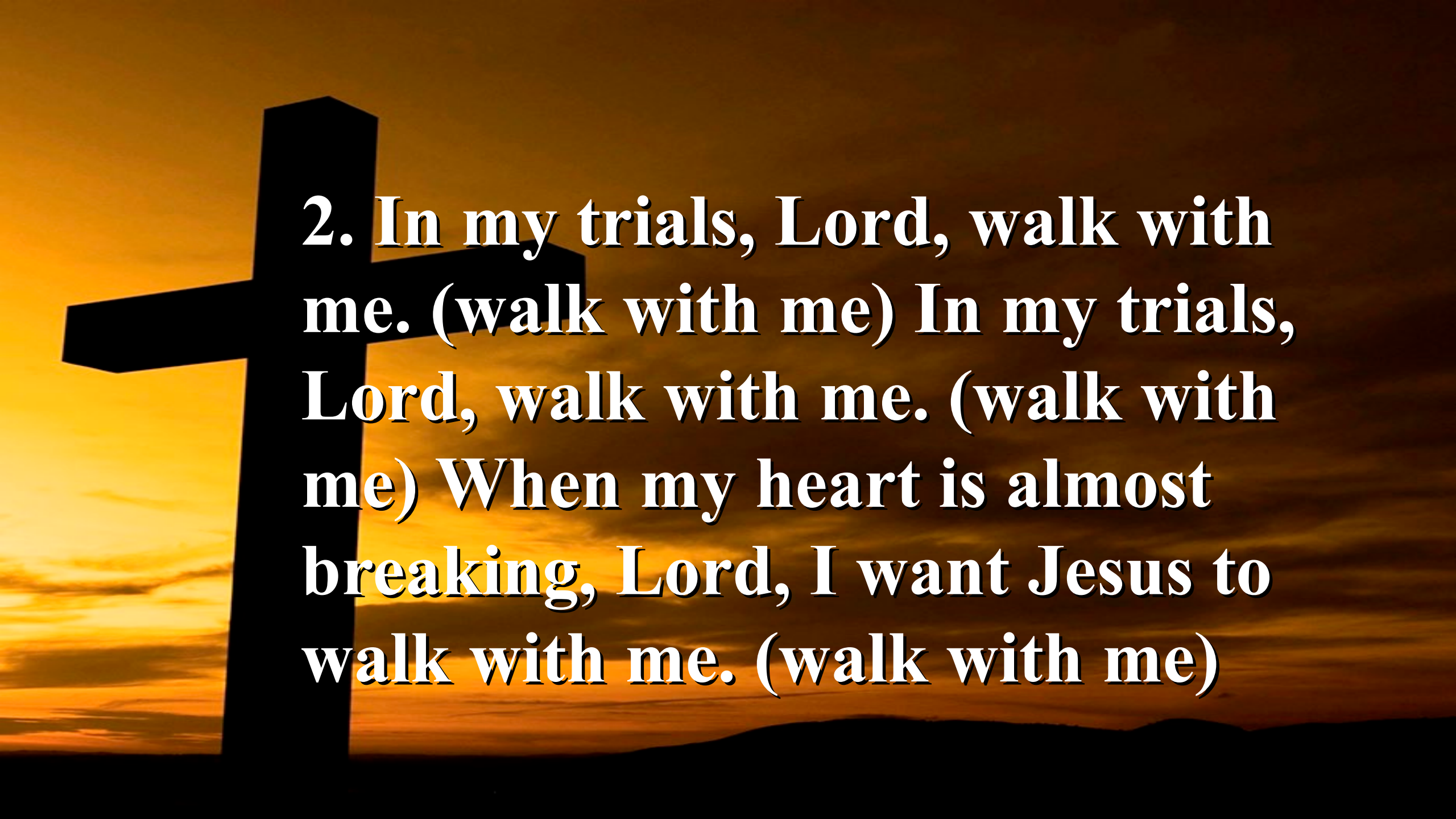
I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME

WORDS: Afro-American Spiritual

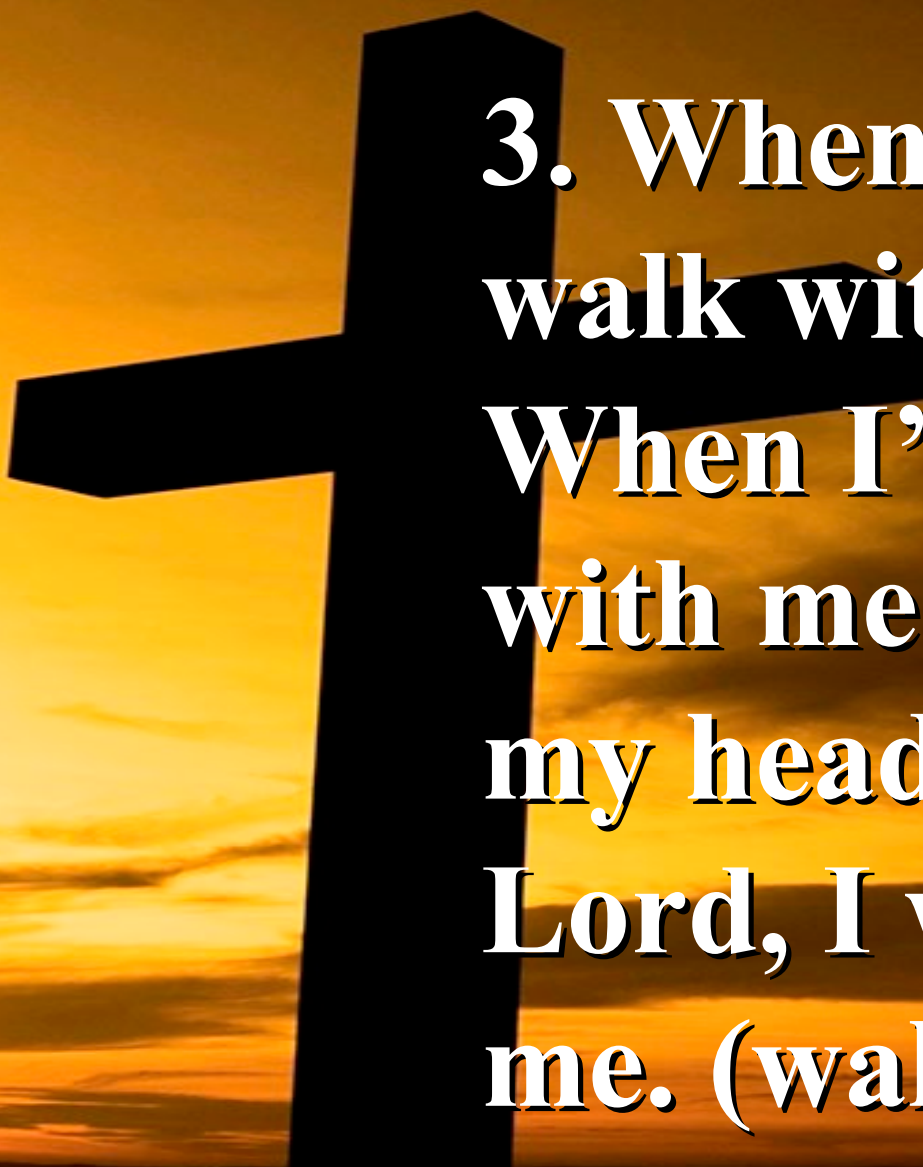
521

A large black cross silhouette is positioned on the left side of the image, extending from the top to the bottom. The background is a warm sunset or sunrise scene with orange and yellow hues. The text is overlaid on the right side of the cross.

1. I want Jesus to walk with me.
(walk with me) I want Jesus to
walk with me. (walk with me) All
along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I
want Jesus to walk with me. (walk
with me)



2. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me) In my trials, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me) When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)

A large, solid black cross is positioned on the left side of the image, extending from the top to the bottom. The background is a vibrant sunset or sunrise scene with a gradient of orange, yellow, and brown hues. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing dark silhouettes of land or water.

**3. When I'm troubled, Lord,
walk with me. (walk with me)
When I'm troubled, Lord, walk
with me. (walk with me) When
my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with
me. (walk with me)**



BENEDICTION

A red decorative graphic consisting of a vertical line and a curved shape, resembling a stylized '1' or a drop, located in the top-left corner of the image.

When love reigns, the world will change. Be the love that the world needs for the kingdom to become our beloved realm. Go in the assurance that the God of Love, who is Love, is with you.



Threefold Amen

898

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Treble Staff:

- Measure 1: Chord (F#4, A4), quarter note (F#4), quarter rest. Lyrics: "A- men,"
- Measure 2: Chord (F#4, A4), quarter note (F#4), quarter rest. Lyrics: "A- men"
- Measure 3: Chord (F#4, A4), quarter note (F#4), quarter rest. Lyrics: "A- ."
- Measure 4: Chord (F#4, A4), quarter note (F#4), quarter rest. Lyrics: ". . ."
- Measure 5: Chord (F#4, A4), quarter note (F#4), quarter rest. Lyrics: "men."

Bass Staff:

- Measure 1: Chord (F#2, A2), quarter note (F#2), quarter rest.
- Measure 2: Chord (F#2, A2), quarter note (F#2), quarter rest.
- Measure 3: Chord (F#2, A2), quarter note (F#2), quarter rest.
- Measure 4: Chord (F#2, A2), quarter note (F#2), quarter rest.
- Measure 5: Chord (F#2, A2), quarter note (F#2), quarter rest.

CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

